

Wildcat News

West Meade Early Education Center

November 2020

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



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

Counselor

Theresa Lacovara, School Counselor

tlacovara@aacps.org

Office Staff

Linda Best-Hazan, Principal Secretary

lbest-hazan@AACPS.org

Renee Puhl, Registration & Attendance

rpuhl@AACPS.org

Follow us on Twitter @

WestMeadeAACPS

or visit our School Website -

<https://www.aacps.org>

Principal's Monthly Message

Dear West Meade families,

The board has officially voted to keep learning virtual and revisit the hybrid model in January. We appreciate your patience and flexibility as AACPS determines a way to continue learning in a safe manner for all students, staff and the community.

To prepare for a possible reopening early next year, please have your child practice wearing their mask and increase the amount of time they wear it each day. Masks will be required in the school building and on the bus at all times.

Please consider signing up for Twitter and following us @WestMeadeAACPS. We post social media challenges, community events, important dates and pictures of virtual learning. In addition, you can receive tips to support your virtual learners from our school team.

We are grateful for all you do to support our young learners. We truly are a team. Please do not hesitate to email me with questions and comments at jkallon@aacps.org.

Thank You,
 Mrs. Jessica Kallon
 Principal

Literacy Resources

Here are some helpful literacy games that students can play independently on the computer to help support the skills we are currently working on: identifying uppercase and lowercase letters and their associated sounds and identifying rhyming pairs.

www.abcya.com has many wonderful ABC games under the "ABC letter" tab heading in the K section. Some games we would recommend that support learners are "Monster Mansion Alphabet Match", "Letter Bingo", and "Alphabets Rhyming Words".

www.starfall.com has letter activities under the "ABCs" in the Kindergarten section. The letter activities offer interactive videos in which your learner will learn words with the initial sound of the letter chosen and learn to identify the letter in a group of letters.

<https://pbskids.org/games/rhyming/> offers fun and interactive rhyming games as well such as "Red's Rhyme and Roll" and "Rhyme Time" with Grover from Sesame Street!

If families are looking for a game they can play together: Going on "Letter Scavenger Hunts" are a fun way to have your student find items in the house that begin with the sound of the letter you all are practicing. For example, for the letter "Pp" you can have your student find a Pillow. To make it even more fun, you can add a timer so that they can race against the clock!

We hope that your student and your family have fun playing these games while developing your student's literacy skills.

Antoinese Washington
 Kindergarten Teacher and Lead Teacher

Important Dates For November

- 3 **Elections—Schools & Offices Closed**
- 12–13 End of first marking period
Two-hour early dismissal. No PM Pre-K and ECI
- 16 Beginning of second marking period
- 16-20 American Education Week
- 25–27 **Thanksgiving Holiday—All Schools & Offices Closed**





From the School Health Room

We're so excited to get started with hybrid learning. As we prepare to have our students enter the building, this may be a good time for students to practice wearing a mask. You can start out wearing it a few minutes at a time and gradually progress to longer and longer periods.

How do I wear a mask?

Face coverings should be placed over the mouth and nose, allow for breathing without any restriction, and fit snugly against the side of your face. Your nose and mouth should not be exposed. Masks should be removed carefully, without touching the outside surface. Cloth masks should be washed frequently.

It is also a good idea to send your child to school with an extra mask in case one gets dirty or lost. Finally, continuing to practice good hand hygiene is always important. Clean your hands often.

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

Bernadette Rogers, RN

PTO Message

Hand Turkey Decorating—Trace your hand & then decorate your Turkey however you want! Submit them to the Parents of West Meade Facebook page or the PTO email. A name will be drawn at the end of the month. **Happy Decorating!!**

Also, we still have PTO Board member positions open. If anyone would like to join and/or volunteer, please email us at ptowestmeade@gmail.com.

- Madalyn Pierce, PTO President



Welcome to Basecamp YET! Where we build skills, celebrate mistakes and explore our world.

Military Family Appreciation Month is a time to raise awareness of the challenges of military life, to recognize the resiliency and to show gratitude to military families for the sacrifices and duty involved that often goes unnoticed. At West Meade, we recognize the countless moves, job loss, friends and communities left behind, numerous school changes, missing extended family, holidays and milestone moments shared apart, and nonstop deployments, TDY and training. We applaud you for the long days, the lonely days and the "it's just too much" days. Your resilience and strength are exemplary. We thank you for supporting your service members so they can serve and protect our great nation. There are no awards, medals or ribbons on your chest but we see you and we appreciate you! Thank you for all you do.

Dates to remember:

Nov 13 is World Kindness day. Please come to WMEEC to put the "I" in KIND all month. Snap a photo in front of our 'WMEEC puts the "I" in KIND' display and share it #WestMeademakesitfun then go spread kindness around like confetti!



Stand in front of the yellow to be the "I" in kind! 😊

Nov 26: Thanksgiving! Start a gratitude jar now. Write what you are grateful for on pieces of paper throughout November, put them in a jar then read it at Thanksgiving dinner.

~ Mrs. Lacovara ~ WMEEC School Counselor ~

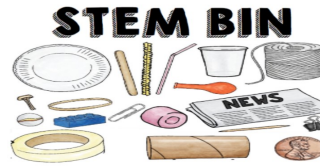
For more information visit the WMEEC counselor website:

<https://sites.google.com/aacps.org/mrlacovara/home>

EEE STEM

I am so proud of how creative and innovative our Wildcat engineers have been during EEE STEM. They are using our time together to come up with some amazing designs! We will continue to work on the Engineer Design process every week so please be sure to have a STEM bin close by.

Materials needed for next class:



The best items for a STEM bin are things that you would put in the recycle bin. Please email me with any questions rsuda@aacps.org

Robin Suda, EEE Teacher

Ideas shared by Literacy Teacher, Katie Saxe

Wonderful Words



See

Students are learning about how letters work together to form words and how some words show up in books, on signs, and all around us **over and over again!** Some teachers like to call these words high-frequency words and at West Meade we like to call them **Wildcat Words!** We want our students to recognize this type of word automatically and not waste time trying to sound each one out every time.

Try some of these ideas to help your child learn and remember them:

like

Play Concentration or Go Fish – Use index cards with 3-5 pairs of Wildcat words that your child has been learning in school. You must read the words to play! Go Fish works better with a greater number of cards.

Flashlight Words – Using a marker carefully print in lower case letters a few of the Wildcat words that your child has been learning in school and attach them to the ceiling or walls in your child's bedroom. After an **AMAZING** bedtime story complete with **DRAMATIC** voices, play **Show Me that Word** by shining a flashlight on each word and having your child read the words before lights out. You can take turns with the flashlight. **Be creative and have fun!**

I



Rainbow Words – Write the Wildcat word in large lowercase letters on a piece of paper using a black marker or pen. Have your child trace over the letters several times using different colored markers, pencils, or crayons. Have them say the word and read it to others in your family. They can also read them to their pets or stuffed animals! Display the rainbow words that your child has completed. You can add in other words like **names**. Eventually your child can have fun making and reading sentences with the rainbow words!

me

WMEEC Café

Lunch Prices:

Lunch (Full Prices) \$2.75

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



Please Apply for free/reduce meals:

<http://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.