



BOBCAT BULLETIN
Delmar Elementary School
"The School Too Great For Just One State"



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Principal

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January 25, 2017



WOW!!! Our weather has been up and down!!! We had a great start back from the holiday break, but unpredictable weather is always an issue this time of year. It has been rewarding to see everyone refreshed and ready to take on all the instructional and learning opportunities. Please remember that the weather can be tricky from day to day. As always, with cold and flu season, layers are always the best when it comes to adequately preparing our little ones for the fluctuating temperatures outside. Please remember to send hats and gloves for that extra and much needed touch of warmth.

Speaking of cold and flu season, we want to take this opportunity to remind families of the necessity of sending in notes for excused absences. Any time your child is out sick, it is necessary that you send in a note stating the reason so that we can mark them excused. School-wide attendance records are monitored at the state level and individual student records that indicate excessive unexcused absences must be screened at the school, and sometimes even the county level. Please know that no one on either level enjoys putting families through the questioning process, especially if there are valid needs for absence. So, please make certain children are in school when they can and should be; and when they cannot attend, a note from a parent/guardian or doctor explaining they were ill must accompany your child upon their return.

As a reminder to families, when inclement weather is extreme enough, a school delay or cancellation may be necessary. On days such as this, a phone message will be sent out by Ms. Sahler, the Public Information Officer of Wicomico County Schools, and a message will be posted on the WCPS website, www.wcboe.org for your reference. Often local media news stations post these delays as well but it is necessary that we have your correct phone numbers in order for you to get the early morning call. Please make certain that you have updated phone numbers and addresses in our school office.



LOST AND FOUND: Has your child misplaced any article of clothing through the first half of the year? If the answer is yes, then please make sure you stop by our schools lost and found located in the cafeteria before Friday, February 6th. After February 6th all items will either be donated or discarded.

JUMP ROPE FOR HEART: Jump Rope for Heart will be held at Delmar Elementary in our gym during students' regular P.E. classes on February 13th and 14th. For their safety and comfort, please make certain students come to school wearing proper footwear on that day. Also, please make sure that your child brings in their fundraising envelope per the instructions previously provided by our P.E. department. Thank you for your contributions towards this worthy cause.

PARCC Testing

This year all grade 3 and 4 Delmar Elementary students will be taking the **PARCC test**, which is developed by the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers.

All grade 3 and 4 students in Wicomico County Public Schools will take reading and math PARCC during the months of April and May. Students will take 4 sections of an English/Language Arts test and 3 sections of Math. Homerooms and testing groups will be assigned to test on specific days within the county's April/May testing window. Your child's specific dates for PARCC testing will be forthcoming

Parent Resource Center: Our school has a Parent Resource Center in the hallway near the front doors of the school. Families are welcome to take free materials from the center that would be helpful to them. Topics of the pamphlets include How to Help Your Child with Reading and How to Raise a Reader. Many pamphlets are available in Spanish.

Term 2 Honor Day: We would **LOVE to see you at our February Honor Day ceremonies!!!** The following dates provided below will be each respective grade levels Honor Day and start time. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call the schools office.

Feb 6 – Grade K at 8:30; PreK AM at 10:30; Prek PM at 2:15

Feb 7 – Grade #3 at 8:30; Grade #2 at 9:15

Feb 8- Grade #4 At 8:30; Grade# 1 at 9:15



Spelling Bee: Delmar 4th graders held their annual Spelling Bee Competition on Thursday, January 14th. We are proud to announce that the winner of the Delmar Elementary 4th grade Spelling Bee is . . . Ethan Richardson. Our runner up is Lily Baker. The next level of competition will be at UMES for the Regional Spelling Bee. We are proud of everyone that participated in our school level Spelling Bee and are thrilled to have these students represent Delmar Elementary at the Regional level. Let's cheer them on! I know they will make us proud as they continue to do their Bobcat Best!!!!



Geography Bee: We had our first 4th grade Geography Bee at Delmar Elementary School that took place on January 23rd. There was a representative from each 4th grade classroom. Each of these seven students answered a series of questions in a double elimination contest. After working really hard, Aytug Demir was the second place winner. Our school winner is Ethan Richardson. He will be competing with other students in grades 4-12. We want to congratulate all the participants in the Geography Bee and wish Ethan the best of luck moving forward.



Reflections Participants: Delmar Elementary would like to thank the following students for their hard work and amazing entries that were recently recognized on January 19th at Wicomico County Public Schools PTA Reflections night. Great Job to Tylah Brown, Tyler Roberts, Ryot Moran, David West, Xaviah Brawner, and Andrew Landford.

Delmar Elementary School W.O.W. Program



This past fall Miss Smith began a pilot run of the Work Out Wednesday program with a few select 3rd and 4th graders. The program had great success and will expand this spring. If you have a 3rd or 4th grade student that is interested in joining our program please contact Miss Smith at tasmith@wcboe.org. The program will meet once a week on Wednesdays during the months of April and May. During our weekly practices our students will participate in fun and engaging exercises that teach children that exercise and physical activity isn't always going to a gym or running on a treadmill; we will play fun cardio games, work out to kid friendly exercise videos, and lastly we will work up to being able to jog an entire mile. If this program is something you'd like your 3rd or 4th grade child to participate please contact Miss Smith and look for information going home during the month of March.

Nurses Notes:

Healthy Happenings!

HEALTHY KIDS ARE HAPPY KIDS

OVER THE COUNTER MEDS

Please do not send chapstick, cough drops, sunscreen or other over-the-counter meds to school with your child. These things are a violation of the Maryland Code. Anything with an active ingredient in it **MUST** have a doctor's order to be given at school. If you need a doctor's order form, please call the Nurse's Office at 410-677-5180.

Boost your immune system by getting plenty of sleep, eating a well-balanced diet, washing hands frequently, and exercising.

If your child has been ill (vomited, spiked a fever) during the night, please do **NOT** send them to school. Children are most contagious when running a fever. For the health and well-being of *everyone* here at school, please keep your child home!

Remember your child needs to be **FEVER FREE** for 24 hours (without Tylenol or Motrin) before returning to school.

If you find head lice on your child, please inform the school ASAP. Outbreaks are prevented when we can check classes early and have buses and/or classrooms cleaned. Thank you for your help!

Parent University: Want to know what will be tested on PARCC this year? Do you need clarity about how your children's scores can be used to improve their performance?

In just one hour, you can get answers to your questions by attending the next Parent University session on Thursday February 16. It will be held at the Wicomico County Public Library, 6:30 - 7:30 pm.

Childcare will be provided: children ages 3 - 5 can participate in the children's section activity. Other children, grades 1 - 8 can bring their homework to complete in the Homework Lab.

Because the space is limited to first 50 responses, please sign up now by emailing Faye Wilson, fwilson@wcboe.org or Beth Sheller msheller@wcboe.org. You also may call (410) 677-4529 or (410) 677-4453

Our Character Corner

Teaching Your Child Tolerance

Tolerance refers to an attitude of openness and respect for the differences that exist among people. Although originally used to refer to ethnic and religious differences, the concepts of diversity and tolerance can also be applied to gender, people with physical and intellectual disabilities, and other differences, too. Tolerance means respecting and learning from others, valuing differences, bridging cultural gaps, rejecting unfair stereotypes, discovering common ground, and creating new bonds.

How Can Parents Teach Tolerance?

Parents can teach tolerance by example — and in other ways, too. Talking together about tolerance and respect helps kids learn more about the values you want them to have.

Things parents can do to help kids learn tolerance include:

- Notice your own attitudes. Parents who want to help their kids value diversity can be sensitive to cultural stereotypes they may have learned and make an effort to correct them. Demonstrate an attitude of respect for others.
- Remember that kids are always listening. Be aware of the way you talk about people who are different from yourself. Do not make jokes that perpetuate stereotypes. Although some of these might seem like harmless fun, they can undo attitudes of tolerance and respect.
- Select books, toys, music, art, and videos carefully. Keep in mind the powerful effect the media and pop culture have on shaping attitudes.
- Point out and talk about unfair stereotypes that may be portrayed in media.
- Answer kids' questions about differences honestly and respectfully. This teaches that it is acceptable to notice and discuss differences as long as it is done with respect.
- Acknowledge and respect differences within your own family. Demonstrate acceptance of your children's differing abilities, interests, and styles. Value the uniqueness of each member of your family.
- Remember that tolerance does not mean tolerating unacceptable behavior. It means that everyone deserves to be treated with respect — and should treat others with respect as well.
- Help your children feel good about themselves. Kids who feel badly about themselves often treat others badly.
- Give kids opportunities to work and play with others who are different from them. When choosing a school, day camp, or child-care facility for your child, find one with a diverse population.
- Learn together about holiday and religious celebrations that are not part of your own tradition.
- Honor your family's traditions and teach them to your kids — and to someone outside the family who wants to learn about the diversity *you* have to offer.

When parents encourage a tolerant attitude in their children, talk about their values, and model the behavior they would like to see by treating others well, kids will follow in their footsteps.

<http://kidshealth.org/en/parents/tolerance.html#>

Tolerance:

Learning to work together, appreciating differences, being fair, considerate, courteous, and polite.




Happy Valentine's Bobcat Families! Your PTA has a lot of exciting events coming up!

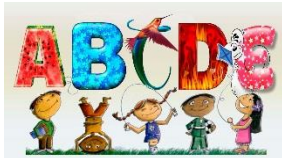
PTA will kick off the Joe Corbi's fundraiser on Friday, February 13th, and the Buffalo Wild Wings fundraiser will be on March 6th. Information will be sent home soon about these events.

Grandparents Day was a huge success. Thank you to everyone that came out to support this event. Please note that there **WILL NOT** be a PTA meeting January 30TH. The next **PTA meeting will be Monday February 13th at 6:30.**

Thank you for supporting our Bobcats!

Stay in the know and  us on Facebook! www.facebook.com/DelmarElementaryPTA

Grade Levels at a Glance



Pre-Kindergarten: Our Pre-Kindergarten students are enjoying the new theme, "Seasons and Weather." We will be learning about the seasons and talking about the weather. We will also be celebrating Super Bowl LI (51) the week of January 30-February 3rd. More information will be coming home soon. In addition, we will continue to learn more sight words, letters of the alphabet, the sounds they make, and how to write them correctly. For math, we will be working on numbers 6-10. We will continue to build addition facts to 10, identify, count and practice writing the numbers correctly.

Kindergarten: The Kindergarten Team is very proud of our students for working hard and completing another term. Thank you families for all of your support!

In Reading, students will continue exploring the "Sunshine and Raindrops" unit. Students are working hard to master letter and sound recognition, rhyming words, and blending "short a" words. Please focus on the letters and sounds for E, G, I, J, K, L, O, P, Q, U, V, W, X, Y, and Z at home with your child. Students are also responsible for mastering the following sight words: a, am, an, and, at, can, come, do, go, he, I, in, is, it, like, me, my, no, see, so, the, to, up, you and we.

In Math, students will continue to explore composing and decomposing teen numbers. Students can represent teen numbers by writing the number, counting and drawing sets, showing the teen number on a double ten frame, and writing an equation. We will also describe measurable attributes of objects using terms such as heavier/lighter, longer/shorter, and taller/shorter. Please continue to count daily with your child. The 100th day of school is almost here. Can your child count to 100?



First Grade: It's hard to believe we are halfway through the 1st grade! The first grade teachers are working hard to help the students improve their addition and subtraction math fact fluency and writing skills.

In reading, first grade is continuing to build independence by listening to and reading a variety of texts. After reading a selection we practice using evidence from the text to support

answers to questions. Please reinforce this skill by helping with homework as well as reviewing papers that are sent home in Friday folders. To begin preparing the students for PARCC we are going to utilize mini laptops allowing students to type the answer to a given question in a word document or power point. This will help students become more comfortable using the keyboard. We are also focusing on teaching students how to write about and support their opinions. **You can practice this at home by asking questions like:**

-Would you rather have a dog or a rabbit as a pet? Explain why.

-Do you think that cloud is shaped like a horse or a whale? Why do you think that?

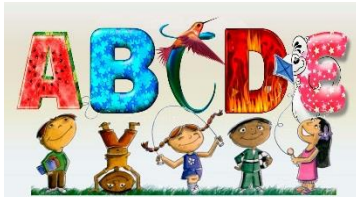
You could also read two books with your child and ask him/her to explain which one is his/her favorite. Ask your child for reasons to support his/her opinion.

In math, students are practicing their math facts, as well as, solving number stories. In unit 5, we are focusing more on place value for comparing and adding two-digit numbers.

Please remember to look in your child's agenda each night and sign or initial the agenda. Your signature indicates to the teacher that you have checked your child's homework and assisted with making corrections. **The agenda is used as a communication tool for homework assignments and teacher/parent notes.



Second Grade: Second graders are back in action! We have been working to continue to get back into our routines and procedures. We have been working so hard on gaining information from nonfiction text. Our students have been identifying text features and learning how they help us become better readers. We are excited to start our new reading theme on communities this month! Students have been diligently working on counting money and telling time. We are going to continue working with money as well as word problems for the month of February. Please continue to help your child with basic math facts as well as daily homework!



Third Grade: It is so hard to believe we are already a month into 2017! Our third graders are working hard and continuing to grow each day. The third grade teachers would like to send out a quick, friendly reminder about the third grade field trip to the Baltimore Science Center on February 8th. Please remember that we will not return from this trip until 4:30pm. Since our return will be after school hours, parents will need to plan accordingly to have transportation available for their child. This is a phenomenal experience for our students as they will be able to participate in many hands-on experiences as they explore several different aspects relevant to science and mathematics topics.

In reading, third grade students will begin their new theme, “Animal Habitats”. In this theme, students will be able to identify how animal adaptations relate to habitats as well as compare and contrast animals and their habitats. Students will be using a variety of text sources to complete their very own research project. This theme will help students to be able to understand how human actions can affect the lives and habitats of animals. Remember that our students earn awards at our Honor Day assemblies for completing their reading incentive calendar! The reading goal for February is 280 minutes, and the completed chart is due on Wednesday, March 1st!

In math, we will be heading into unit 5: Fractions and Continued Multiplication Strategies. In this unit, we will be building upon earlier experiences. Students will continue to partition shapes and recognize parts of a whole. Students will also be introduced to and explore the relationship between the numerator and the denominator. Students will continue to develop multiplication strategies and work with properties of multiplication. Please continue to practice multiplication facts at home to help your child gain fluency and eventually automaticity with their multiplication facts!

Science will be an opportunity for us to teach cross-circularly as we connect the reading theme animal habitats into the science block. As a class, we will be creating an interactive notebook that allows us to learn more about animal's needs, adaptations, instincts, and why they migrate. Students will also be reading non-fiction text about the lives of animals to strengthen their skills when using text features! Finally, in observance of Black History Month, students will learn about the lives of African Americans who have made special contributions to American life and society during the social studies block

Fourth Grade: It's hard to believe that we are halfway through another year! Students have come so far already this year in their learning.

During this month, we will be continually working on multiplication facts, problem solving, fractions and angles. Fractions are one of the major focal points in 4th grade math. Math is all around us! As you are driving, walking, or "out and about", discuss math that can be solved with things you see in the environment.

Our reading theme starting this month is "That's Amazing". Students will be researching amazing topics and reading many amazing fiction and nonfiction stories. Please continue to complete your reading incentive each month. Teachers have set the number of minutes that must be met to receive the Reading Incentive Award at Honor Day. An incentive to read this month is Hit the Books program. Turn in the bookmark by February 23rd and receive 2 Shorebirds tickets to a May 2017 game!

