

# Wildcat News

## West Meade Early Education Center

7722 Ray Street  
Fort Meade, Maryland 20755  
Phone: 410-222-6545  
Fax: 410-222-6518



# 2021



### Office Hours:

8:15 AM–3:45 PM

### School Hours (in person instruction):

8:45 am—doors open

9:05 am—instruction begins

3:30 pm—dismissal

**AM PreK/ECI** -9:05-11:40 AM

**PM PreK/ECI** - 12:55-3:30 PM

### Administration

**Jessica Kallon, Principal**

[jkallon@aacps.org](mailto:jkallon@aacps.org)

### Counselor

**Theresa Lacovara, School Counselor**

[tlacovara@aacps.org](mailto:tlacovara@aacps.org)

### Office Staff

**Linda Best-Hazan, Principal Secretary**

[lbest-hazan@aacps.org](mailto:lbest-hazan@aacps.org)

**Renee Puhl, Registration & Attendance**

[rpuhl@aacps.org](mailto:rpuhl@aacps.org)

Follow us on Twitter @

**WestMeadeAACPS**

### Principal's Monthly Message

Dear West Meade families,

Welcome back and Happy New Year! We have made it halfway through an interesting school year as we adapt to the new normal. I hope you all had time to relax and recharge during winter break. Currently, we are preparing for the possibility of beginning hybrid learning on February 2nd. For the most up to date information, please visit our county website at <https://www.aacps.org/spring2021>. Please be on the look out for a survey permitting your child(ren) to remain virtual or begin hybrid learning. Beginning February 2nd, there will be a change in the instructional schedule. Please review the new schedule at <https://www.aacps.org/Page/9197>. If you have any questions, comments or concerns please do not hesitate to reach out.

Thank You,  
Mrs. Jessica Kallon  
Principal

### Important Dates For January

18

Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration-All  
Schools closed

28 & 29

Two-hour early dismissal  
School closed for p.m.  
Prekindergarten and ECI



### Literacy Support:

Happy New Year! Here are some helpful literacy games that students can play independently or with assistance on the computer to help support two of the skills we have been working on in Kindergarten: identifying high frequency words and identifying the syllables in a given word.

[www.abcy.com](http://www.abcy.com) has "Sight Word BINGO" and "Submarine Spelling Practice" for students to practice identifying and spelling common high frequency words. They offer different ranges of words to choose from to suit your students current word level. This site also has "Alphabats Syllables" for your students to identify the number of syllables in a given word. These games are fun and interactive for our little learners!

<https://www.sightwordsgame.com/> has fun sight word activities that you can do with your students to help identify sight words. The site offers flashcards, books, and a host of other sight word activities to explore!

Please continue to practice your students letter identification and sounds daily!

From the School Health Room



A Note From the Health Room:

I hope everyone had a peaceful and joyous holiday season and you were able to spend time with your family and recharge. I hope to see you all at some point in the new year. If you have been contacted by the health room, please reach out to us. We are working hard to make sure we are prepared when students return to the building, and we need your help. Please be sure your child has all the necessary immunizations and screenings needed for school. If you are missing any, you have been contacted by the health room. Please reach out to your health care provider and return all necessary paperwork to the health room as soon as possible.

Thanks for your help. Stay healthy, be well, and have a Happy New Year!!

Bernadette Rogers, RN

School Nurse

**Fun With Sounds & Letters!** Shared by Literacy Teacher Katie Saxe

Children become aware of sounds before they learn that letters represent sounds. Eventually they learn to connect sounds with letters as they develop into emergent readers. Try playing these games at home to support your child's growth with recognizing sounds and connecting sounds to letters.

· **Picture or Object Word Sort** - Have your child tell you the beginning (or ending) sound for pictures or objects. If you are using objects, place them into a mystery bag and allow your child to reach into the mystery bag to pull out each object. Any objects from around the house will do. Just be sure that your child knows what the objects are. Have them name the object and see if they can tell you the first (or last) sound. Examples would be /d/ for doll, /f/ for fork, and /c/ for car. Here is a link for some pictures that you could use: [https://blackboard.aacps.org/bbcswebdav/pid-829991-dt-content-rid-473630\\_1](https://blackboard.aacps.org/bbcswebdav/pid-829991-dt-content-rid-473630_1/xid-473630_1) and here is a copy of directions [https://blackboard.aacps.org/bbcswebdav/pid-829991-dt-content-rid-473630\\_1/xid-473630\\_1](https://blackboard.aacps.org/bbcswebdav/pid-829991-dt-content-rid-473630_1/xid-473630_1) You can place the pictures into the mystery bag and have your child reach into the bag to select the pictures. Remember to make it fun! Too easy? How about having your child practicing sounding out the words and writing them?

· **Beginning Sound Segmentation** - Tell your child that you are going to play a sound (not letter names) game to listen for the beginning (or middle or ending) sounds in word. Tell your child that you are going to say a word (a CVC word - a word with a consonant-vowel-consonant) and that you want them to listen for the first sound in the word. CVC words contain short vowel sounds like /a/ in apple/ /e/ in egg, /i/ in iguana, /o/ in octopus, and /u/ in umbrella. After you say a word such as "man", then say, "Now I am going to say the beginning sound in the word man, /m/. Ask your child to tell you the beginning sound in man. If your child is uncertain, then stretch out and emphasize the first sound in man as you say the word again and explain that /m/ is the first sound in man. Try this activity with other words. If your child tells you the correct first sound for other words, then try asking them for the ending sound or the middle sound. If this is easy for your child, then ask them to tell you all the sounds in each word (not letter names) being sure that each sound is separated by a brief pause or break. Correctly saying the sounds for the words is key for this activity. Use your Alphabet Linking Chart from your child's backpack as a reference if you wish. You can make it fun by using a puppet or favorite stuffed animal to say the words to your child. Just be sure to say the sounds clearly and correctly if you are getting into character!



WMEEC Café

**Lunch Prices:**

Lunch (Full Prices) \$2.75

Milk- 1/2 pint (A La Carte) \$ .55



**Please Apply for free/reduce meals:**

<https://aacpschools.org/nutrition/apply-for-free-or-reduced-price-meals/>

West Meade is a meal site. We are providing **free breakfast, lunch, dinner and snack** to children, ages 2-18 during the 2020-2021 school year. **There are no income or registration requirements.** Children will receive breakfast, lunch, dinner and a snack each day schools are in session and can pick those meals up from 12-12:30 pm here at West Meade. Families can pick up meals without their children present, but must register by calling 410-222-5900. **Please remember to wear your mask when picking up meals!!**