



Waters Landing
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The Dolphin News

March 2018 Issue

www.waterslandingpta.com

A Publication of the Waters Landing Elementary School PTA
<https://www.facebook.com/WLESPTA/?fref=ts>

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Dear Waters Landing Families:

Happy Almost Spring! Thank you to all of the families who attended the Valentine's Parties and Science Fair. It was great to see so many families at our school. Our students really enjoyed these events!

This past month, multiple local and national school events have weighed heavily on all of our minds. When events like this occur, it causes a variety of emotions (i.e. anger, fear, anxiousness etc.) to surface from our children. The attached document gives suggestions for ways to discuss this type of events as a family. Please let us know if our counselors needs to support any of our students further. Our goal to always to provide a safe and nurturing environment to students. Information about safety and security will be shared at our next PTA meeting on Tuesday, March 6th.

We have a lot of great events coming this month. This month we look forward to our Scholastic Book Fair which will run from March 12th-March 16th. We also have our Family Book Fair Night and Multicultural Night scheduled for Thursday, March 15th and our Muffins with Misses event on Friday, March 16th. We hope to see many of you at these exciting events! Our Spring Break is scheduled for March 26-April 2, 2018.

Please ensure students attend school daily and arrive to school on time. When students have chronic absences or arrive to school late, there is a great impact on learning. Each month administration reviews student attendance. If there is a concern, we will contact you via phone and/or letter to inform you of your child's current absence/tardy rate and determine how we can support your family to increase attendance. Our goal is to ensure student success and this begins with attendance.

Interims for the 3rd Quarter will be sent home on Friday, March 9th. Please take time to review this with your child. If you have any questions, please make certain you email or call your child's teacher. You are an important part of your child's educational team. We want to make certain that your child is making progress and learning.

Thank you for your ongoing support of your child's education.

Sincerely,

Ms. Srelyne A. Harris, *Principal*

Mrs. Chris Troffkin, *Assistant Principal*



Hello Parents, Waters Landing Elementary is having a Career Day on Friday, June 8th from 9:45-11:10. We need speakers for grades Kdg – 5th and we would love to have you come! We are looking for a wide variety of occupations to share with the students! In the past we have had police officers, veterinarians, landscapers, chefs, and many more. We welcome any and all types of jobs! The speakers rotate to different classes, so you will speak in several 15 – 20 minute sessions. Please contact Loren Felsher, Counselor at Loren_P_Felsher@mcpsmd.org if you are interested, or fill out and return this slip:



Yes, I am interested in speaking at career day!

Your name: _____

Your occupation: _____

Your child's name: _____

Your child's teacher: _____



Phone # and email address: _____

Please return this to Mrs. Felsher by **March 15**. Thank you.

From the PTA President,



Dear WLES Families,

We greatly appreciate all of the students and families who participated in our Science Fair- it was a huge hit! We have some really exciting events happening in March!

This month, Waters Landing Elementary is participating in a fundraiser that also focuses on our students' love of reading. The PTA is sponsoring a read-a-thon similar to the one we conducted the last 2 years. All students are encouraged to participate in this program. In order to be eligible for prizes for reading minutes, both parents and students must sign the Read-A-Thon contract that was sent home.

Our book fair will run March 12-16 in the school library. We will have family nights on Tuesday, March 13 and Thursday, March 15 in conjunction with International Night. We will need volunteers for the entire week.

We will also host Muffins with Misses on Friday, March 16 from 8:45-9:10. A flyer will be coming home soon so that you can RSVP for this event.

Our next PTA meeting will be Tuesday, March 6 at 7:00 PM in the school library- We hope to see you there. If you have any questions or would like to share some of your ideas and thoughts, please feel free to contact me.



Thank you,

Sheri Schully
Waters Landing Elementary School PTA President, 2017-2018
Proud mother of Madeleine (4th grade), and Corinne (1st grade)
Email: sherischully@gmail.com

WLES Family Restaurant Night



Thursday, March 22nd from 6:00pm - 9:00pm

Gather the family, skip cooking and dine at &Pizza in Germantown, located right next to the Germantown, Safeway. Look out for more info in the next coming week.

Reminders of ways you can support Waters Landing ES and the PTA

Register your giant grocery store card and support WLES ES when you shop. Visit the PTA rewards tab on our website at www.waterslandingpta.com for more information.



Complete a designation form at the store or visit <https://www.harristeeter.com/together-in-education#/app/cms> to link your card to WLES.



Complete a designation form at the store or visit <http://www.escrip.com> Visit the PTA rewards tab on our website at www.waterslandingpta.com for more information.



Shop for discounted fun activities and get \$5.00 of your purchase of \$30 or more and \$5.00 will also go to WLES. Go to www.certikid.com and sign in or sign up. Enter code WLPTA and you're all set!



THE MOBILE MARKET PROVIDING FREE FOOD

Montgomery College and the Capital Area Food Bank provide fresh fruits, vegetables and other foods to MC students and the community AT NO COST.

Food Distribution Dates: March 7, April 4, May 2 - 10 am-12 pm.

Germantown – Montgomery College High Tech Building, 2nd floor, upper lobby – Observation Drive

Food availability is based on a first come, first serve basis. Bring bags or carts to carry your food. No proof of eligibility is required. For more info: <http://cms.montgomerycollege.edu/EDU/Department2.aspx?id=102261>

COUNSELOR'S CORNER- MRS. LAURENO

We are proud to announce students who are being recognized for demonstrating consistent **HONESTY** during the month of January.

HONOR ROLL for HONESTY

Kindergarten: Katie Uzwiak, Aubrey Urey, Kevin Doan, Annabella Vaughan, Matthew Sanchez, Brianna Aplicano, Darya Mortazavi, Mason Babcock, Leah Benavides, Diego Monje, Isaiah Blackwell, Fernanda Ramirez Martinez, Connor Wasson.

First Grade: Gadin Tetteh, Andrea Galvez Delgado, Alyssa Chin, Iyannah James, Gabby Roldan, Ameer Barbee, Jeo Gonzalez, Jocelyn Mafwenga, Joseph Gonzalez, Sophie Brown, Hailie Greene, Napoleon Garcia, Henry Kpele-vi, Jorge Zarza-Mina

Second Grade: Giovanni Zeledon, Ayden Barrows, Antony Huerta, Esteffani Hernandez Nolasco, Annett Cervantes, Keissten Crockett, Reece Parsons, Ethan Falade, Mahek Kamran, Samuel Woto III, Sophia Chen, Justin Iadicola, Peyton Collard, Mahnoor Kamran

Third Grade: Elliot Avalos, Abby Zambrana, Brook Boone, Gabriel Herrera-Sorto, Carter Ashby, Stefani Garcia-Vasquez, Katelyn George, Pedro Mena, Kalista Katoski, Ian Bradbury.

Fourth Grade: Lainey Young, Demonte Thomas, Mark Briseno, Gabby Lindeire, Marguele Kuitchoua, Lesver Arana Mundo, Tasha Cosby, Jeremiah Jones

Fifth Grade: Jayson Ocon, Aniyah McRoy, Amara Bailey, Matias Vargas, Exodus Waites, Eva McCeney, William Odu., Victoria Rodrigues Roseno

COUNSELOR'S CORNER- MRS. LAURENO

Black Rocket programs offered through Montgomery College provide unique enrichment and educational offerings to children and young adults in Creative Sciences, Digital Arts, and Leadership. Each course emphasizes self-empowerment, cognitive reasoning, and divergent thinking through hands-on learning. The program on April 21st is designed for students in grades 3 – 6 and costs \$95 per student. The day's courses include Robotics 101, New! Advanced Robotics, Code Breaking, Digital Animation, Minecraft Engineering, Minecraft World Builder, and Video Game design. A limited number of scholarships are available. **Contact:** www.montgomerycollege.edu.com

COUNSELOR'S CORNER- MRS. LAURENO

Camp Erin Montgomery County is a **FREE, overnight, weekend bereavement camp for children/teens. ages 6-17**, who are grieving the death of someone close, regardless of the cause of death or length of time since the death. Camp will take place the weekend of **May 11-13, 2018** (ending at lunchtime on Sunday) at Bar-T Mountain-side in Frederick. Campers throughout the region are encouraged to attend (Montgomery County residency is not required). Transportation and all meals are included. For more information or for camper application forms, please visit <http://www.hospicecaring.org/camp-erin.html> or contact Haily Gonski at hailyg@hospicecaring.org or 301-869-4673. Space is limited.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER- MRS. LAURENO

10th Annual Every Girl Can™ Conference. *Discover the Leader in You*

Hosted by **The Every Girl Can Learning Institute, Inc., In Collaboration with Montgomery College**

Saturday, March 10, 2018 , 9:00 am to 2:30 pm . Doors open at 8:50 am

Montgomery College, Cultural Arts Center (CAC), 7995 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Girls (5th to 8th grade) - **FREE** - Women Parents, educators, program directors) - **\$35.00**. Former Every Girl Can participants in 9th grade to college/grads please register for The Gathering of Girls recognition and scheduled conference program activities. **FREE**

Email signed registration form to Yasmin@EveryGirlCanLearn.org, Mail: P.O. Box 10805, Silver Spring, MD 20914, Fax: 866-4143591, or register at www.EveryGirlCanLearn.org, Info:301.200.2514, **#EGCLICConf2018**
#EveryGirlCanLearn

COUNSELOR'S CORNER – MS. LAURENO

Our character education theme for the month of March is COURAGE.

Courage is “overcoming fear so I can do what is right.”

Courage begins by knowing what is good, true and right. This gives you confidence that you are heading in the right direction.

A helpful strategy to build courage is to think through what you should do in specific situations. For example, what should you do if you wake up and hear a smoke alarm in your home? What should you do if a stranger asks you to get into his/her car? What should you do if you see someone being teased or bullied?

Thinking ahead will help you overcome fear and make better choices when you face strange, difficult, or frightening situations. It is important to discuss different scenarios with your children at home, just as we do here in school. Preparing for emergency situations arms us all with the crucial information we need to behave calmly and courageously should the need arise.

We are instructing your children to be “Bystanders to the Rescue.” They know the right thing to do; they stand up with courage instead of hiding in fear. Their boldness and bravery will inspire others to stand up and be courageous, too.

Have your children take this pledge: “I Will...”

1. Know the truth
2. Get help when I am afraid.
3. Do what is right.
4. Be willing to stand up for my beliefs.
5. Help those who are being teased or bullied.

In the words of Mark Twain, “Courage is the resistance to fear, mastery of fear, not absence of fear.”

SAVE THOSE PENNIES!

We are again going to support the National Leukemia and Lymphoma Society’s campaign “Pennies for Patients” beginning April 9.

All students will be receiving a box to collect pennies (all forms of money are welcome, nickels, dimes, quarters, and dollars)

This money goes towards funding groundbreaking research to find better treatment and cares for those impacted by blood cancers.

In addition, the society provides free information, education and support services to those affected.

The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society fight for policy changes at the state and federal level to ensure access to quality, affordable and coordinated care.

CAMP ERIN FOR GRIEVING STUDENTS – MS. LAURENO

This wonderful camp is now taking applications for their annual program on May 11-13.

The camp is free. Round trip transportation is offered from the Hospice Caring Cottage in Gaithersburg, MD. after school on Friday, May 11.

The camp affords students the opportunity to heal from their losses in a safe, pleasant setting where they will be surrounded with others who have experienced grief. Each student will have a big buddy who has suffered a loss when they were young and has been trained to work with students 6-17.

The camp is held at the Bar T campgrounds at Mountainside in Frederick, MD.

Children ages 6-17 are welcome to apply.

Space is limited. Enrollment is on a first come-first served basis. If you would like further information, please contact the Camp Erin director: Haily Gonski at 301-869-4673 or hailyg@hospicecaring.org

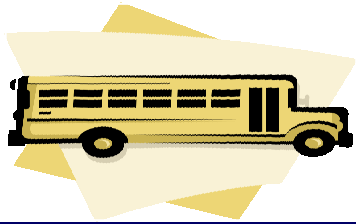
If you are interested, please feel free to contact me for a Camp Erin Camper Application.

You can also access this online yourself through www.HospiceCaring.org or by contacting Haily Gonski.

Waters Landing students have been attending this camp for many years and they rave about it when they come back.

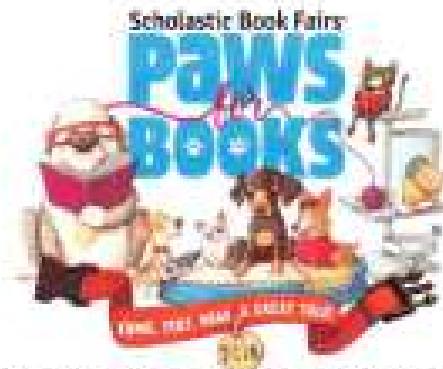


Waters Landing
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



March 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6 WLES PTA Meeting 7:00pm Media Center	7	8	9	10
11	12 Book Fair	13 Book Fair	14 Book Fair	15 Book Fair	16 Book Fair Muffins with Misses 8:45am-9:10am	17
18	19	20	21	22 Restaurant Night & Pizza (Germantown) 6pm-9pm	23	24
25	26 Spring Break No School	27 Spring Break No School	28 Spring Break No School	29 Spring Break No School	30 Spring Break No School	31



WATERS LANDING PTA BOOK FAIR MARCH 12 - MARCH 16, 2018

Monday, March 12:	9:30AM – 3:30PM	Classes visit for wish list/shopping
Tuesday, March 13:	9:30AM – 3:30PM 6:00PM – 8:00PM	Classes visit for wish list/shopping FAMILY NIGHT
Wednesday, March 14:	9:30AM – 3:30PM	Classes visit for wish list/shopping
Thursday, March 15:	9:10AM – 4:00PM 6:00PM – 8:00PM 6:45PM – 8:00PM	Students may shop! FAMILY NIGHT MULTICULTURAL NIGHT
Friday, March 16:	8:45AM – 9:10AM 8:30AM – 4:00PM	MUFFINS WITH MISSES Last day to shop!

Scholastic Book Fairs is now offering an eWallet payment option!
Simply set up an account (one per child) and have funds immediately available to your child to shop at the Book Fair. For more information visit: <http://www.scholastic.com/bf/waterslandingelemsch>

All purchases benefit our school! **NO TAX** on Book Fair purchases made at WLES.
We accept eWallet/Visa/Mastercard/Discover/American Express. Sorry, we DO NOT accept checks.

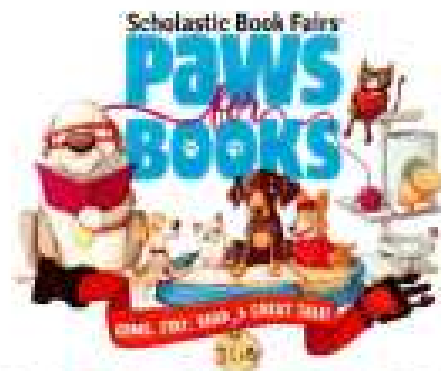
You can donate a book to your child's classroom! Check out the Teacher Wish Bins!

SHOP our **ONLINE** Book Fair: <http://www.scholastic.com/bf/waterslandingelemsch>
Books will be shipped **free** to school and given to your student. Online orders are **NOT** tax exempt.

We need parent volunteers! Volunteer 4 hours receive \$5 toward Book Fair purchase or volunteer 5 hours or more receive \$10 toward Book Fair purchase.

For adult volunteers only. One per person, per Book Fair. Thank you for your support!
Sign Up Genius link: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0948a4a828a57-volunteer1>
or email Kathy McDonald: ksmcdonald10@yahoo.com





**FERIA DE LIBROS DEL PTA DE WATERS LANDING
12 DE MARZO - 16 DE MARZO, 2018**

Lunes, 12 de marzo:	9:30AM – 3:30PM	Visitas de clases para hacer listas de deseo/compras
Martes, 13 de marzo:	9:30AM – 3:30PM 6:00PM – 8:00PM	Visitas de clases para hacer listas de deseo/compras NOCHE FAMILIAR
Miércoles, 14 de marzo:	9:30AM – 3:30PM	Visitas de clases para hacer listas de deseo/compras
Jueves, 15 de marzo:	9:10AM – 4:00PM 6:00PM – 8:00PM 6:45PM – 8:00PM	¡Estudiantes pueden comprar! NOCHE FAMILIAR NOCHE MULTICULTURAL
Viernes, 16 de marzo:	8:45AM – 9:10AM 8:30AM – 4:00PM	MUFFINS CON MUJERES ¡Último día para comprar!

¡Ferias de Libros Scholastic ahora ofrece eWallet como opción de pago! Simplemente abra una cuenta (1 por niño) y haga fondos disponibles inmediatamente a su niño para compras en la Feria de Libros. Para más información visite: <http://www.scholastic.com/hf/waterslandinglemsch>

¡Todas las compras benefician nuestra escuela! **NO IMPUESTOS** sobre ventas en la Feria de Libros en compras hechas en WLES.

Aceptamos eWallet/Visa/Mastercard/Discover/American Express. Lo sentimos, NO aceptamos cheques. ¡Puede donar un libro al salón de su niño/a! ¡Ven las Canastas de Deseos de los Maestros!

COMPRE en nuestra Feria de Libros **EN LINEA**: <http://www.scholastic.com/hf/Waterslandinglemsch> Libros serán enviados gratis y entregados a su estudiante. Las ordenes en linea **NO** son libres de impuesto.

¡Necesitamos padres voluntarios! Trabaje como voluntario 4 horas y reciba \$5 para compras en La Feria de Libros o trabaje 5 horas o más y reciba \$10 para compras en la Feria de Libros! Para voluntarios adultos solamente, uno por persona, por feria de libros. ¡Gracias por su apoyo! Enlace para Sign Up Genius: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a094aa4a828a57-volunteer/>

o envíe correo electrónico a Kathy McDonald: ksmcdonald10@yahoo.com



Talking to Children About Violence: Tips for Parents and Teachers

High profile acts of violence, particularly in schools, can confuse and frighten children who may feel in danger or worry that their friends or loved-ones are at risk. They will look to adults for information and guidance on how to react. Parents and school personnel can help children feel safe by establishing a sense of normalcy and security and talking with them about their fears.

1. **Reassure children that they are safe.** Emphasize that schools are very safe. Validate their feelings. Explain that all feelings are okay when a tragedy occurs. Let children talk about their feelings, help put them into perspective, and assist them in expressing these feelings appropriately.
2. **Make time to talk.** Let their questions be your guide as to how much information to provide. Be patient; children and youth do not always talk about their feelings readily. Watch for clues that they may want to talk, such as hovering around while you do the dishes or yard work. Some children prefer writing, playing music, or doing an art project as an outlet. Young children may need concrete activities (such as drawing, looking at picture books, or imaginative play) to help them identify and express their feelings.
3. **Keep your explanations developmentally appropriate.**

Early elementary school children need brief, simple information that should be balanced with reassurances that their school and homes are safe and that adults are there to protect them. Give simple examples of school safety like reminding children about exterior doors being locked, child monitoring efforts on the playground, and emergency drills practiced during the school day.

Upper elementary and early middle school children will be more vocal in asking questions about whether they truly are safe and what is being done at their school. They may need assistance separating reality from fantasy. Discuss efforts of school and community leaders to provide safe schools.

Upper middle school and high school students will have strong and varying opinions about the causes of violence in schools and society. They will share concrete suggestions about how to make school safer and how to prevent tragedies in society. Emphasize the role that students have in maintaining safe schools by following school safety guidelines (e.g. not providing building access to strangers, reporting strangers on campus, reporting threats to the school safety made by students or community members, etc.), communicating any personal safety concerns to school administrators, and accessing support for emotional needs.

4. **Review safety procedures.** This should include procedures and safeguards at school and at home. Help children identify at least one adult at school and in the community to whom they go if they feel threatened or at risk.
5. **Observe children's emotional state.** Some children may not express their concerns verbally. Changes in behavior, appetite, and sleep patterns can also indicate a child's level of anxiety or discomfort. In most children, these symptoms will ease with reassurance and time. However, some children may be at risk for more intense reactions. Children who have had a past traumatic experience or personal loss, suffer from depression or other mental illness, or with special needs may be at greater risk for severe reactions than others. Seek the help of mental health professional if you are at all concerned.
6. **Limit television viewing of these events.** Limit television viewing and be aware if the television is on in common areas. Developmentally inappropriate information can cause anxiety or confusion, particularly in young children. Adults also need to be mindful of the content of conversations that they have with each other in front of children, even teenagers, and limit their exposure to vengeful, hateful, and angry comments that might be misunderstood.

7. **Maintain a normal routine.** Keeping to a regular schedule can be reassuring and promote physical health. Ensure that children get plenty of sleep, regular meals, and exercise. Encourage them to keep up with their school-work and extracurricular activities but don't push them if they seem overwhelmed.

Suggested Points to Emphasize When Talking to Children

- Schools are safe places. School staff works with parents and public safety providers (local police and fire departments, emergency responders, hospitals, etc.) to keep you safe.
- The school building is safe because ... (cite specific school procedures).
- We all play a role in the school safety. Be observant and let an adult know if you see or hear something that makes you feel uncomfortable, nervous or frightened.
- There is a difference between reporting, tattling or gossiping. You can provide important information that may prevent harm either directly or anonymously by telling a trusted adult what you know or hear.
- Although there is no absolute guarantee that something bad will never happen, it is important to understand the difference between the **possibility** of something happening and **probability** that it will affect you (our school community).
- Senseless violence is hard for everyone to understand. Doing things that you enjoy, sticking to your normal routine, and being with friends and family help make us feel better and keep us from worrying about the event.
- Sometimes people do bad things that hurt others. They may be unable to handle their anger, under the influence of drugs or alcohol, or suffering from mental illness. Adults (parents, teachers, police officers, doctors, faith leaders) work very hard to get those people help and keep them from hurting others. It is important for all of us to know how to get help if we feel really upset or angry and to stay away from drugs and alcohol.
- Stay away from guns and other weapons. Tell an adult if you know someone has a gun. Access to guns is one of the leading risk factors for deadly violence.
- Violence is never a solution to personal problems. Students can be part of the positive solution by participating in anti-violence programs at school, learning conflict mediation skills, and seeking help from an adult if they or a peer is struggling with anger, depression, or other emotions they cannot control.

NASP has additional information for parents and educators on school safety, violence prevention, children's trauma reactions, and crisis response at www.nasponline.org. ©2016, National Association of School Psychologists, 4340 East West Highway #402, Bethesda, MD 20814