

December 11, 2015

Greetings WLMS!

It has been an exciting week at "The Lake"! All students participated in a special "Digital Citizenship Lesson" created by our Media Specialist, Mrs. Russo & a lesson on "How Will You Change the World?" created by our GT Resource Teacher, Mrs. Motaung, during two days of extended homeroom time. Both lessons included valuable information for our students and generated some rich discussions!

On Monday and Tuesday, all students participated in an "Hour of Code" through their Science Classes. What is "Hour of Code"? It is an introduction to computer science, designed to demystify code and show that anybody can learn the basics. Students completed an exit ticket survey about their experiences. Here are the student survey results . . .

**Are You More Interested or Less Interested in Coding?**

*I want to code more in science class. 61.8%*

*I am interested in learning more about coding. 41.3%*

*I am not interested in learning more about coding. 12.3%*

*I'd like to code something outside of school 15.8%*

*Other 21.6% (included statements like "I'm in the middle", "?", "I will most likely download the app on my phone!" and "I am interested still. This is my dream job")*

**Grade 8:**

*Are you interested in taking courses in computer science in High School?*

*Yes 64.4%*

*No 35.6%*

**Career Academies:**

*Which academy are you interested in learning more about:*

*Animation 36.4%*

*Computer Programming Academy 15.2%*

*PC Systems 9.1%*

*Computer Networking 21.2%*

*Engineering (Project Lead the Way) Academy (4 year program) 3%*

*Aerospace Engineering Academy 6.1%*

*Systems and Project Engineering 0 0%*

*Other 9.1% (included things that were not exactly academies like "Pc games")*

Some of our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade social studies and science classes participated in the Google Expeditions Program TODAY. "Expeditions" is a new product that allows teachers to take their classes on virtual field trips, immersing students in experiences that bring abstract concepts to life and giving students a "Deeper

Understanding” of the world beyond the classroom. How Exciting! Students ventured back in time to the Middle Ages, traveled to Historic Philadelphia, and took a trip to Mars without leaving their classrooms. We are excited that Dr. Foose is planning to visit WLMS this afternoon to see the program in action.

Earlier in the week The Council of Elders of the Black Community held their Celebration of Academic Excellence. Please see the attachment for the list of honorees. We are very proud of them and their accomplishments.

Finally, we are very proud of all of the students who are participating in the WLMS original drama production of “There’s a Monster in My Closet” this week. Students put on two wonderful matinees (dress rehearsals) for our feeder schools, Bryant Woods, Clemens Crossing and Running Brook Elementary Schools. We look forward to seeing our students shine tonight and tomorrow night at the evening performances. Thank you to Mrs. Motaung, Mrs. Berla, Ms. Chiarella, and all of the parents for supporting this grand initiative!

The “Arts” are alive and well at WLMS!

*Anne Swartz, Peter Gaylord, Alexia Couch, Tiffanie Nunley*

### Important Dates

December 11 & 12 – 7:00pm – Drama Production  
December 14 – 7:00pm – Winter Choral Concert  
December 15 – 8:00am – Memory Book Group Pictures  
December 17 -7:00 pm – Winter Orchestra Concert  
December 18 – GOTCHA Store  
December 24 – Winter Break Begins

### Donations Wanted

The WLMS Kindness Committee is asking for Gift Card Donations for our school families who are in need this holiday season. Last year within a 3-week turn-around, we were able to collectively come together and collect \$2000 worth of Gift Cards! WOW!!! Last year we were able to help families with food, necessities, and gifts for the holiday season. This year we are asking that you help again and be a link in that never ending chain of kindness. Here are the particulars:

NEEDS: **Gift cards, any donation; any denomination.**

WHERE SHOULD THEY BE FROM: **Anywhere! Common cards are TARGET, WALMART, GROCERY STORES, RESTAURANTS, ATHLETIC STORES**

WHO DO I GIVE THEM TO? **Turn them into Ms. Stout (Guidance Secretary)**

WHEN DO YOU NEED THEM BY: **We are requesting that all donations be in by Friday, December 18th, so that we can distribute the cards to the recommended families in time for the holidays.**

Once you have contributed, we will add a snowflake to the wreath located in the main lobby/front office (Don't worry your name or donation amount will be anonymous).

## Community Notices

*These events are neither sponsored nor endorsed by the Howard County Public School System.*

### **Columbia Association**

Holiday Breakfast, all ages, Pre-registration required. Sat, **Dec. 19**, 9:30-11 a.m., KidSpace/PPP Mbrs, \$10 per family Columbia Cardholder, \$12 per family, Non-Mbrs, \$14 per family.

Enjoy our multicultural holiday breakfast, music, holiday stories, arts and crafts and more.

[www.columbiaassociation.org/kidspace](http://www.columbiaassociation.org/kidspace)

### **Columbia Association**

The Columbia Art Center offers a variety of Art Classes for children of all ages. Check out the Fall Brochure on [www.columbiaartcenter.org](http://www.columbiaartcenter.org) for more information. For inquiries or to register, please call Columbia Art Center at [410-730-0075](tel:410-730-0075) or email [art.staff@columbiaassociation.org](mailto:art.staff@columbiaassociation.org).

### **Columbia Association**

Visiting Artist Workshops! On **Dec. 29-Dec. 30**, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. For more information, please call Columbia Art Center at [410-730-0075](tel:410-730-0075) or [art.staff@columbiaassociation.org](mailto:art.staff@columbiaassociation.org)

### **Food on the 15th**

Volunteer opportunities for students of all ages. We collect, sort and deliver free non-perishable groceries directly to low-income Howard County senior citizens. To learn more about what we do, visit our website at [www.foodonthe15th.org/](http://www.foodonthe15th.org/). We are always looking for students and groups to do food drives for us. We can be reached at [foodonthe15th@gmail.com](mailto:foodonthe15th@gmail.com).

### **Elkridge Library**

Tween Club, Tues., 6:30-8 p.m., ages 9-12, 90 minutes, **Dec 15, 2015**: Craft & Create; **Dec 29, 2015**: "Art Market" - craft supplies with a "cost"; **Jan 12, 2016**: Scratch Games; **Jan 26, 2016**: Pop-Ups and More

**Feb 9, 2016**: Design Challenge; **Feb 23, 2016**: Bubble. Bubble. Toil & Slime Science."

## **SPORTS**

### **4th Quarter**

Spring after school leadership program at Bonnie Branch and Elkridge Landing Middle School (Spring registration ends March 1, 2016). The Fourth Quarter uses fitness and touch football to tackle these MAJOR community issues: 1. Lack of focus 2. Experimentation with drugs and alcohol 3. Childhood obesity 4. Failing to reach ones leadership potential. Become apart of the 4th Quarter TEAM by downloading a 4th Quarter Spring registration form at [the4thqtr.org](http://the4thqtr.org) or [jguy@the4thqtr.org](mailto:jguy@the4thqtr.org)

### **Savage Boys and Girls Club**

Is accepting registrations for boys and girls ages 7-17 for its recreation basketball program for the 2015-16 season. Visit [www.savagebgc.org](http://www.savagebgc.org) for more information.

