



OCES Newsflyer

Principal's Message



Technology is not only the wave of the future, but the way of the present! As many already know—thanks to our very giving community, including current & past parents, business members, and civic organizations—we recently purchased 50 iPads! They are already in the hands of our teachers and students. These devices are to students of today what chalkboards were to those of yesteryear. Technology is a resource teachers can use to support and improve learning through increased

student engagement. Children are naturally interested in digital devices, which can add value to their academic experience and support them as lifelong learners. There will surely be technology-based career choices available to our students that don't even exist right now! It is our responsibility to support them, and provide the tools to prepare them for college and careers.

Yes, technology is here to stay and it is, in all its forms, a very important part of our children's lives as they move

towards adulthood and enter the world of work. However, technology cannot replace the significant adults in a child's life. Teachers will continue to deliver quality instruction and caring encouragement, through a variety of personal learning experiences. But, parents and caregivers will always be the most important people in a child's life. They learn more at home than at school. I would encourage you all to take the time to talk to your child, read with them, and spend time together, away from the distractions of electronic screens. As a parent myself, I have had to find a balance in my family's life when it comes to technology. In our family we designate certain events "4F", which stands for Fone-Free-Family-Funct-ions. This means that some meals or movies or games are just "us"; no smart phones, no iPads, no laptops—just us.

Did You Know...

- **Box Tops for Education** are collected all year long. The next collection date is **2/21/14**. Help us reach the goal of \$3500.00!
- We have a limited number of new and gently used **winter coats**. If you would like a winter coat for your child, please send a note to Mrs. McGean including your child's name, size and teacher's name.
- **Change of transportation forms** are in your child's backpack. Please fill one out if there needs to be a change.
- March 10-14 is the **OCES Scholastic Book Fair**. All proceeds go back into the Media Center!
- The last **PTA Conference Night** of the Year is Thursday, March 13. We look forward to seeing you.



The OCES Motto

I have a **Curious** Mind,
A **Caring** Heart,
and the
Courage to never give up!

February 2014

Mrs. Dawn Rogers,
Principal
Mrs. Karen Marx,
Asst. Principal
Mrs. Linda McGean,
School Counselor
OCES Phone:
410-632-5370

Dates to Remember:

- ☺ **2/13** Worcester County Tech Fest at WTHS 5:30 projects on display 6:30 Awards
- ☺ **2/14** Have a Heart Spirit Day—wear red, school colors, school apparel, etc.
- ☺ **2/14** 100th Day!
- ☺ **2/17** Schools closed—Presidents Day
- ☺ **2/21** Last day to turn in BoxTops for Education
- ☺ **2/28** Shining Stars Spirit Day— wear stars, OCES apparel, blue/white to support MSA testing in 3rd/4th
- ☺ **2/28** Shorebird Bookmarks due
- ☺ **3/3-6** MSA testing for grades 3 & 4
- ☺ **3/10-14** Scholastic Book Fair
- ☺ **3/13** PTA Conference Night



Missing Something?

Please check the **Lost and Found Closet**

in the cafeteria. It is overflowing with hats, coats, sweaters, lunchboxes, etc. If not claimed by the end of the year, all items will be donated to charity!

As a reminder, please mark your child's belongings with his/her name.

From the School Nurse

Illnesses in children are as much a part of winter as cold weather. If your child experiences any of the following symptoms, please do not send them to school:



FEVER: temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or more within the past 24 hours

VOMITING: vomiting within the past 24 hours

DIARRHEA: 3 or more watery stools in a 24 hour period

SORE THROAT: especially with fever or swollen glands in neck

CHRONIC COUGH/GREEN NASAL

DISCHARGE: should be seen by a health care provider

EYES: thick mucus or pus draining from the eye or pink eye

BoxTops for Education

Final collection date for the BoxTops for Education is February 21st!

PLEASE, help the PTA meet their goal.

Remember, it's all for the children!

Curriculum Connection

10 Things Parents Need to Know About Testing in Maryland

1. MSA will be given in reading and math in grades 3-8 in March.
2. A small number of students in every school will take the field test of Maryland's new Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC).
3. Students who take the PARCC field test in one subject area (either reading or math) will take the MSA in the other tested area.
4. Parents will continue to receive individual student reports on their child's MSA scores.
5. Parents will not receive individual scores on their child's performance on the PARCC field test.
6. Federal law requires that all Maryland students take an annual statewide assessment or the State risks losing millions of dollars in funding.
7. Next school year, 2104-2015, all Maryland students in grades 3-8 will take PARCC assessments in reading/ELA and math.
8. Although new academic standards have been implemented this year, the MSA continues to provide teachers, parents, and students with valuable information.
9. Information from the PARCC field test will be used to refine and improve the assessments before they are given to all students next year.
10. If you have additional questions about testing, ask your child's teacher or principal.

For additional information, please visit

www.marylandpublicschools.org,

www.parcconline.org/field-test or

www.parcconline.org/samples/item-task-prototypes.

Pictured are students in Mrs. Leitgeb's class writing about their personal goals and resolutions for 2014 that were discussed during class time.



Worcester Northern Schools AFG Mission Statement

The mission of Worcester County Northern Schools, a diverse and growing community, is to provide a rigorous, sequential, and balanced curriculum for all students to become responsible lifelong learners.

This will be accomplished through instructional excellence in partnership with family and community in a safe, caring, and well-maintained environment.

We will recognize the uniqueness of each student's role as a productive citizen in an ever changing world.



Stand Up, Speak Up!



In February the *Stand Up, Speak Up* anti-bullying program is highlighting the positive attribute of “**courage**.” Courage is the ability to conquer fear, and the confidence to overcome obstacles and to persevere when things are difficult. Synonyms for courage are bravery, valor and nerve. We show courage when we speak up in defense of ourselves or someone else, even when we feel uncomfortable or anxious.

The following scenario was shared with students. Ask your child what he/she would do in this situation.

“A boy trips and drops his lunch tray. Several students laugh. You try to help and a student from another table grabs your arm and tells you not to.

What would YOU do?”

Websites of Interest

Try the following websites to help your child practice their typing skills:

<http://bigbrownbear.co.uk/learntotype/index.html>

or

<http://www.typingweb.com/>

**The more practice
the better!**

AFG Kid-Friendly Mission Statement

AFG for you and me-
AFG will help us see-

We’re all different, that’s okay-
It helps us learn and grow each day!

We set a goal to take us far-
We work really hard to be a star.
Home, school, and community-
Cooperation is the key.

AFG will help us plan-
So we can be the best we can!!!

Delays in School Openings for Fog, Bad Weather, or Emergency Closings

Listen to the local radio and TV stations **or** call the Hotline at: 410-632-5399, Access #6600 **or** access the Board of Education’s Website at:
www.worcesterk12.com

January Students of the Month

Congratulations to the January Students of the Month. These students exhibited leadership and responsibility without being reminded. The lunch for these students was sponsored by Park Place Jewelers.

Grade 1: Brynn Robins, Michael Cantine, Delaney Grim, Walker Hastings, Savannah Palmisano, and Julianna Wooden

Grade 2: .William Michael, Philip Mason, Dane, VanDornick, Zane Koch, Jasmine Gooch, and Peyton Marohl.

Grade 3: Jonathan Wallace, Mackenzie Cathell, Maisam Oma, Lily Nolan, Dalton Bunting, and Brant Skipper.

Grade 4: Malik Hemmeian, Diego Gutierrez, Colin Sweeney, Hanna Zajdel, Sam Woodley, and Gabby Andransky.

Keep up the great work!

If you are interested in being a sponsor for the Student of the Month program, please contact Mrs. McGean at 410-632-5381.



Students in Mrs. Murray’s class are using the new iPads to research a state. This research is part of a performance assessment in Social Studies after they studied the regions of the United States.

**Shorebirds
“Hit the Books”
Reading Program**

Don't forget....The reading bookmark stub is due to your child's teacher no later than **Friday, February 28**. When your child reads 4 books, records them, and fills in the Bookmark stub, he/she will receive 2 free tickets to a Shorebirds game.

The game date will be determined at the end of the program. The Shorebirds will give \$1,000.00 to the school with the highest attendance the night of their designated game. So...

**Get in the game and
“Hit the Books”**



**Accelerated Reader
Update**

As of January 31st the following data reflects the success of the AR Reading Program.

Number of Students Gr. 1-4:
472
Book Tests Passed Successfully:
13,661
Points Earned for the AR Store:
14,556
Schoolwide Reading Comprehension:
86.3%
Words Read:
80,479,658
% of Books Independently Read:
69%
% of Fiction Read: 88%
% of NonFiction Read: 12%

**MSA
Testing Dates**

Test	Grade	Date(s)
Reading	3 & 4	March 3,4
Math	3 & 4	March 5,6

Research indicates that students who test with their class in the regular classroom do better on tests than those who are tested at other times. Please put these dates on your calendar.

We are asking that you not plan family vacations during these testing dates.

**Worcester County Tech
Fest**



Thursday

February 13, 2014

5:30 Projects on Display

6:30 Awards Ceremony

**Worcester Technical
High School**

Best wishes to the following students that have entries in **Photography**:
Brooks Kendall, Brody Kendall, Carlin Makibbin, Dominick DiGristine, Mia Lovitt, Anthony DiGristine, Holden Bunting, Dalton Bunting, Riley Stephen, Riley Moyer, Addisyn Fluckey, Parker Intrieri, Logan Intrieri, Morgan Echols, Jacob Bauer, Keeley Catrino, Mason D'Aleo, and Rife Leonard.

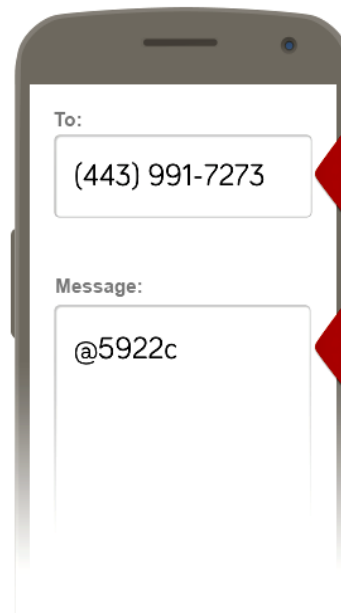
On Paper: Brooks Kendall

Please join us February 13 and be amazed at the quality projects done by our Worcester County students.

We are very proud of them!

remind 101

OCES is now using a text-messaging program called Remind101 that allows us to text important information to you! All you need to do to sign up to receive text messages from us is text the message @5922c to (443) 991-7273. Yes, it's that simple!



Enter this number

Text this message

2014-2015 Pre-K and Kindergarten Registration

The goal of Pre-Kindergarten in the public schools is to provide learning experiences to help young children build their skills so they are more likely to do well in school. To be eligible for the Pre-Kindergarten program, children must be **four years old on or before September 1, 2014**. In addition, they also must be from families that are economically disadvantaged or homeless. All economically disadvantaged children who apply must be enrolled first; however, if there are spaces left, other children may be enrolled.

*Children who will be five years old on or before September 1, 2014 **must** register for Kindergarten.*

Children who are currently attending Pre-Kindergarten at OCES must register for Kindergarten.

If you have NOT called the school to schedule an appointment, please do so.

Kindergarten registration will occur on **March 19th and 20th**.

Pre-Kindergarten registration takes place on **April 9th & 10th**.

The following documents **must** be brought to the registration appointment:

- Birth Certificate (**not** a birth registration notice)
- Social Security Card
- Current Immunization Record
- Proof of Residency in the Ocean City Elementary School district (deed, lease, or utility bill that lists a service area in the OCES district)
- For PreK registration only: proof of income (2013 income tax return)

Rack Room: Shoes That Fit Program



Rack Room Shoes has adopted over 400 schools in the communities they serve to provide properly fitting footwear to thousands of needy children across the US at no cost to families. OCES is pleased to participate in this program. If you would like for your child to receive a pair of athletic shoes, please send a note to Mrs. McGean. Include your child's full name, shoe size, and teacher's name.

Dress for the Weather!

Lots of layers, please. If children are not dressed for the weather, they may not be able to go out for recess!



Star Citizens



The following students have been selected as Star Citizens for showing caring and compassion towards others.

**Nicolas Purnell
Damien Jones
Amanda Berry**

Have you read today? Have you read today? Have you read today?