OCTOBER

10/4-School Spirit /World Smile Day-wear smiley face clothing
10/9- Yom Kippur-schools closed for students
10/11- Mustang Run-6:00 pm-7:30 pm
10/18- Systemwide Professional Development Day-schools closed for students
10/24-McDonald’s Night in Perry Hall-5:00 pm-8:00 pm
10/29- Spooky Kindergarten Reading Night- 6:30 pm
10/31- Fall Celebration/Parade- 1:30 pm -3:00 pm
11/5- PTA Meeting- 6:30 pm
11/7- Picture Re-Take Day-9:00 am – 12:00 pm
11/8- First Marking Period Ends-school closes 3 hours early
11/8-School Spirit/Veteran’s Day-wear red, white & blue

PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE-

The 2019-2020 school year has gotten off to a terrific start! Students are actively engaged and putting forth their best efforts each day! Teachers and staff are providing rigorous and relevant learning experiences to all students. Parents are involved each day as they ensure the timely arrival of their students, assist with homework questions, volunteer their time, and attend school events. When students, staff and parents partner together, a successfully school year is truly attainable! It is an honor and privilege to be serving as your principal! I am looking forward to the exciting days ahead!

Mrs. Hill, Principal
SAFETY AND SECURITY
ATTENTION PARENTS: POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

All visitors to our building must register in the school office immediately upon entering. All visitors will be required to present valid identification. Picking up students from school during the school day is strongly discouraged unless your child is ill. However, we understand that there may be a reason why you need to pick up your child for a doctor or dental appointment. **If you need to pick up your child early, please send in a note to your child’s teacher and be prepared to present a photo ID to the front office staff. If a parent or guardian with which the child resides is not the person picking up the child, a note MUST be sent to the child’s teacher. In the absence of a note from home and in the event that a parent/legal guardian cannot be reached to confirm an early dismissal, the child will not be released from school.**

All exterior doors will be locked all day. Our safety policy will be strictly enforced. Thank you for your cooperation.

Please be reminded that students are dismissed between 3:20 and 3:35 p.m. Please help us keep our front lobby clear by waiting outside of our front doors for your child.

RAPTOR VISITOR SIGN IN SYSTEM

The safety of all students and staff in Baltimore County Public Schools is of utmost importance to all of us. Our school is utilizing a system for checking in all visitors. The system is called V-soft by RaptorWare or Raptor. When you visit our school for the first time, **you will be asked to present a government-issued photo ID, or a driver’s license, to a staff member in the school office. The ID will be scanned, and the following information will be collected: your photo, your name, and your date of birth.** This information will be utilized to check you in, create an ID badge, and compare your information against sexual offender databases throughout the country. **If your name appears on any of the lists or you refuse to allow the school to scan your ID, you will not be allowed access to the school.** The only alternative will be to allow the staff to see your ID, verify your first name, last name, and date of birth to be entered into the system manually. However, this method does not store the information. If you have your ID scanned, you will be asked to show your ID only on future visits, and your name will be selected from an existing list of previous visitors. **You will also be asked to check out with the office staff upon leaving the school so that we know you are no longer in the building.** The information collected will not be shared outside of school and is kept on a secure server. Your assistance in keeping our students and schools safe is appreciated.

OCTOBER NEWS FROM THE HEALTH SUITE

10 Steps to Your Healthiest School Year Ever!

1. **Start off strong with a healthy breakfast.** A good breakfast provides energy and will help keep you alert and attentive in class. Highly sugared foods leave you feeling tired soon after eating. **Remember:** Your school performance is directly related to what you eat!

2. **Drink plenty of water.** Water is the best fluid to stay hydrated without the added sugar found in some juice and soft drinks. Also, remember to drink the recommended amount of reduced-fat milk or milk alternative. Water and milk are served at school for breakfast and lunch every day.

3. **Don’t forget to wash your hands often.** Keep hands away from your face, mouth, and nose where germs can enter your body.

4. **Boost your immune system.** Get plenty of sleep, talk to your doctor about taking a multiple vitamin, and eat colorful fruits and vegetables every day. Think variety and rainbow colors!

5. **Eat a nutritious and yummy lunch.** Choose foods from all the food groups. Different food groups supply our bodies with energy to think, move, and grow. Make healthy choices from the daily menus or pack a healthy lunch from home.

6. **Cut back on sugar and salty snacks.** Limit sodas, sport drinks, candy, chips, and ice cream – they add on extra calories, can harm your teeth, and leave you feeling tired and weak. Need a snack at school? Ask the nurse for a healthy snack alternative!

7. **Enhance your brain performance.** Exercise, play memory games, do crossword puzzles, and eat brain foods like berries, cold water fish, and nuts. Just say “NO” to fast food and enjoy a home cooked meal together at least four nights a week.
8. Get at least 30 minutes of exercise every day – at recess and at home. Go for a daily walk with a friend, a parent, or your pet. Exercise helps our bodies to be strong, flexible, and resilient.

9. Do your homework every day after school. It’s so important to be prepared! NO excuses!

10. Turn off the TV and video games at least one hour prior to bedtime. Take time to relax, take a bath or shower, brush your teeth, and pack up for the morning – and still get to bed by 8:30pm!

submitted by Nurse Fricker

SCHOOL COUNSELOR’S CORNER

Parents of 5th Graders! If you are considering a magnet middle school for your child, why not attend one of the following showcase events? Please check the BCPS website for more information on the many wonderful programs in our county.

Deep Creek Middle School Thursday, October 17, 2019 6 – 7:30 p.m.

Deer Park Middle Magnet School Wednesday, October 23, 2019. Program starts at 6 p.m.

Golden Ring Middle School Monday, October 21, 2019. 5:30 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Lansdowne Middle School Wednesday, October 16, 2019. Program starts at 5:30 p.m.

Loch Raven Technical Academy Monday, October 14, 2019. Program starts at 6 p.m.

Middle River Middle School Tuesday, October 29, 2019 – Session I: 6:15 p.m. Session II: 7:15 p.m. Same information presented at both sessions.

Northwest Academy of Health Sciences Tuesday, October 15, 2019. Program starts at 5:30 p.m.

Parkville Middle School and Center of Technology Wednesday, October 2, 2019 Session I: 6 p.m. Session II: 7:15 p.m. Same information presented at both sessions.

Southwest Academy Magnet School for Science & Engineering Tuesday, October 8, 2019. Program starts at 6 p.m.

Stemmers Run Middle School Wednesday, October 23, 2019 6 – 8 p.m.

Sudbrook Magnet Middle School Thursday, October 24, 2019 Program starts at 5:30 p.m.

Windsor Mill Middle School Wednesday, October 30, 2019 5 – 7 p.m.
STUDENT BIRTHDAYS:

Cupcakes and other food treats

As we begin this school year, I wanted to remind parents that students will not be allowed to distribute cupcakes, donuts, or other edible treats as part of in school birthday celebrations this school year. It is important for us to move in this direction in order to be in compliance with BCPS policies including Policy 5470 which focuses on wellness. Additionally, edible treats can cause potential dietary and allergy concerns for some families.

For parents who would like to provide a small treat for their child’s classmates suggestions are provided below:
- pencils, stickers, erasers, notepads, etc.
- donate a book to the classroom and schedule a time with your child’s teacher to read it.
- donate classroom supplies.
- provide supplies and directions for a craft.
- donate a board game for indoor recess.

I appreciate your understanding and support as we move forward with this change. If you have any questions, please contact me at 410-887-5119.

Mrs. Hill, Principal