

The Stonewall CONNECTOR

Keeping the connection between school and home...

March 2017

Coming Up.....

Mar. 1-10 – Scholastic Book Fair in the library

Mar. 2 – Family Literacy Night, 6-8 PM/Book Fair in Library during same time

Mar. 6-10 – Kindergarten Registration, 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM

Mar. 7 – Kindergarten Registration, 9:30 a.m.-6:30 PM

Mar. 10 – JWMS 6th grade counselor visit, 2:00 PM

Mar. 12 – Daylight Savings Time Begins

Mar. 14 – Spring Picture Day

March 15 – Class Pictures/Money and Orders for Joe Corbi Pizza fundraisers due to Ms. Mendoza

Mar. 16 – SCA Green Day/Rising 6th grade parent night @ JWMS auditorium, 6:30 PM

Mar. 17 – NO SCHOOL, Teacher Workday

Mar. 20 – NO SCHOOL, Teacher Professional Development day

Mar. 22 – PTA Spirit Night at Chick-fil-A

Mar. 31 – Spring Fling Dance for grades 3-5 students (more info to come)

Mar. 27 – Report Cards Issued

April 5 – PTA Meeting, 9:15 AM

April 7 – Volleyball game @ JWHS, 6-8 PM (APR vs. SE)

Message from the Office

Dear Stonewall families,

After a recent shift in the weather, Stonewall Elementary students and staff are looking forward to the first day of spring on March 20. The beginning of springtime is an indicator that the end of the school year is approaching, and this creates a sense of urgency for all as we move into the final quarter of the school year.

Our teachers and staff will be very busy working to assist all students in mastering the skills and knowledge needed for a successful school year. A strong finish will help set the tone for future successful school experiences. Additionally, students will be experiencing a variety of end-of-year assessments which will give them the opportunity to demonstrate their growth. These assessments include the PALS test for grades K-2 as well as the VA state Standards of Learning tests for grades 3-5. Consistent, on-time school attendance for all students will be essential during these last months of school in order for each student to make maximum growth. We are looking forward to a successful fourth quarter, and we thank you for the role you play in achieving this success.

Sincerely,

Linda Farringer

Assistant Principal



Teacher of the Year

We are proud to announce Becky Shollay as the Stonewall Elementary School Teacher of the Year! Mrs. Shollay will represent SES at the Frederick County Public School Convocation in August 2017.

SCHOOL SCHEDULE REMINDER

Frederick County Public Schools will still be closed on Friday, March 17 for a teacher workday and Monday, March 20 for a teacher professional development day.

Kindergarten Registration...for the 2017-18 school year is being held at Stonewall Elementary March 6 through 10, 2017. The hours will be from 9:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. On Tuesday, March 7, the hours will be from 9:30 a.m. until 6:30 p.m. If you have a child who will be five years old by September 30, 2017, he/she must be registered for school. Parents wishing to delay their child's attendance for one year must request permission, in writing, from the superintendent of schools. Parents must present two forms of proof that they reside in the attendance zone in which they are enrolling their student(s). One form must be a photo ID. Parents registering a child are required by Virginia law to present a certified copy of the student's birth certificate. If you do not have a birth certificate for your child, please come to register anyway. We will provide options for you to get this legal document. (Virginia birth certificates cost \$12.00.)

Virginia requires a certificate of physical examination, within one year, from a physician or health department and a certificate with complete dates for DPT or DTaP, Polio, MMR, Hepatitis B, and Chickenpox immunizations from a physician or a health department. We encourage you to schedule your child's physical as soon as possible. We also ask as soon as the physical has been completed for you to bring the 4 page, physical form to the office at school with the first page completed by the parent or guardian. These forms are on line at <http://ses.frederick.k12.va.us> **Parents should register their child even if all the above have not been obtained.**

It is very important all students who will attend kindergarten in the 2017-18 school year register, as this enrollment is used to determine the number of classes, materials ordered, etc. Please spread the word to friends and neighbors as well!

SCA News...

Dress Up Days:

March 8 - Wacky Wednesday

March 9 - Special Treasure Thursday

March 10 - Flashback Friday (dress like a favorite year/decade)

March 16 - Green Day

Yearbook Sales! Your child should have brought home an order form to reserve your copy. Yearbook order forms were sent home on February 14th. If not, extra copies are in the office. All yearbooks will include the student's name and the cost will be \$20.00. They **must be ordered and paid for in advance**. Checks should be made payable to "Lifetouch". Your check should include your phone number and street address (No P.O. box). You can also order online at ybpay.lifetouch.com The School ID Code is 1178117. The LAST day to order is APRIL 7. Yearbooks are usually handed out to the students the last week of school.

Daylight Savings Time....Daylight Savings Time begins on March 12. Remember to turn your clocks forward 1 hour.

Scholastic Book Fair...An amazing selection of books is headed our way! At the book fair this school year you will find the latest and finest titles for kids, as well as books of interest to parents. Mark your calendar for our upcoming Scholastic Book Fair in the library. It will be held on **Wednesday, March 1st through Friday, March 10th.**

It will open during student's regular school day. Also we will be celebrating Dr. Seuss birthday with **Literacy Night** on **Thursday, March 2nd from 6:00pm-8:00pm.** The

Scholastic book fair will also be open in the library during that time as one of the many stations during that night. Please come and join in the fun and check out "all the places you can go" with the many selections of books.

The Book Fair is a great way to get everyone excited about reading.

Please visit our Book fair homepage listed below for further information about dates, availability, and selection of books.

<http://www.scholastic.com/bf/stonewallelemschool1>

Here's a brief video that highlights the big dreams that can be realized through family reading:

<http://www.scholastic.com/bookfairs/family>

See you at the Book Fair!
Stonewall Elementary Library

PTA News...

PTA President needed! We have V.P, Secretary and Treasurer nominees willing to take on/continue these roles, but without a President (or maybe 2 co-Presidents) we will not be able to continue. This year's President and V.P have both agreed to help mentor anyone willing to step up to take on these roles. Please consider taking on this vital position! Without it, many of the events the children love will likely not happen next year. Please contact either Mr. Thomas or Kim Gresko at stonewallpta15@gmail.com if you are have questions or are interested.

Events

March 1 - PTA Meeting, 6:30 PM in the cafeteria

March 6 -Talent Show Sign up forms are due

March 22 - Chick Fil A Spirit Night 5:30-7:30pm

April 3 - April 13 - Box Tops Final competition

April 7 - Stonewall vs Apple Pie Ridge Volleyball Game @ JWHS 6pm

April 21 - Stonewall's Got Talent @ JWHS auditorium 7pm

Volleyball Game - If you have a child that would like to be a part of a small group of cheerleaders for the Teacher Volleyball Game, please email stonewallpta15@gmail.com . This would be a minimal time commitment and would be a fun opportunity for students to cheer their teachers on!

BOX TOP Competition

The winning class of the Super Bowl Box Tops Competition is Ms. Kimble's Second Grade class with 699 Box Tops! The Atlanta Falcon's were the school's overall choice to win the game with 4,026 to 2,060. In all, the school collected 7,252 Box Tops this round. That's \$725.20 earned! Way to go everyone! Our next competition isn't until April 3rd - April 13th, so please keep collecting until then.

Thank you again for all of your hard work!

School Supply Kits

The PTA will be selling school supply kits again this year for next year. Forms will go out sometime in March. All items on the teacher's list are included in the box and delivered to the classroom prior to Back to School Night. It's easy. It raises a small amount of money for the PTA and you don't have to fight the crowds at Wal-mart and Target. If you have a rising Kindergarten student, the form for them is included in the Kindergarten registration packet. If you have any questions, please email stonewallpta15@gmail.com.

Wildcat Wellness...

You can help your child develop healthy habits early in life that will bring lifelong benefits. As a parent, you can encourage your kids to evaluate their food choice and physical activity habits. Here are some tips and guidelines to get you started.

1. **Be a good role model** - You don't have to be perfect all the time, but if kids see you trying to eat right and getting physically active, they'll take notice of your efforts. You'll send a message that good health is important to your family.
2. **Keep things positive** - Kid's don't like to hear what they can't do, tell them what they can do instead. Keep it fun and positive. Everyone likes to be praised for a job well done. Celebrate successes and help children and teens develop a good self-image.
3. **Get the whole family moving** - Plan times for everyone to get moving together. Take walks, ride bikes, go swimming, garden or just play hide-and-seek outside. Everyone will benefit from the exercise and the time together.
4. **Be realistic** - Setting realistic goals and limits are essential to adopting any new behavior. Small steps and gradual changes can make a big difference in your health over time, so start small and build up.
5. **Limit TV, video game and computer time** - These habits lead to a sedentary lifestyle and excessive snacking, which increase risks for obesity and cardiovascular disease. Limit screen time to 2 hours per day.
6. **Encourage physical activities that they'll really enjoy** - Every child is unique. Let your child experiment with different activities until they find something that they really love doing. They'll stick with it longer if they love it.
7. **Pick truly rewarding rewards** - Don't reward children with t.v, video games, candy or snacks for a job well done. Find other ways to celebrate good behavior.
8. **Make dinnertime a family time** - When everyone sits down together to eat, there's less chance of children eating the wrong foods or snacking too much. Get your kids involved in cooking and planning meals. Everyone develops good eating habits together and the quality time with the family will be an added bonus.
9. **Make a game of reading food labels** - The whole family will learn what's good for their health and be more conscious of what they eat. It's a habit that helps change behavior for a lifetime.
10. **Stay involved** - Be an advocate for healthier children. Insist on good food choices at school. Make sure your

children's healthcare providers are monitoring cardiovascular indicators like BMI, blood pressure and cholesterol. Contact public officials on matters of the heart. Make your voice heard.

SOL Testing... Students in grades 3-5 will participate in the Standards of Learning (SOL) testing during **May 8-28, 2017**. It is very important that students are present and on-time to school each day for testing. Please refrain from scheduling medical appointments or family trips during the testing window. Please note that expedited retakes (including remediation and review instruction) will take place throughout the testing window. The state Board of Education only allows for expedited retakes for students who initially do not pass by a narrow margin; not all students will qualify for an expedited retake. Further details regarding expedited retakes will be sent home at a later date. A schedule with SOL testing dates for specific grade levels will be sent home with students.

2017-18 Transportation Forms... The new transportation forms for next year will be sent home with your child's report card on March 27. Please fill in the transportation for your child for the next school year. These forms are preprinted with your student's information. If any changes need to be made, do so on these forms. All forms must be returned no later than April 7. We would appreciate your completing the forms as soon as possible and returning them to school, as these forms will assist transportation in scheduling routes and stops.



SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS

Frederick County Public Schools in Virginia is seeking applicants for **SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS**. Candidates must have a good driving record, have or obtain a Commercial Driver's License (CDL), successfully complete training, be able to maintain order and discipline and be able to calmly respond to emergency situations. A high school diploma or GED is preferred. Benefits include health insurance, sick leave, personal leave, retirement and life insurance. Salary range \$61.97 - \$118.76 per day.

Visit our website www.frederick.k12.va.us to complete an on-line application.

Click on *Jobs* and then *Alia* to fill out the application.

For more information please call
Elizabeth Keplinger,
Coordinator of School Bus
Driver Recruiting and Training
(540) 667-2770 Ext. 88410

Frederick County Public Schools is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, political affiliation,

disability or veteran status in the education program and activities or employment and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

FCPS Tardy and Early Release Policy... According to Frederick County Public Schools regulation 410 R-A, tardiness and early dismissal will be considered as excused for reasons of school bus delayed arrival and verified medical or court appointments. In order to have a tardy or early release excused, parents/guardians should provide a note from the medical or dental practice or court note.

Per the regulation, students with unexcused tardies to school or unexcused early releases from school during a quarter will be disciplined as follows (grades K-5).

First in a quarter - warning
Second in a quarter - warning with parent informed
Third in a quarter - detention/school based discipline with parent informed
Fourth in a quarter - detention/school based discipline

Continued offenses will result in additional consequences. Students will be expected to make up work missed for tardiness and early releases.

(The above can be found in the FCPS Student and Parent Information handbook, August 2015, page 6)

Please be sure to ask your child's physician/dentist for notes whenever he or she has an appointment that will result in your child arriving at school late or leaving school early. These notes can be sent to the office or faxed directly to the school from the medical or dental office. Thank you.

Keep Information Up-to-Date... Please be sure to contact the school whenever any of your child's contact information changes. It is important that the school has correct contact information for each student's parents/guardians. Whenever a home phone number, cell phone number or e-mail address changes, please contact the school so that our records can be updated. Without the correct contact information, we are not able to effectively communicate and reach you in the event of an emergency. Thank you!

ATTENTION ALL 5TH GRADE

PARENTS...In 2006, the Virginia General Assembly passed a law which requires all sixth grade student to have a tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (Tdap) booster vaccination prior to entry into 6th grade.

We would recommend getting it before the school year ends this year, so it will be recorded on his/her health chart. We transfer that health chart to the middle school after the students leave the last day of school. If the booster is received after the last day of school, you will need to take the verification of booster to the middle school. Please contact me if you have questions.

You may go to your private health care provider or the health department.

Marsha Anderson, RN (School Nurse)

Clinic Clothes Closet... The clinic is in need of pants and shorts in smaller boys sizes of 5, 6 7 and 8. Will accept clothes in good condition or new items.

Free and Reduced Meal Program... Frederick

County Public Schools are reminding the community of the availability of the Free and Reduced Meal Program. Under the program, both school breakfast and lunch are available each day for free or at a reduced price for eligible students. Eligibility is based on income and applications are accepted at any time. Information on students participating in the Free and Reduced Meal Program is kept private and students who participate are not singled out as they go through the line in the cafeteria. Applications for the Free and Reduced Lunch and Breakfast program are available at the Frederick County Public Schools Administration Building, each Frederick County Public School, and the school division's website (www.frederick.k12.va.us). Anyone with questions about the program should contact FCPS Food Service Specialist Jennifer White at 540-662-3889 x88159.

Frederick County Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination process:

*Title IX Coordinator
John Linaburg
Executive Director of Human Resources
1415 Amherst Street
Winchester, Virginia 22601
(540) 662-3888*

*Section 504 Coordinator
Michelle Sandy
Director of Special Services
1415 Amherst Street
Winchester, Virginia 22601
(540) 662-3888*

For further information on notice of non-discrimination, see list of OCR enforcement offices for the address and phone number of the office that services your area, or call 1-800-421-3481.