



The Skipjack

Fruitland Intermediate School

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October, 2017

Welcome, Autumn!

A Message to our Parents ~Jon Shearer, Principal

Thank you to our school community, parents, teachers, staff and all who have worked to support our school as we opened the 2017 – 2018 academic year. We have had a great four weeks, and already look forward to mid-term next week! We are almost one-eighth of the way through the school year! As we look to report on your child’s progress, we anticipate no surprises! We trust that lines of communication are open and our parents have had an opportunity to “peek” into gradebooks through the Parent Portal. In addition, teacher contact information is available on the web site, and email seemingly is the primary mode of communication even as we continue to use agendas and notes to relay information between school and home. Please, parents, ensure that you work through all channels of communication with your child’s teachers; connect with school administrators if you experience any problems.

Thank you for supporting our fall fundraiser! We are working to determine our final tally, but our profits will be turned into support for your child’s teachers, classrooms, students, and our school. We appreciate your efforts; the impact on our school is profound. Funds that we raise will be turned into incentives for students and staff members, will support field trips, will provide materials for those extra special lessons and will support many other events and celebrations. For our very highest fundraisers, we will provide a variety of prizes and opportunities to celebrate success through the program. Our Crown Sports Center event will be held just before the winter holiday break and our limo ride to Chick-Fil-A and Barnes & Noble will be held just after.

We are pleased to partner with our Fruitland Primary School as we have a PTA that represents both of our schools. Already, you have attended our first meeting; from this point forward, we will meet in conjunction with the primary school for our evening business meetings and visits with teachers. Our next meeting will be held at the primary school and will encompass a mathematics event. Please join us and our teachers beginning at 6:00 p.m., on Monday, October 23. Our teachers will meet you there as you touch base during your visit.

Please be aware of our district’s offerings to support families and students. See the other side of this newsletter for information about the Parent University. In addition to many other events, please see the district or Fruitland Intermediate School’s social media presence for information about STEM Saturdays. These enriching opportunities are designed for our students to participate in a host of activities across the entire school year. Check it out!

We have another opportunity to serve our community through MSDE’s advocacy for hungry children. Please find it in your hearts to donate canned goods and other non-perishable items to the Maryland Food Bank during this autumn food drive. Thanks to our Mrs. Dickerson for heading up this project.



Lunch with the Captain

If you would like for your child to have a chance to eat lunch with Mr. Shearer, principal, please review this newsletter, our Facebook page and the web site with your child, answer the question and return this completed form to the school by October 6th. We will hold a drawing and several students will be able to eat lunch with the captain during the week of October 9th.

Student’s name: _____ Grade: _____ Teacher’s name: _____

What is the title of the October 7, STEM Saturday event? (Check out the FIS social media or web presence for the answer to this question.)

Parent’s signature: _____

Fruitland Intermediate School Calendar of Events, October, 2017

Date & Time	Event
October 3	Picture day! Remember to dress up! Bring a change of clothes if you have physical education today.
October 4	Beyond the Limits field trip for selected students. Destination Imagination full group meeting after school.
October 5	Mid-Term progress reports distributed.
October 10, 4:15 – 6:15 p.m.	Instructional Leadership Team (ILT) meeting in the media center.
October 12, 13	Grade 5 field trip to City of Fruitland. Grade 3 (Mapp/Riggin, only) field trip to WMDT and downtown Salisbury.
October 17 - 19	ELA Interim 1 Assessments.
October 18	Destination Imagination full group meeting after school.
October 18, 4:30 p.m.	PTA Executive Team meeting at Fruitland Intermediate School.
October 20	Professional development day; schools are closed to students.
October 23, 6:00 p.m.	PTA Business Meeting & Visits w/ Teachers @ <i>Fruitland Primary School.</i>
October 25	Grade 4 field trip to Annapolis.
October 27	PBIS Sock Hop (during school day).
Looking Ahead	
November 1, 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.	Fundraiser pick-up (enter gymnasium by way of the rear parking lot).
November 2, 4:15 – 6:15	Instructional Leadership Team (ILT) meeting in the media center.
November 7	Term 1 ends. Mathematics interim assessment #1.
November 8	Professional development day; schools are closed to students.

School website: <http://fis.wcboe.org/>. And...Like us on Facebook. Find the official site at: www.facebook.com/wcboefis.

Educating, Empowering, and Engaging Families for Student Success



Parents and family members can earn their ‘degrees’ in family engagement by attending courses at Wicomico County Public Schools’ Parent University. This series of events helps provide guidance and support for families on topics such as reading and math fluency, homework help, and understanding the teenage brain.

Classes are being held at the Wicomico County Public Library in the Entrepreneur Room for one hour, beginning at 6:30 pm. Childcare (ages 3 – 5) and homework assistance (grades 1 – 8) are provided. The first session is Thursday October 5: “How to Help Your Child with Homework.” It will be led by Debbie Wilkins, former Wicomico County Teacher of the Year.

The second session (Thursday October 26) is the “Four Super Powers of Parents” led by Dr. Holly Hatton, a supervisor in the department of Special Education, and a Nationally Board-Certified Teacher. This session teaches skills (such as the power of silence) for parents to use when their children are being uncooperative.

Online information and upcoming topics are available on the Wicomico County Board of Education website: click on Families tab, then Parent University.

To register, contact Beth Sheller (410) 677-4453, msheller@wcboe.org or Faye Wilson (410) 677-4529, fwilson@wcboe.org.

Lunch with the



Captain

