



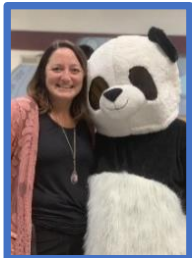
February Newsletter

Essex Elementary School

Main Number: 443-809-0117 School Fax: 443-809-0118

Volume 23 Issue 5

Updates from your Proud Principal...



We have moved into the New Year with enthusiasm! January was challenging as we all dealt with lots of winter weather. We made January successful due to the hard work of our staff, students and parents. I hope that February will bring the same dedication and support. We were able to see the progress our students have made the first semester in our DIBELS and MAP scores! WAY TO GO PANDAS!

Report Cards will be distributed on February 5th. As we continue to follow national standards, it is important that student grades give parents a clear understanding of how their student is performing towards grade level expectations. The grade should be more than just the gradebook average, it will be based on a collection of evidence from various academic tasks, and should not be influenced by distorting factors, like extra credit, late penalties or behaviors. The report card offers teachers an opportunity to share feedback in each subject area, in addition to sharing information regarding Skills and Conduct. Second quarter report cards will have content grades with comments and include grades from special areas for the first semester. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's teacher to set up a conference.

Below are the **grade descriptors**:

Grades 1-3:

CD – Consistently Demonstrating – Demonstrating a Strong Command of grade level standards

P – Progressing – Demonstrating a Developing Command of grade level standards

N – Needs Development – Demonstrating a Beginning Command of grade level standards

NA – Not Applicable– Grade level standards were neither taught nor evaluated

NG – No Grade – Student is Level 1 or Level 2 English Learner and will not receive a grade

Grades 4- 5:

A – Outstanding – Meeting or Extending the grade level standards

B – Above Average – Approaching the grade level standards

C – Average – Demonstrating a Developing Command of grade level standards

D – Below Average – Demonstrating a Beginning Command of grade level standards

E – Failing – No evidence of development of grade level standards

NG – No Grade - Student is Level 1 or Level 2 English Learner and will not receive a grade

Calendar Reminders

February

- 2/5 – 23 Gr. 5 Chocolate Bar Fundraiser
- 2/7 Virtual PTA Meeting 6:30 P
- 2/9 Professional Development/
Schools Closed for Students
- 2/13 STEAM Night 6:30 – 7:30 P
- 2/19 Presidents Day/Schools Closed
- 2/26 Kids Heart Challenge Kickoff

March

- 3/15 Lifetouch Class Picture Day
- 3/19 Literacy Night 6:00 – 7:30P
- 3/22 Gr. 3 Science Center Field Trip
- 3/25 – 4/1 Spring Break/Schools Closed

April

- 4/2 Welcome Back/Schools Reopen
- 4/5 End of 3rd Quarter/
Schools Close 3 Hours Early
- 4/10 Professional Development/
Schools Closed for Students
- 4/11 Art Show @ Kenwood HS 4P
- 4/26 Schools/Offices Close 3 Hrs Early
- 4/29 Pre-School/Pre-K/KG Conference Day
No Pre-School/Pre-K/KG Classes
- 4/30 Pre-School/Pre-K K Conference Day
No Pre-School/Pre-K

May

- 5/2 1st Grade Zoo Field Trip
- 5/3 Kindergarten Zoo Field Trip
- 5/10 Gr. 3 National Museum of
American History Field Trip
- 5/14 Election Day
Schools & Offices Closed
- 5/17 Virtual Learning Day/
Schools Close 3 Hours early for Staff.
- 5/21 Field Day
- 5/23 Rain Date for Field Day
- 5/27 Memorial Day
Schools & Offices Closed





Compassion. The meaning of compassion is to recognize the suffering of others and then take action to help. Compassion embodies a tangible expression of love for those who are suffering. Our school community demonstrated compassion for two of our families that suffered terrible loss with a house fire. The outpouring of donations was AMAZING. It was so wonderful to see how much love is evident in the Essex Community! Thank you, from the bottom of my heart!

Again, I want to thank our staff, students, and families for their engagement and support of everything that we do here at Essex Elementary. We are an amazing team!

Brooke Wagner, Principal

Nurse's Corner

A message from Nurse Brittany



It's that time! Hearing and Vision Screening will take place **February 14th through February 20th.**

All students, including those in self-contained special education classes, are routinely screened for vision problems in grades Pre-K, 1st, 4th, and 8th by technicians from the Baltimore County Department of Health (BCDH). In addition, kindergarten students who were not screened the previous year in prekindergarten are also screened.

Other students that may be screened include:

- Any student with a suspected vision or hearing problem as reported by school staff or parent/guardian.
- All students new to Baltimore County Public Schools.
- Students who were absent from screening in the prior year

Students in a special education program identified as having a hearing impairment and who receive audiological services through their IEP will be screened for hearing.



Once reports are made, anyone who has failed their hearing/vision will be sent home with a letter, and a follow-up from a health care provider will be suggested.

We would also like to re-iterate the policy for **students with fevers.**

Please do not send your child to school if they were running in the morning before school. Even if you gave them medication, they cannot come to school until they are FEVER FREE for 24 hours without medication. If your child was sent home from school with a fever, do not send them to school the next day. They must be fever free for 24 hours.

We appreciate your support, as we try to keep all of our children and staff healthy.



School Counselor Corner

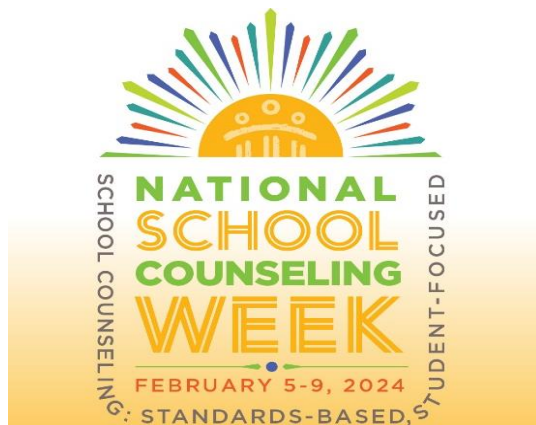
A message from Mrs. Jenkins

January was quite a month filled with plenty of snow, and hopefully there will be more to come! **February 17th is National Random Acts of Kindness Day**, but who says we can't spread kindness for the entire month?! Here are some ideas for your family to make the world a little kinder and a little brighter:

- Let someone who only has a few items go in front of you in line.
- Compliment the first three people you talk to in a day.
- Write a kind message on your mirror with a dry erase marker for yourself, your significant other, or a family member.
- Practice self-kindness and spend 30 minutes doing something you love.
- Find opportunities to give compliments. It costs nothing, takes no time, and could make someone's entire day. Don't just think it. Say it.
- When you hear that discouraging voice in your head, tell yourself something positive. You deserve kindness too!

Counseling lessons for January included discussions about various character traits including listening skills, digital citizenship, and positive friendship qualities. In February, we will be discussing and celebrating cultural differences. Be sure to keep an eye out for lesson materials in your student's take-home folder when I visit their classroom!

Choose
KINDNESS.



Essex El PTA Corner News

Happy Valentines Essex Pandas! Hoping you all have a sweet February. We know you've enjoyed the snow days off, but we are looking forward to spring and all the fun plans we have for our students and staff. We can't support our teachers and provide quality events without your support. Please support our school and join the virtual meeting this month to see what's in store for your students!



Mark your calendars for the upcoming events:

VIRTUAL PTA MEETING- 2/7 @ 6:30pm

PINGO- In the planning stages for the end of February.

Start saving your change, **COIN WARS** is coming up in April! Details will be posted in MARCH!

We also wish a special congratulations to our top salesman in the Greeting Card fundraiser. Kudos to Brayden F. for being the top seller and Eddie K. for being 2nd top seller. Way to go guys, we appreciate your support!

Happy Valentine's Day

B A F L O W E R S E
Z D R K H U G Q E V
Y U I X M M Q T V A
Q D E P O C A B S L
R W N X U L V M E E
O E D A O C L R S N
H P S C C K O D O T
K A O P F B V E R I
N H A I Q G E P E N
C T R A E H J F A E



LOVE
CHOCOLATE
CANDY
VALENTINE
FRIENDS
CUPID
HUG
FLOWERS
HEART
ROSES

Staff Emails



Ms. Beach, Gr. 4	abeach2@bcps.org	Ms. Jones, KG	tjones9@bcps.org
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Ms. Izzi, Admin Secretary	dizzi@bcps.org	Ms. Wagner, Principal	bwagner4@bcps.org
Ms. Nocera, Team Coordinator	ejacobsen@bcps.org	Mr. Walker, Phys Ed	awalker3@bcps.org
Ms. Jackson, Inst Music	ljackson4@bcps.org	Ms. Wynne, Reading Specialist	mwynne@bcps.org
Ms. Jenkins, Guidance	ajenkins5@bcps.org		

Show responsibility by bringing our charged Chromebook and charger to school each day!



SCHOOL PHONE NUMBERS

... Don't forget to update our contact information in your phone.

443-809-0117 Office
443-809-0118 Fax
443-809-6060 Nurse

