

The Winand Word

January 2024

Message from Ms. Ramos and Mr. Day

Dear Parents,

We hope you enjoyed a restful break with your loved ones. As we embark on the second half of the school year, we wanted to extend a warm welcome back to all our Winand families.

Communication is key to a successful partnership between home and school. Please ensure that your contact information is up-to-date, and feel free to contact us through emails, phone calls, or scheduled meetings.

Our teachers are committed to providing a nurturing and rigorous learning environment based on the standards. If you have any questions or concerns about your child's academic progress, please don't hesitate to reach out to their teachers or even schedule a meeting. The marking period ends on January 9-please check Schoology for all assignments.

We are looking forward to continued collaboration with you and thank you for your ongoing support.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Ms. Ramos mramos3@bcps.org

Mr. Day gday3@bcps.org

Your Student's Grades and Assignments

The 2nd Marking Period Ends January 19, 2024

- Keep the line of communication open with your student's teacher (s).
- Make sure you have a parent account so you can view all assignments and keep up-to-date with their grades. If you do not have one, reach out and we can send the directions to you!
- View feedback provided on assignments.



Lost and Found

Lost and Found is located in the cafeteria; please encourage your child to look in the bin if they lost something.

Remaining items donated: Wednesday, January 10, 2024.

Attendance Matters

Regular attendance is closely linked to academic success. Students who attend school regularly are more likely to keep up with their assignments, understand the material, and perform well on assessments. Missing school can lead to gaps in learning and make it challenging for students to grasp essential concepts.



If your child is absent, please send in a note upon their return to school.

At Winand Elementary, *the goal is 96% attendance*; please help us achieve this goal and provide students the foundation they deserve.

Attendance, December 2023

Pre-S 87%

Pre-K 86%

Kindergarten 91%

First Grade 90%

Second Grade 91%

Third Grade 94%

Fourth Grade 93%

Fifth Grade 91%

Should you have any questions, please contact Mr. Day gday3@bcps.org or (443) 809-0763.

WIDA Assessment~January 2024

Each year, students in English learner programs take the ACCESS for ELLs language proficiency test. The test measures academic English language proficiency for students learning English in our school and throughout our state.

Teachers in our school use this information to help them make decisions about instruction for your child. Teachers also use these test scores to monitor the progress your child makes toward English proficiency. Students in ESOL will be taking the WIDA ACCESS assessment January 8th to March 1st.

Nurse's Corner



As we begin this 2024 school year, we are facing challenges in many ways: emotional, mental, and physical. Also, COVID, RSV, and the flu are on the rise.

We are asking that our families consider some of the following tips and recommendations to aid in the health promotion of all Winand Elementary Students.


- Monitor your child daily before arrival to school for any signs or symptoms of illness such as fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, headache, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, etc.
- Keep the school up to date regarding any current health conditions or medications your child has.
- Consider getting flu shots for your family.
- Please make sure to send in an extra change of clothing for your child/children that are appropriate for this time of the year.
- If you are called to pick up your child for an illness, please pick them up in a timely manner to prevent further contact and spread of their illness to others. Please keep your contact information updated.
- Students sent home from school may require medical clearance to return.

This list is small; however, these recommendations will greatly help to reduce the spread of an illness throughout our student population.

We hope our students will have a safe and successful remainder of the school year.

FOCUS APP

New App

 BCPS parents, staff, students, and community members can now download the #TeamBCPS Focus App. The app will allow users to view information in Focus, our Student Information System, based on their role in the system. Please see the Focus Schoology group directions, Resources, Focus App folder for how to download the app as well as basic navigation.

iOS- <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/team-bcps-focus/id6444195471>

Android- <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.focusschoolsoftware.community.baltimore>

Instruction Sheet - https://cdnsm5-ss3.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_2744/File/Focus_App_Directions_for_Parents.pdf

Home Internet Access Resources for Families/Students

Families needing assistance with paying for or obtaining internet access for their children while at home should be directed to the Maryland Emergency Broadband Benefit (MEBB) service. The State of Maryland has partnered with the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) which provides eligible families access to free or reduced internet access for their homes. This internet access can be used for virtual learning, and access to online resources such as job postings, health resources, and other benefits for adult family members and children.

Maryland Emergency Broadband Benefit can be accessed through the MEBB website by going to a Baltimore County Public Library and using the available internet access.

Baltimore County Public Libraries also has a 'Long Term Device Lending Program' where patrons of the library can sign out either a ChromeBook and/or a cellular hotspot for up to six months. More information is available on the Baltimore County Public Library website (<https://www.bcpl.info/services/longterm-lending.html>).

An alternative method is to contact the FCC Affordable Connectivity Program directly by calling (877) 384-2575. Services are available in multiple languages. Families must qualify for the service. A family can also contact one of the internet access/broadband providers on the attached listing directly to find out more about the application process.

Harlem Wizards Basketball Game

Families are invited to Milford Mill Academy to see "All Star" Teachers play against the Harlem Wizards. This is a game sponsored by the Woodlawn Rec Council in partnership with the Harlem Wizards Basketball organization. Please click on the link to purchase tickets directly. Tickets will only be sold online. <https://facebook.com/events/s/harlem-wizards-game-baltimore-/2079269212434111/>

Volunteer at Winand Elementary

We are excited to welcome volunteers at Winand Elementary. All volunteers must be trained. Please complete the online application and send the certificate to Ms. Knight.

Volunteer information:

https://cos.bcps.org/departments/communications/family_and_community_engagement/b_c_p_s_volunteers

Volunteer Application:

https://cdn5-ss3.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_9046799/File/Updated%20Documents/Application%20for%20Volunteer%20Services%20ADA.pdf

BCPS Calendar

Just a quick reminder that you can find the 2023-24 BCPS School Calendar on the school system's website <https://www.bcps.org/>

Calendar Reminders

January 2024

1-15-2024~Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – Schools and Offices Closed

1-19-2024~Second Marking Period Ends – Schools Close 3 Hours Early for All Students -1:05 p.m.

Grade Reporting and Data Analysis** – Teachers on Duty

1-29-2024~ Report Cards Available on FOCUS at 4:20 p.m.

February 2024

2-6-2024 Math Night 5:30-6:30 Stay Tuned for More Details

2-9-2024~Schools Closed for Students~ PD for Teachers

2-19-2024~ Schools and Offices Closed-Presidents' Day, Washington's Birthday

March 2024

Week of 3-18-2024~ Spring Book Fair

3-19-2024 Reading Night~Stay Tuned for More Details

3-22-2024~ ***Spring Break Begins at the End of the Day***