

TIGER SHARK TIMES

W L M S N E W S L E T T E R

RESPECTFUL

RESPONSIBLE

READY

SAFE

A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Family and Friends of Wilde Lake Middle School,

It has been a busy, productive week at WLMS! On Monday evening, we inducted a group of 8th grade students into the 2014 WLMS Honor Society. On Wednesday, report cards were issued, and we held our first Flu Mist Clinic in which over 100 of our students received the vaccination. On Thursday, we recognized World Kindness Day with kind post-it notes to all students and by treating staff, bus drivers and parents with a breakfast treat. And today, we held our first PBIS Incentive Activity Day. Participation in this fun event is based on students who consistently demonstrate the Wilde Lake Way of being respectful, responsible, ready and safe. 96% of our students earned the opportunity to attend today's festivities.

Please remember, Parent/Teacher Conferences will take place November 24th through November 26th. Please be sure to see the last page of this week's Tiger Shark Times for detailed information about scheduling conferences.

Sincerely,
Lisa R. Smithson
Principal
Wilde Lake Middle School



Tips for School Success:
Review that report card. Pay careful attention to all progress reports, but particularly the first one—it will be coming soon if your child hasn't received it yet. You want to get help for any problem areas before your child falls too far behind. Ask your child's teacher how grades are determined and for suggestions on how your student can improve. Review grades and the teacher's comments with your child—always starting with something positive, then pointing out areas that need attention, and ending with something positive again. (For more information, visit: <http://www.ed.gov/parents/countdown-success>)

WLMS INFORMATION

8TH GRADE LOCK-IN:

Due to low sign-up for the 8th Grade Lock-In that was scheduled for this Friday, November 14th, the event has been postponed. The new date will be Friday, January 9th. Permission forms and payment will be due no later than Friday, December 19th. New permission slips and other information were sent home with your student earlier this week.

WLMS BOOK FAIR:

WLMS will hold a Scholastic Book Fair during parent/teacher conference week (November 24th-November 26th). Students will have the opportunity to preview the Book Fair during the school day on November 20th and 21st. Sales will be open to students during the school day as well as during afternoon and evening conference times. Ms. Russo and Ms. Todd are in need of volunteers to assist with setting up the Book Fair on the afternoon of Wednesday, November 19th and with sales from November 24th-November 26th. Please contact Ms. Russo if you are available to volunteer any of your time. In addition, Book Fair products can be ordered online at <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/wildelakemiddleschool>. The online fair is available for an extended time, and all orders are guaranteed to ship FREE to our school. It also provides a chance for you and your child to create and send wish lists to invite friends and family to participate in the Book Fair, and offers an expanded book selection for all ages—from preschool to adult. All in-school and online Book Fair purchases benefit our school. Thank you for your support!

AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK:

American Education Week will take place during the week of November

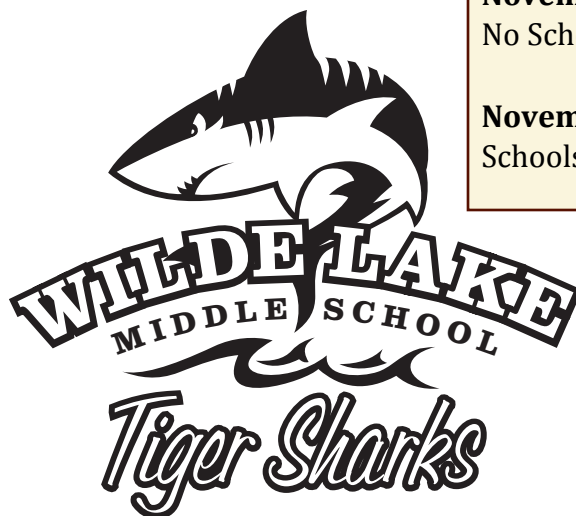
17th. We encourage parents to come and visit their student's classes during this week to observe all of the awesome learning activities that take place at WLMS. Come for a short time or for the whole day. Either way, we are looking forward to receiving our parents into the building during this week.

YANKEE CANDLE ONLINE SALES:

Please consider continuing to support WLMS by participating in the online Yankee Candle Sale that will remain available to our families through January 15th. WLMS will earn 40% profit for all online sales. Visit: www.yankeecandlefundraising.com and use the group code: 990004853.

COUNCIL OF ELDERS MSA CELEBRATION:

The Council of Elders of the Black Community of Howard County in partnership with HCPSS will hold its Annual MSA Celebration on November 20th, at Oakland Mills High School, at 6:00 p.m. Notifications have been mailed home. We look forward to celebrating our students' achievements.



IMPORTANT DATES:

November 17th @ 5:30 p.m.-
ODE Parent Information Session

November 17th-21st-
American Education Week

November 17th @ 7:30 a.m.-
Straight "A's" Celebration

November 19th @ 7:00 p.m.-
Booster Meeting @ Starbucks in
the Columbia Mall

November 24th-
Go Blue, Be Brave

November 25th-
Turkey Trot

November 24th-26th-
WLMS Book Fair
Parent/Teacher Conferences

November 24th and 25th-
3-Hour Early Dismissal

November 26th-
No School For Students

November 27th-28th-
Schools Closed for Thanksgiving

MORE INFORMATION

WLMS 6TH GRADE OUTDOOR EDUCATION FIELD TRIP:

Information about Outdoor Education (ODE) was sent home with 6th graders on Thursday. This fun-filled field trip which supports our science curriculum as well as promotes environmental literacy will be held from April 7th through April 10th. A general parent information night will take place on Monday, November 17th at 5:30 p.m. Please plan to attend to find out more about this meaningful experience. Please also be sure to return the "Intent Form" by November 21st, so that we can continue moving forward with our plans. If you have questions, please feel free to contact 6th Grade Team Leader, Jackie Vernon, at jackie_vernon@hcpss.org.

7TH GRADE SERVICE LEARNING PROJECT:

On Wednesday, November 19th, the 7th grade class will participate in Wind for Change. Meteorologist, Justin Berk, will be visiting WLMS to engage our 7th graders in discussions and activities about weather and wind speed. Students will have the opportunity to collect pledges and make donations to the Cool Kids Campaign, which is an organization devoted to improving the quality of life for kids with cancer. The opportunity to contribute to this particular organization is a great experience for our students as they are currently learning about communicable and noncommunicable diseases. Information forms were sent home with students this week. Our goal is to raise \$800.00 for the Cool Kids Campaign; if our goal is met, 7th grade students will be treated with an extended recess time.

PTSA NEWS:

TURKEY TROT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: On Tuesday, November 25th WLMS will host its Annual Turkey Trot. The event, which involves running through a designated course to achieve their personal best will take place during related arts classes. Volunteers are needed to assist with this fun, health promoting event. Please sign up to help through the following link: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0949afa82da64-turkey>

STAFF LUNCHEON VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: During the afternoon of Tuesday, November 25th, the PTSA will provide "Crock Pot Meals" for the WLMS staff. Please visit the following link to be a part of this opportunity: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0949afa82da64-thanksgiving>

WLMS PTSA FUNDRAISER: WLMS is now participating in one of the easiest fundraisers! With the Holidays fast approaching and lots of shopping on our "to do lists," please consider shopping at [Amazon Smile](#) through the link below. For every qualifying purchase WLMS will receive .5%. All you need to do is choose WLMS as your charity. This is a great way to raise money by simply clicking the link. Happy Shopping! The link is also on the WLMS PTSA website.

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/77-0606092>

WLMS PERFORMING ARTS BOOSTERS:

The next booster meeting will be on Wednesday, November 19th, at 7:00 p.m. at the Starbucks in Columbia Mall. Note the change in date/venue. Please join us as we prepare for the upcoming winter concerts and some fun ideas to get more parents involved! Contact Cathy O'Brien (cathy@catnmoose.net) with any questions.

MORE INFORMATION

NEW IMPROVED HCPSS NEWS:

HCPSS is upgrading its [HCPSS News communication system](#). Using email and text alerts, this provides updates on news and events, and delivers real-time information on bus schedule changes, weather-related closings and emergency information.

HCPSS parents are signed up automatically; community members or any non-HCPSS parent can sign up at <https://subscriptions.hocoschools.org/>.

SECOND ANNUAL HOCO MATH FESTIVAL:

STEMulating Minds will be hosting the 2nd Annual HoCo Math Festival on November 18, 2014 from 6:30-9:00 p.m. at Centennial High School. WLMS/AHS parent, Phil Rogofsky chairs STEMulatingMinds. There will be many fun activities and presentations for students from K-12. There will be video game developers, Air Force Pilots, NCIS Agents, State Police Forensic Specialists, Mathmagicians, Math Rappers, and the Orioles Statistician. This for all levels of interest, those who don't like math and those who love it! The first 400 students will get free slap wristbands. For more information, check the web site at www.stemulatingminds.com, or contact Phil at stemulatingminds@gmail.com.

BRYANT WOODS FOOD PANTRY:

Bryant Woods Elementary has partnered with the Howard County Community Action Council and the Howard County Food Bank! Bryant Woods now has an in-house food pantry that is open to our community! The Food Pantry was established to support our families and provide easy access to nonperishable food. The vision of the partnership is to ensure that hunger is not an obstacle for students coming to school ready to learn. The Food Pantry will be open on Tuesday's and Friday's from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Bryant Woods Elementary School. Each guest must present a Valid Form of Identification (License). Guest information is confidential, and based on an honor system. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact (410) 313-6859.

FUTURE ATHOLTON HIGH SCHOOL ORCHESTRA AND BAND STUDENTS:

Orchestra and Band students who will be attending Atholton High School and their parents are invited to an information night on Wednesday, November 19th, at 7:00 p.m. in the music suite at Atholton High School. You will get to meet the directors and current students, find out about auditions and registering for classes and get all of your questions answered. For more information contact Orchestra Director, Mr. Woomert at james_oomert@hcpss.org or Band Director, Mr. Posner at eric_posner@hcpss.org

ATHOLTON HIGH SCHOOL'S FALL PRODUCTION:

Atholton High School's fall show is the hilarious comedy "You Can't Take It With You" Performances are Friday, November 14th and Saturday, November 15th @ 7:00 p.m. Come see love, fireworks, J-men, ballet, Russian royalty, and more! Just a quiet evening at home with the Sycamores.

You Can't Take It With You tickets are on sale now online: <http://www.atholtondrama.org/> for \$10 (\$12 at the door).

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

TEEN OPPORTUNITIES FAIR

Howard County Recreation and Parks, in partnership with HCPSS, invites you and your student to participate in the Teen Opportunities Fair. This FREE event on Saturday, November 15th, from 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. at Long Reach High School, 6101 Old Dobbin Lane; Columbia, showcases leadership, volunteer and recreational opportunities for 11-17 year olds. Visit more than 50 exhibitors and explore the great things to do in Howard County. For more information, please contact Holly Harden at harden@howardcountymd.gov or 410-313-4625.

FREE HCYP BASKETBALL CLINIC

25th Anniversary FREE Basketball Clinic, Nov. 16th, two sessions, 2:00 p.m.-3:15 p.m. for ages 10 and under. 3:30 p.m.- 4:45 p.m. for ages 11 and older. Long Reach High School, grades 1-12.

ANNUAL SYMPHONY OF LIGHTS

Howard County General Hospital's Annual Symphony of Lights Symphony Woods off of Broken Land Parkway in Columbia, MD, will take place November 17th through January 4th, from 6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m. In addition to nightly drives, Symphony of Lights offers special events. Event information is available by calling the Symphony of Lights Information Line at 410-740-7666 or by visiting www.hcgh.org/symphonyoflights.

YMCA TURKEY TROT CHARITY 5K

A walk/run benefiting the Y of Central Maryland's Give Every Child a Chance campaign will take place on Thanksgiving Morning, November 26th, 8:30 a.m., Long Gate Shopping Center, Ellicott City. Register today at ymaryland.org.

COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION

CA's Youth and Teen Center (YTC) is collecting clothes for community members in need. Items for the entire family are needed, clothes, shoes, coats, etc., YTC is also seeking student and parent volunteers for this project. Folks interested should contact Safire Windley at 410-992-3726. Service hours may be issued.



CONFERENCE NEWS

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES:

Parent/Teacher Conferences will take place November 24th-26th. We will conduct conferences on the following dates:

Monday, November 24th afternoon	12:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Monday, November 24th evening	5:00 p.m. – 7:45 p.m.
Tuesday, November 25th afternoon	12:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Tuesday, November 25th evening	5:00 p.m. – 7:45 p.m.
Wednesday, November 26th morning*	8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Wednesday, November 26th afternoon*	12:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

** Only teachers unable to attend evening conferences will be available during the day on Wednesday.*

The Pick-A-Time Conference Scheduling System will be turned on Monday, November 10, 2014 through Thursday, November 20th.

<https://pickatime.com/hcpss.html>

[Directions for Using PickATime](#)

Your child's student ID number is required to access the Pick-A-Time conference scheduling system. Your child's student ID number may be found on his/her schedule; report card being sent home on November 12, 2014; or may be requested, in person at Wilde Lake Middle School.

The Pick-A-Time Conference Scheduling System may be accessed (1) by selecting the Pick-A-Time link from the HCPSS website (www.hcpss.org); or (2) by selecting the Pick-A-Time link on the Wilde Lake Middle School website (<http://wlms.hcpss.org>). Directions for using Pick-A-Time are also available on both the HCPSS and the WLMS websites. It is to your benefit to schedule your conferences early as appointments fill up quickly.

