



Deer Park Times

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A Publication for the Children, Families and Staff of Deer Park Elementary School

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Greetings Families of Deer Park,

Spring...here we come! Although it feels like winter mostly missed us this year, spring is officially just around the corner! As we head into March, there are a few exciting things happening in and around our school community. Please check our "Looking Ahead" calendar so that you do not miss out on anything.

Thank you to everyone who supported our Book Fair; our librarian reported record sales. We will have one last Book Fair in the spring. It will be a buy one/get one sale. Look for a flyer in the coming months. Again, thank you so much for all your support and for making Deer Park a wonderful place to work and learn.

I would like to thank everyone who attended our Black History Month events. Over two hundred people were in attendance. Our Blacks in Wax presentation provided information about famous African Americans and the performance showcased our students' talents as they highlighted the Historically Black Colleges and Universities experience. We received nothing but positive feedback from our families.

Looking ahead, Deer Park will have a Music in our Schools concert this month. We will be featuring our first and third grade students and Music Makers Club in this performance. The performance will be on Tuesday, March 19th, at 6:30 p.m. Look for a flyer in this edition of the newsletter.

We would like to encourage parents to help their children succeed in school by attending school regularly. School success goes hand in hand with good attendance. Starting in kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school. Missing 10 percent (or about 18 days) can make it harder to learn to read. Students can still fall behind if they miss just a day or two days every few weeks. Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school and themselves. Building this habit from the very beginning of preschool will instill right away that going to school on time, every day, is important. Good attendance will help children do well in high school, college, and at work. Please be sure your children attend school every day and complete all assignments daily.

We would also like to encourage our parents to refrain from picking up students for early dismissal. Our school day ends at 3:20 p.m. Students are engaged in instruction until the 3:15 bell rings. Picking your child up from school early causes them to miss valuable instruction as well as the formative assessment at the end of the lesson. If possible, please have your child complete the entire school day.

We are at the half-way mark of the third quarter. If your child is in danger of failing a subject or has dropped a letter grade, you should have received an email or phone call from their teacher. Please have a conversation with your child and develop a plan to ensure that they bring the grade up before the end of the quarter. You may also visit your child's Schoology page and review their grades.

PTA Executive Board

Officers

Melissa Sivels
President

Latrece Ross
Treasurer

Ena Ogoriefon
Secretary



Looking Ahead!

- **3/14 -Spring Picture Day**
- **3/22-Spring Break Begins at the end of the**



On March 7th the testing window will open for the Maryland Integrated Science Assessment (MISA). Students in grade 5 will be taking this assessment which replaces MSA Science. More information will be coming from our fifth-grade team soon.

The home/school partnership is the foundation of success for any child and an essential element to successful schools. As always, it continues to be a pleasure to work with your children every day. It has been very exciting to see the progress they have made this year thanks to that collaboration.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

Your partners in education,

Renee A. Jenkins
Principal

Katie L. Fridley
Assistant Principal

Vision Statement

Deer Park Elementary School provides a positive educational environment which nurtures all students while developing critical 21st Century skills.

MISSION STATEMENT

In partnership with community members, our school will provide engaging and inclusive instruction to empower our diverse learning community to become College and Career Ready.

The Deer Park Elementary School learning community is dedicated to:

D– Deliberate Excellence

P - Positive Partnerships

E - Empowering and Engaging Instruction

S - Successful Students

TOGETHER WE THRIVE!!!

PEACE

Positivity

Endurance

Act with Kindness

Compassion

Embrace Differences

Lots of positive things have been happening at Deer Park over the past month.

At the end of the second quarter, we held our PEACE Celebration to honor those students who had demonstrated two or more of the PEACE traits. Those students participated in our Hungry Hippos activity.



In February we challenged the students to look for the PEACE traits they see in the students in their classes. To aid in that effort we introduced the **Positivity Potato**.



Each day, during the month of February, classes chose the students who had demonstrated the trait of positivity to display the Positivity Potato on their desk. Some potatoes even went to specials each day!

We are continuing the challenge of having students look for peaceful people in their classes this month. In addition to the Positivity Potato, we have introduced the **Worker Worm**. These worms will be displayed each day by students who demonstrate the trait of Endurance.



Thank you to Mrs. Mangrum and Mrs. Chalk for creating the Positivity Potatoes and the Worker Worms for each class.



Greetings Pre-K Families!

It is already the third quarter, and the Pre-K children are doing beautifully. Please continue to read to your child. At this age, children enjoy dramatizing stories. Not only is this great fun, but it also deepens a child's awareness of story structure. Acting out stories introduces young learners to elements of stories such as characters, setting and the sequence of events. Making predictions when a book is read for the first time helps children to make sense of what is being shown through the illustrations as well as the words. Consider ways to stretch the story by encouraging your child to draw his/her favorite part of the story. Invite your child to explain what he/she would do if he/she were a character in the story!

And as always, thank you for your support through this school year.

Ms. Muhammad

Look what's happening in Kindergarten



Spring is just around the corner!! The students have been doing a great job with buttoning and zipping their coats. It is important for all children to be dressed appropriately for the outdoors and dismissal in the cold and wet weather. We encourage independence and proficiency in kindergarten with the self-help skills listed below. We appreciate your help. Thanks!

- Putting on and taking off jackets (if sleeves are wrong side out, children need to learn how to pull the sleeves right-side out)
- Zipping, buttoning, snapping
- Tying shoes
- Managing own backpack and folder
- Taking care of bathroom needs
- Using and properly disposing of facial tissues

MATH

This semester we will continue working on number sense, number formation, and counting. Children are learning about 2D and 3D shapes, writing the numerals 0-20, counting by 1's to 100, and counting by 10's to 100. Kindergartners are also learning how to read the numbers from 0-50 when they are in random order. We will continue to work on generating and continuing patterns. Other topics we will explore this month are, simple addition and subtraction number stories, graphing, probability, one to one counting, comparing size, and simple measurement.

Look what's happening in Kindergarten



LITERACY NEWS

All kindergartners are developing fluency in letter naming, initial sounds, phoneme segmentation, and reading short vowel words. We will begin to introduce long vowels this month. These activities are practiced daily during phonics instruction. All of the students continue to receive daily reading instruction planned according to their instructional needs. Please continue to reinforce your child's sight word recognition by practicing daily!

READING AT HOME

As your child enters the wonderful world of reading, share in the enthusiasm and excitement by reading to him or her regularly. Your child will treasure those special times together, and you will be helping him or her become familiar with the sounds of the English language. Use the following tips as you read aloud and share favorite stories with your child.

- Select stories both you and your child will enjoy, such as those pertaining to a favorite hobby or sport. Include silly rhymes, chants and tongue twisters for extra fun.
- Encourage your child to predict what comes next by looking at pictures or listening to word clues. For example, Jack and Jill went up the _____.
- Point out letter sounds in words as you read. Highlight words that have a specific phonetic sound, such as those that contain the /b/ sound. Have your child identify rhyming words aloud as you point to them in the story.
- Listen for rhyming words. Have your child think of additional words with the same sound patterns.
- Dramatize your voice as you read. Your child will delight in hearing the words "come to life". Take turns reading different parts and invite your child to act out each role as you share stories aloud.



Hello from the Fabulous First Grade Hall!

Our First Graders are awesome! Every day they inspire us with their humor, determination, and kindness! Please remind your scholar that everyone plays a part in creating a warm, welcoming, and safe environment for learning.

Currently we are working hard on our seventh module in ELA, The Great Outdoors. Watch us grow -identifying main topics, supporting details, and information about some familiar and some novel places in our world. We will be researching the weather, researching, and creating our own informational piece to teach!

In Math we are working on Unit 6, Figure the Facts with Penguins. We are working on becoming proficient with story problems, adding, subtracting, and counting by sets of tens, fives, and twos. We are using the open number line as a strategy to solve problems. This month we joined our older grade levels as we begin to take our unit assessment for math online through Performance Matters. Ms. Thurston held her first Fluency contest in February, and we are gearing up for our March Match Up to hold onto the Math Champion Poster for another month!

We concluded our second Science unit and our second Health unit. Now it is back to Social Studies as we examine our local community here in Baltimore. We will look at the economics, geography, culture, and traditions of our own county.

Please make sure all First Grade scholars are practicing high frequency words daily and rereading the decodables sent home each week. Remember to read every night and bring those Book Buddy Bags each day! Homework is given every day and should be returned each morning. All work should be headed with first and last name and the date!

Our first Field Trip is coming soon. We are looking for lots of chaperones. If you are interested, please go online to do the BCPS chaperone training.

Thank you for your home support and all you do!

The First Grade Team

Music Notes – March 2024

Greetings from the Music Room!

This month we are celebrating Music in our Schools Month. This year's theme is I See Me in Music Education.



In the music room we have been focusing on melody. Students in K-4 have been learning to read, sing, and play melodies and have even done some composing. Our fifth-grade students have been learning about the 12-Bar Blues and even had an opportunity to compose their own verse in this musical style. This spring, we will continue our study of melody, and we will learn different ways to layer sounds in harmony.



In addition to celebrating Music in our Schools Month in the music room, we will also be celebrating with a story through song concert.

Story through Song Concert

Tuesday, March 19th at 6:30 p.m.

Performers – All 1st, and 3rd graders and the Music Makers Club

Mark your calendars and join us to hear these students bring the story book *I've Got the Whole World in My Hands* to life with music.



Parker's Pantry

Deer Park Elementary School & The Maryland Food Bank
9809 Lyons Mills Road
Owings Mills, MD 21117
Wednesday, March 20, 2024
Time: 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM



**Please follow directions of
volunteers and remain in
your car. Walkers will follow
signs to form a line at door.
While supplies last!*



DEER PARK ELEMENTARY PTA

Hello from the PTA

Thank you for all of your support so far this year! We have been able to do some great things and have more exciting events on the way! There will be spring fundraisers and family fun nights in the coming weeks.

We are moving quickly towards our goal of 75 members for this year. Please consider joining the PTA to help support our school.

We are starting a supply closet for our teachers and students. Please consider making a donation using our Amazon Wish List.

Upcoming Events

- Digital Dozens 3/4
- Red Robin Restaurant Day 3/20
- Bingo/Family Game Night 4/16
- Mother's Day Breakfast 5/10
- Chipotle Restaurant Night 5/13
- Spring Fair 5/24
- Father's Day Breakfast 6/3
- Outdoor Movie Night 6/7

Amazon Wish List



Connect with Us



Membership



Facebook



KRISPY KREME DOZENS TO SUPPORT
Deer Park Elementary PTA



\$14 PER DOZEN



40% DONATED BACK



ORDER BY March 15.



SCAN ME

<https://grouprai.se/krispykreme39269sa>



February 5 through March 8

Take this brief

ONLINE SURVEY



The Area
Education
Advisory
Councils of
Baltimore
County

Bring your questions and concerns to the next Northwest and Central Joint Education Advisory Council meeting as we evaluate the first half of school year 23/24

This is a **COMMUNITY CONVERSATION** for ALL **STAKEHOLDERS IN THE Northwest and Central Areas!**

MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2024
6:00 P.M. VIA ZOOM

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88189469086?pwd=uaNsMThsMwmuefV1We4iauLg6PpBug.1>

Meeting ID: 881 8946 9086

Passcode: 356059

Call-in: 301-715-8592


The Board of Education's Area Education Advisory Councils hold monthly meetings to discuss timely issues facing Baltimore County Public Schools. Please plan to join TWO of the councils on March 11th at 6:00 pm to share your thoughts and feedback on the first half of this school year with our new superintendent and new administration. Bring your questions, concerns, and solutions as we spend the evening learning how to advise the board on our community's greatest issues!

Contact us:

Northwest: NorthwestAEAC@bcps.org

Central: CentralAEAC@bcps.org

All meeting dates and topics are located on the [BCPS website!](#)



Los consejos
asesores
de educación de
las áreas del
condado
de Baltimore

**La reunión conjunta de los
consejos asesores de educación
de las áreas noroeste y central
evaluarán el primer semestre
del ciclo 23-24
asista, dé su opinión y haga
preguntas**

**Esta es una CONVERSACIÓN COMUNITARIA para TODAS LAS
PARTES INTERESADAS en las áreas del noroeste y central del
condado**

**LUNES 11 DE MARZO, 2024
6:00 P.M. EN ZOOM**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88189469086?pwd=uaNsMThsMwmuefV1We4iauLg6PpBug.1>

ID de la reunión: 881 8946 9086

Contraseña: 356059

Para llamar: 301-715-8592

Los consejos asesores de educación del área del consejo de educación celebran reuniones mensuales para hablar temas oportunos que enfrentan las escuelas públicas del condado de Baltimore. Planee asistir a DOS de los consejos el 11 de marzo a las 6:00 pm para compartir sus ideas y comentarios sobre la primera mitad de este año escolar con nuestra nueva superintendente y la nueva administración. Venga con sus preguntas, inquietudes y soluciones y pasamos la noche aprendiendo cómo asesorar al consejo sobre los problemas más importantes de nuestra comunidad

Comuníquese:

Noroeste: NorthwestAEAC@bcps.org

Central: CentralAEAC@bcps.org

Todas las fechas y los detalles de sus reuniones están [sitio web BCPS](#)