Lutherville Families,
We have certainly been lucky with the winter weather this month! We have started our Winter MAP (Measures of Academic Performance) testing for all students, Kindergarten through Grade 5, in both Reading and Math. Information on this assessment will come home at the end of the third quarter. If you have any questions, please email your child’s teacher.

The teachers are planning an exciting night of pasta and math activities for “PASTABILITIES NIGHT” at Lutherville on March 26, 2020. Dinner will begin at 5:30 and Math activities will begin at 6:00pm. A flier will be coming home at the beginning of March with an RSVP. We are looking forward to seeing everyone on March 26th.

The PTA has scheduled an Assembly on February 25th. The assembly, Faith in the Flakes, will focus on Winter Weather presented by Justin Berk. Look for pictures on Twitter and Instagram during the assembly.

The 5th Parent Information Night will be Tuesday, March 10th at 6:00pm. Please join us as we discuss the MCAP (Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program) Assessment for third, fourth and fifth grade students.

Mrs. Bissell
Principal
Upcoming Dates

February 17th - President’s Day – SCHOOLS OPEN FOR ALL STUDENTS
February 24th-28th - Jump Rope for Heart
February 25th - Board of Education Meeting, Greenwood, Bldg. E, 6:30 p.m.

March 2nd - PTA Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
March 9th-13th - Grade 5 – Ballroom Dancing
March 10th - Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program Night, Grades 3-5, 6:00 p.m.
            - Board of Education Meeting, Greenwood, Bldg. E, 6:30 p.m.
March 12th - Principal Focus Group Meeting, 5:00 p.m.
March 20th - Hop for Hopkins, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
March 24th - Board of Education Meeting, Greenwood, Bldg. E, 6:30 p.m.
March 25th - Maryland Day
March 26th - Math Night, 5:30 p.m.
March 31st - Student Drama Performance, 7:00 p.m.

Virtue of the Month-Determination

Determination is focusing your energy and efforts on a task and then sticking with it until it is finished. When you call upon the virtue of determination, even the hardest task can be a challenge we are willing to accept. Without determination, people give up and don't ask for help when needed. As a family, think about examples of people who have succeeded because of their determination.

Be on the lookout for the virtue sheet that will come home soon. Use the discussion questions to jump start conversations with your family about determination and working towards goals. It feels good to refocus on goals and meet them!
Free Parent Workshops

- **February 19th** -  **Behavior Management at Home**, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.-White Oak School Main Training Lab
- **February 20th** -  **Building Connections and Social Opportunities for our Students and Children**, 5:30-7:30 p.m.-North Point Library Meeting Room
- **February 24th** -  **Understanding Your Child’s IEP**, 6:00-8:00 p.m.-BCPS Greenwood Campus, Building E, Room 123
- **February 26th** -  **Building Connections and Social Opportunities for our Students and Children**, 5:30-7:30 p.m.-Arbutus Library Meeting
- **March 3rd** -  **Tourette Syndrome and Tics: Effective Treatment Strategies for Children and Teens**, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.-White Oak School Main Training Lab
- **March 3rd** -  **Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD) in Children, Teens and Their Families: Effective Strategies to Win Against the OCD “Bully”**, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.-White Oak School Main Training Lab

Information from the Office

**Early Dismissals** - Please send a note in the morning with your student if you are planning on picking them up early. If you email the homeroom teacher about an early dismissal, please include Ms. Mills at tmills2@bcps.org or Mrs. Wingerd at dwingerd@bcps.org in that email. This will afford us the opportunity to know where your child is when you come to get her/him. Please note that no student will be called to the office until a parent/guardian has arrived and signed the student out. **After 3:30 p.m., we will not be able to dismiss students** from school as teachers and students are preparing for the end of the day and dismissal procedures.

**Bus Loop** – Please do not enter the bus loop or the first entrance during arrival and dismissal. It creates a safety concern when cars are passing buses as students are unloading/loading. The bus loop and the first entrance are closed from 8:45 a.m. to 9:10 a.m. and 3:40 p.m. to 4:10 p.m. If you need to visit the school, please park in the parking lot adjacent to the car dealership. If you have any questions, please call the school at 410.887.7800.

**Field Trips** – Information about paying on-line for field trips will be coming home with your student when it is time for their first field trip. Please consider paying on-line so that students do not carry money to school taking a chance that they will lose it.

**Emergency Contact Forms** – It is extremely important that we have accurate contact information for every child. Please remember to contact your child’s teacher and the main office, in writing, if changes need to be made.

**Parking** - School is now in session, so please be mindful when parking in the surrounding neighborhood, primarily Division Avenue. Most residents do not have driveways and much of the street near the school is posted no parking and when we park in posted “no parking” spaces the residents are unable to get near their home to park. Thank you in advance for your consideration.
Art News

In fourth grade art we have been studying the art of Esther Krinitz, textile artist and Holocaust survivor. Her work is now being exhibited at the American Visionary Art Museum. A big thank you to The Krinitz foundation “Art and Remembrance” which has donated a $500.00 grant for materials so students can design their own narrative textile art. You can learn more about Esther Krinitz’s work from her website: https://artandremembrance.org/

Nursing News

Strep Throat

Do you know when to seek medical advice for your child’s sore throat? Beta-Hemolytic Group A Streptococcus is one potential cause of sore throats among school-age children. The number of strep cases increases greatly from late fall until winter’s end. Strep bacteria is very contagious and spreads through the air when an infected person coughs or sneezes. Symptoms develop between 12 hours to five days after exposure. The illness is characterized by stomach aches, headaches, pain when swallowing, fever, vomiting, ear pain, neck pain, fatigue increasing throughout the day, swollen lymph nodes in the neck, and occasionally a rash. Some cases are diagnosed without the presence of a fever.

The diagnosis of strep throat is determined by a positive throat culture test for the bacteria. Testing can be performed with a rapid test in your doctor’s office. If the rapid test is negative, a 24-hour culture should be performed because the 24-hour culture may be positive for the strep bacteria.

Treatment of strep throat requires antibiotic therapy. A child will remain contagious until 24 hours after beginning antibiotics. Even though signs of the infection may resolve within two to three days after treatment starts, it is important to complete the course of medication. The prognosis is excellent with proper diagnosis and antibiotic treatment. It is imperative that all the medication be taken on time and finished. If treatment is discontinued prior to the prescribed duration the bacteria can “rebound” and reproduce itself faster and in greater numbers than before the antibiotic started. The “rebound” bacteria are often resistant to the antibiotic that was stopped before all the bacteria were killed. You could then end up with an infection that has become resistant to certain antibiotics. If a strep infection goes beyond nine days without treatment, serious conditions such as kidney impairment or Rheumatic Fever may result.

Remember, to avoid spreading the illness to other children, keep your child home from school until AFTER he or she has taken antibiotics for at least 24 hours. Please notify the school that your child has a communicable disease. As always, hand washing continues to be an excellent preventative measure in not only preventing strep throat, but also all communicable diseases.

After your child has taken 2-3 doses of antibiotic please change your child’s toothbrush.
We Need Your Voice!

Our school uses Stakeholder Survey data to make improvements for our students. We can’t do it without you!

The survey is available January 27th through March 1, 2020. It takes less than five minutes, is anonymous, and is available in 16 languages for students, parents, and community members.

The survey can be taken from anywhere using a phone, tablet, or computer, but students, parents, and staff will be given opportunities to take the survey at school.

If you are a BCPS parent and employee, or if you have children in more than one school, you are encouraged to take the survey more than once to reflect these experiences.