



NEW WINDSOR MIDDLE SCHOOL

February - March 2012

Mr. Erin Brillhart, Principal

Mrs. Linda E. Selby, Assistant Principal

Principal's Message

1000 Green Valley Road
New Windsor, MD 21776
Phone: 410-751-3355
Fax: 410-751-3358

Dear Parents,

Our second marking period has recently concluded, we've made it half-way, and our staff and students are handling recent changes in stride.

We have recently changed to a new master schedule that includes a 25-minute period of time at the end of every school day. We call this period "Tiger Time" and use it for a variety of purposes which include academics, remediation, tutoring and clubs. We have also recently begun preparing for MSA testing by using a modified schedule every Friday. On these days students spend the first hour of the day practicing standardized testing skills and sample MSA test items. Our goal is to completely prepare students for the upcoming MSA as well as future standardized tests like the PARRC, HSA's, SAT and ACT.

During the month of January our instrumental music and chorus students presented their concerts with great success. Thank you to Mrs. Baker and Mrs. Shields for all of their hard work in preparing students for these events. If you missed the events, please check the school calendar for the spring as we will host one more instrumental music concert as well as the school play.

On January 19, three groups of students participated in the 2nd Annual Regional Night at Francis Scott Key High School; Northrop Grumman Engineering, Archeology Club and band.

Important Information:

Next year's school times and bus schedules will be changing. For the 2012-13 school year ***New Windsor Middle School's instructional day will be 8:25 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.***, which means students will begin their first period class promptly at 8:25 a.m. This is a 30-minute change from this year and we anticipate a.m. bus schedules to be adjusted accordingly. We also anticipate our afternoon bus schedule to be very different from this year, utilizing waves of buses. Please read all summer information carefully, additional information will be included about buses, parent drop-off and pick-up as well as student wal'



Weather Updates:

Although we have experienced very little winter weather, we're not out of winter yet and the last day of school is still June 14. Please plan family and summer vacations accordingly.

Winter Weather

For the most accurate winter weather information:

www.carrollk12.org

WTTR 1470 AM



Dates To Remember:



February

- 1 Report Cards Distributed
- 3 MSA practice
- 9 Honor Roll Assembly
 - Grade 8 – 8:15 a.m.
 - Grade 6 – 9:00 a.m.
 - Grade 7 – 9:45 a.m.
- 9 S.H.O.U.T. meeting – 2:30-3:30
- 14 Cooking Club meets – 2:45-4:30
- 17 School Dance – 2:30 – 4:30
- 20 Schools closed – Presidents' Day
- 28 Cooking Club meets – 2:45-4:30

March

- 5 Interims Distributed
- 5 Early Dismissal – Dismissal at 11:45
- 13 Cooking Club meets – 2:45-4:30
- 14 MSA – Reading (Make ups March 16 - March 28)
- 15 MSA – Reading
- 20 MSA – Math (Make ups March 22 – March 28)
- 21 MSA - Math
- 23 School Dance 2:30 – 4:30
- 27 Cooking Club meets – 2:45-4:30



THE SCHOOL COUNSELORS

**St. Joseph Catholic Community
915 Liberty Road
Eldersburg, MD 21784**

January 2012

Dear Friends,

Courage Kids is a peer support group for children, guided by trained adult facilitators. Through discussion, artwork, crafts, games and videos, the children get to talk about their feelings and get to know other children who are experiencing similar losses. It is very comforting for children to learn that other children feel the same way they do about the loss of a loved one, the separation/divorce of parents, a parent incarcerated, or a parent away in the military. They learn that their feelings such as anger, sadness, and frustration are normal when they are experiencing loss.

Our Courage Kids Program at St. Joseph Catholic Community will begin on Thursday, February 23, 2012 and continue from 7:00 – 8:00 on Thursday nights through March 29, 2012. (The **first night** begins at 6:30 p.m. with orientation and light refreshments.)

After the orientation and questions/answers, Dr. Joanne Vizzini, a psychotherapist and puppeteer, will put on a special puppet show for children and parents about feelings, especially courage. We will then present the newcomers with Duffy the Lion, a stuffed animal with a heart pocket where they can put their thoughts and feelings from the classes. The children will then meet with their facilitator and other children in their assigned class for a brief session while parents have a meeting with the adult coordinator. There is no charge for the program.

A registration form is included with this letter. Please feel free to make copies of the form and this letter to pass on. We ask that the forms be returned promptly. Registration can also be taken by calling my office at the number below.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jackie Antkowiak

Office of Adult Formation

443-920-9107

jantkowiak@saintjoseph.cc

COURAGE KIDS

FOR CHILDREN EXPERIENCING LOSS



DUFFY THE LION says:

"I'll help you talk about your feelings with other kids and I'll be your new friend."

WHO: Three & four year olds and kindergarten through 8th grade children, with trained adult facilitators

WHAT: FREE peer support groups (not therapy) for children who have experienced loss - death of a loved one, separation/divorce of parents, difficult family transition.

WHERE: St. Joseph Catholic Community
915 Liberty Road - Eldersburg, MD 21784

WHEN: Six Thursday evenings from 7-8 p.m.
February 23, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 2012

"WHEN CHILDREN
GRIEVE"
Seminars
for parents while children
are in classes

COURAGE KIDS REGISTRATION

NAME _____ AGE _____

GRADE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____ PHONE _____

CELL _____

EMAIL _____

SIGNATURE (CHILD) _____

SIGNATURE (PARENT) _____

PLEASE CHECK: _____ DEATH IN FAMILY _____ SEPARATION/DIVORCE
_____ OTHER LOSS (PARENT INCARCERATED, PARENT IN WAR
ZONE)

NWM'S TIGER BOOK BLOG

Have you visited New Windsor Middle's ***Tiger Book Blog***? If you haven't, you don't know what you're missing! This is our first year with the blog and we already have about 40 student bloggers! It has been an exciting way to share what we're reading and what we think about it. If you haven't been there yet, here's the link:

http://blogs.carrollk12.org/nwm_media/

Anyone can read our blog, but you have to be a registered blogger in order to log in and blog about books. It's not too late to get involved! See Mrs. Fuhrman or Mrs. Evans in the Media Center for a permission slip.

APRIL IS LIBRARY MONTH AND WE HAVE A SPECIAL GUEST COMING!! YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS IT!

Former NFL football player Tim Green is coming to New Windsor on Thursday, April 12th! He is a favorite of many students here at New Windsor and we are so excited to welcome him. Some of his books include [Football Hero](#), [Rivals](#), [Baseball Great](#), and his latest book [Pinch Hit](#). Staff, students and families will be able to order any of Tim Green's young adult books prior to his visit via *A Likely Story* bookstore in Sykesville. Order forms will be sent home in the next couple of weeks, so be on the lookout! Check out the author visit portion of the ***Tiger Book Blog*** for more information on Tim Green.

Battle of the Books Update...

In case you haven't heard the buzz, New Windsor Middle has four teams competing in the first ever ***Black-eyed Susan Battle of the Books*** on **April 20, 2012!** The teams have been busy reading and rereading and quizzing each other about this year's Black-eyed Susan nominees. It has been very exciting to watch the students preparing for the big event. How can you support these amazing kids? Well, keep reading!

Be their cheering section the evening of the event. Come to the **Taneytown branch of the Carroll County Public Library from 6 – 8 p.m. on April 20th** and see our kids strut their stuff against the trivia teams from Northwest Middle. Our kids are hoping to bring home the trophy as well as some other amazing prizes! Even if your child is not on the trivia team, you are welcome and encouraged to come on out and be a spectator. Bring the whole family!

If you own a business or know someone who does, maybe you or they would like to donate prizes for the event. Our trivia teams would love to win gift cards for local businesses like Target or Wal-Mart, Amazon kindle cards, Dunkin' Donuts, Pizza Hut, Tony's, etc. They would also love to win books or tickets to sporting events! Maybe you have some other ideas. Please feel free to call or email Mrs. Fuhrman at school with any questions you may have about donations. We very much appreciate your generosity!

Our trivia teams will work up quite an appetite the evening of the Battle of the Books. So we're hoping that some of you might also be able to donate refreshments and snacks (cookies, popcorn, pretzels, juice, bottled water, cups, napkins, plates, etc.) that the students can munch on during the intermission. If you can, please email Mrs. Fuhrman and let her know what you will provide. Send it in to school a week or two before the event. Thanks, in advance, for your donations!

We want to involve as many students as possible in the competition. In this newsletter you will find the rules and guidelines for the poster and book trailer competition involving this year's Black-eyed Susan nominees. All entries will be on display in the Taneytown Public Library during the month of April. We hope to see your son or daughter's creative talent on display in the form of posters and/or book trailers! Again, please contact Mrs. Fuhrman if you have any questions about the guidelines.

1st Annual Battle of the Books
Poster Contest
Rules & Guidelines

- The Black-eyed Susan nominated book's title and author must appear somewhere on the poster.
- Your poster should be like a "movie advertisement," therefore, it should entice students to read that book.
- It should be no smaller than 12" x 18" and no larger than 18" x 24" in size.
- No more than two (2) students may partner up to design a poster.
- Please complete the bottom portion of this form and attach it to your poster when turning it in to your media specialist. **Deadline for entries is March 16, 2012.**
- Write your name(s) on the back of the poster. The voting will be anonymous, so your name(s) should not be visible to the voters.
- All entries will be on display at the Taneytown Branch of the Carroll County Public Library during the month of April. Library patrons will vote on their favorites up until the evening of the Battle of the Books competition on April 20, 2012.
- Votes will be tallied by a Carroll County Public Library employee and winners will be announced the evening of the Battle of the Books competition.

Please complete the bottom portion and attach it to your poster.

Student Name(s) _____ Grade _____

_____ Grade _____

School (circle one) New Windsor Middle Northwest Middle

Title of Book: _____



1st Annual Battle of the Books
Book Trailer Contest
Rules & Guidelines

- The Black-eyed Susan nominated book's title and author must appear somewhere in the book trailer.
- Your book trailer should be a short summary of the book, therefore, it should entice students to read that book.
- It should be no longer than 4 minutes in length.
- No more than two (2) students may partner up to design a book trailer.
- Please use *Microsoft Photo Story 3* or *Windows Movie Maker* for your trailer.
- Only non-copyrighted material and images may be used in the trailer.
- **All images and music should be cited appropriately in the credits at the end of the trailer.**
- **It must be your original work!**
- Please save your trailer onto a CD, DVD, or a flash drive before turning it in to your media specialist.
- Complete the form below and turn it in to your media specialist along with your completed trailer.
Deadline for entries is March 16, 2012.
- A film expert will judge the completed trailers during the month of April.
- Winners will be announced the evening of the Battle of the Books competition on April 20, 2012.

Please complete the bottom portion and turn it in with your completed trailer.

Student Name(s) _____ Grade _____

_____ Grade _____

School (circle one) New Windsor Middle Northwest Middle

Title of Book: _____

FROM THE HEALTH ROOM

Just a reminder for transportation of medications:

- A. Medication shall be brought in by a responsible adult. In accordance with our Drug and Alcohol procedure, students shall not carry medication with them. **Asthma Inhalers or other emergency medications such as an EIPEN may be carried if a Physician's order to carry is on file in the health room.**
- B. The following items are **not** considered to be medications and therefore students may carry them without being in violation of our Drug and Alcohol procedure:
- Chapsticks/Lip Balm
 - **Non-medicated** cough drops (e.g. Ludens)
 - Medicated cough drops-any cough drops which indicate limit per day require MD's order (e.g. Cepacol, Robitussin with cough syrup)
 - Saline eye drops, wetting solution and real tears – contact lens/wetting solution
 - Saline nose spray
 - Hand creams/lotions
 - Sunscreen
 - Waterless hand cleanser
- C. A prescription or non-prescription drug must be in its original container and labeled for the intended student. Only Acetaminophen or Ibuprofen may be signed for by a parent, only if it is in the appropriate dose for the appropriate age. All other medications must have a MD signature.

If you should have any further questions, please feel free to contact Mrs. Melanie Imhoff RN, school nurse @ 410-751-3355.

Please continue to update the nurse on any new health concerns that your child may have as the year progresses or if your child begins a new medication. This information is important for the continuing health care of your child.

Please remember that if your child has a fever of 100 F or above, that they must be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school without the aid of fever reducers.

We are in need of gently used clothing for our "clothing cupboard" in the health room. We can use girls or boys clothing in middle school aged children's sizes.

Mrs. Melanie A. Imhoff R.N.

Summer Kids@Carroll and NEW! Teen College

Exciting enrichment summer programs at Carroll Community College capture children's attention and engage teens with a camp-like environment. Half-day programs are for ages 3 – 15 will be held June 25 thru August 10. Registrations are being taken now!

For course details go to www.carrollcc.edu/summerkids or call Continuing Education & Training at 410 386-8100.

Sneak a Peek at Summer 2012!

February 25

9:30 am – 12 Noon

Great Hall at Carroll Community College

- Learn about the NEW! Summer Teen College
- Meet and talk with camp instructors and learn about specific camps
- See demonstrations and exhibits for selected upcoming programs
- Meet college staff
- Register early for popular camps

Hot program areas include:

- Preschool Curiosity Shop
- Careers
- Cooking
- Creativity
- Digital Design & Video Games
- Fitness
- Performance
- Reading, Writing & History
- Science & Technology
- Woodworking

For course details or go to www.carrollcc.edu/summerkids or call Continuing Education & Training at 410-386-8100.

SCHOOL INFORMATION

ARRIVAL TIME:

Students need to be in their homerooms by **7:50 a.m.** for morning announcements. Students arriving in homeroom after 7:50 a.m. will be marked tardy to school.

Parents who transport students to and from school are asked to use the north side of the school (facing Union Bridge). Students should **not arrive before 7:25 a.m.** Students will be unsupervised by school staff and will not be permitted into the building until the 7:25 a.m. bell rings.

ATTENDANCE:

Parents are reminded to call the school **by 8:00 a.m.** any day your child is absent. Before 7:30 a.m. call 410-751-3355 ext. 1263 and leave a message. An AlertNow phone call will be made to parents who have not notified the school of an absence.

State law requires documentation of a student's absence. You can send a note stating your child's full name, date(s) of absence and reason. A phone call or an email will also serve as documentation. If documentation is not received within 3 days of the absence; the absence will be coded as unexcused.

TARDINESS:

All students are expected to arrive on time. Students reporting after **7:50 a.m.** are tardy and must report to the main office for a late pass. A written note, signed by a parent, is required for all tardy students. Chronic tardiness will result in disciplinary consequences.

EARLY DISMISSAL:

Parents must send a written note requesting early dismissal. These notes must be brought to the main office **before** morning homeroom. A pass will be issued for the student to report to the main office to sign out before leaving school. **In case of an emergency,** parents may call the school to make an early dismissal request.

Students will **NOT** be excused to leave the school with anyone except the parent/legal guardian. Students needing to leave school with anyone else **must have written permission from the parent/legal guardian.** For safety reasons, authorized person(s) will be required to show proper identification when picking up a student.

VISITORS/VOLUNTEERS:

We welcome visitors to our school. Please remember that all visitors/volunteers are required to sign in at the Main Office and wear a visitor badge at all times. Visitors/volunteers must sign out in the office before leaving.

HOMEWORK REQUESTS:

Students are responsible for getting any missed assignments either from a classmate, the homework hotline or from their teachers upon return to school. If your child is absent from school for three or more days, you may make arrangements for homework by contacting the school office. Requests must be made before 8:00 a.m. and can be picked up between 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

ALERTNOW

The Carroll County Public School System is using the AlertNow Rapid Communication Service to provide parents with information from their child's schools and the school system. AlertNow is capable of delivering both e-mail and phone alerts at no charge to parents. You do not have to sign up for the new system. All information is taken from emergency procedure cards.

LEGAL CUSTODY OF CHILDREN:

It is extremely important to keep the school informed of any custody agreements concerning your child. An official court order or court document is required to establish guidelines for custody and/or restrictions.

Please contact the school immediately if there is a change in the custody situation of your child.

ADDRESS & PHONE NUMBER CHANGES:

Please keep the school informed in writing any time there is a change in a home, cell, work phone number or email address. This up-to-date information is critical in case of an emergency. If you move during the school year, please notify the school in writing and provide proof of residence. The school counselor's office can assist you with the required documentation.

USE OF STUDENT WORK ON WEBSITES OR IN PUBLICATIONS

There may be times throughout the year when the Carroll County Public School System wishes to display student work on school websites or in publications. If you do not wish to have your child's art, poetry, writing, etc. appear on school websites or in publications, please notify the school principal in writing. It is assumed that parents and guardians consent to their child's work being displayed on school websites or in publications unless such notification is received.

LUNCH INFORMATION:

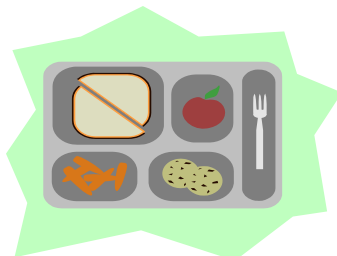
A variety of lunch options are available each day for students. The regular lunch is offered for \$2.25. Students may also choose from alternatives such as hamburgers or pizza, sold at the full lunch cost of \$2.25. Each regular lunch includes a vegetable, fruit, and milk. The cafeteria also offers additional menu items sold at an a la carte price. Students who bring their lunch from home can also buy milk as well as other items. Parents are encouraged to pre-pay the cost of student lunches. Checks should be made payable to New Windsor Middle School. Carroll County Public Schools also offers two different meal plans, an Annual Payment Meal Plan and an Installment Payment Plan. Forms for these two plans can be picked up in the front office. This will ensure that your child has money to pay for lunch, and also ensures that a healthy lunch is provided. Please contact Mrs. Cindy Summers, cafeteria manager, if you have any questions.

LUNCH CHARGES:

At times, middle school students forget to bring their lunch or lunch money. Through the generosity of the PTO, a small lunch fund has been set up. If a student needs to borrow lunch money, a charge slip will be given to him or her to take to the cafeteria. This lunch slip allows a student to buy a regular lunch only. Students who need to charge may not buy additional menu items. ***The \$2.25 charge must be re-paid the following school day, so that funds are available for other students. Until the charge has been paid, the student cannot borrow again without permission from Mr. Brillhart or Mrs. Selby.***

FREE AND REDUCED MEAL PROGRAM:

Applications for free and reduced meals are accepted at any time throughout the year. Please contact Mrs. Selby, Assistant Principal, with any questions.



Asbestos Notice

The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) requires all buildings owned by the Board of Education of Carroll County to prepare, update and make available all asbestos management plans. The building asbestos management plans are available for review at the individual Carroll County school locations and at the Office of Plant Operations, located at 191 Schaeffer Avenue, Westminster, MD 21157.

Asbestos management plans are required by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and depict the location, amount, condition and response action projected for any asbestos containing materials (ACM), if any are located in the school or building.

ADA ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT

The Carroll County Public Schools (CCPS) does not discriminate on the basis of disability in employment or the provision of services, programs or activities. Persons needing auxiliary aids and services for communication should contact the Office of Community and Media Relations at 410-751-3020 or publicinfo@carrollk12.org, or write to Carroll County Public Schools, 125 North Court Street, Westminster, Maryland 21157. Persons who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, may use Relay or 7-1-1. Please contact the school system at least one (1) week in advance of the date the special accommodation is needed.

Information concerning the Americans with Disabilities Act is available from the Director of Facilities or the Supervisor of Community and Media Relations.

Raymond Prokop
Director of Facilities
125 North Court Street
Westminster, Maryland 21157
(410) 751-3177

Carey Gaddis
Supervisor of Community & Media Relations
125 North Court Street
Westminster, Maryland 21157
(410) 751-3020

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Carroll County Public Schools (CCPS) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ancestry or national origin, religion, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. The CCPS provides nondiscriminatory access to school facilities in accordance with its policies and regulations regarding the community use of schools (including, but not limited to, the Boy Scouts). The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Gregory J. Bricca
Director of Research and Accountability
125 North Court Street
Westminster, Maryland 21157
410-751-3068