

Library News

Mrs. Amrhine [aamrhine@bcps.org](mailto:aamrhine@bcps.org)



Art News

Mrs. Buttrum [abuttrum@bcps.org](mailto:abuttrum@bcps.org)



**K:** We will continue to read fantastic fiction in order to focus on the **habits of good readers**. Topics will include identifying the beginning, middle and end of a story, sequencing story events, making predictions and forming personal connections to a story.

**Grade 1:** Students will be combining literacy, geometry, and writing through the study and manipulation of **tangrams**. We will learn about tangrams and then work to manipulate pieces to create a tangram picture. By the end of the unit, students will be developing a story with their tangram character.

**Grade 2:** Students will continue to read a variety of award-winning books in order to explore what makes great books so great. We will continue to focus on the following comprehension skills: reading **illustrations**, **sequencing & retelling**, using **voice**, and determining **cause and effect**.

**Grade 3:** We have started and are continuing to focus on recognizing **unique qualities** of story characters and our own identity. Students will explore how their accomplishments, goals, interests, talents, and appearance enhance the concept of their own unique identities through the creation of a "Unique Me" presentation.

**Grade 4:** Students will use a variety of sources to gather information about the three geographic regions of **Maryland** and create a product that will promote tourism and encourage others to visit our state.

**Grade 5:** Students will focus this month learning about the various careers in **S.T.E.M.** (Science Technology Engineering & Math). Throughout this unit, students will gain an awareness of how STEM careers impact the local and global community. Each student will prepare a presentation about a specific career in STEM that they researched.

**We've been mess making and creating in the art room! Students recently completed their Square 1 Artwork. Expect a brochure with your student's artwork on it in April!**

**K:** Kindergarten students are doing a great job developing their artist skills! During the month of March, we will be discussing color families and creating our first rainbow artwork, Mr. Roy G. Biv

**1st-** First grade students will continue to explore color families and how to use the color wheel.

**2nd-** Students will be looking at 3-dimensional forms and begin creating their clay monster.

**3rd-** Students will learn about portraiture artist Kehinde Wiley in order to create a self-portrait. We will work on facial measurements, expression, and color blending!

**4th-** Students will use the research they conducted on Vietnam in their ELA class to create Travel Brochures that demonstrate their knowledge of the country.

**5th-** Students will complete their symbols for their Lady Liberty artwork and use observational drawing skills to complete a drawing of the statue of liberty.

Congratulations to our 5<sup>th</sup> grade artists who had their artwork featured in the PAWS for Kindness art show and auction at the White Marsh Mall!



Phys. Ed News  
Mr. Jones [tjones4@bcps.org](mailto:tjones4@bcps.org)



During the week of March 9-13, our 5th graders will participate in the Ballroom Stars program. Students will learn several ballroom dances throughout the week and will showcase them for families on Friday, March 13, from 11:55am-12:45pm. This is an excellent opportunity that students have to not only explore dance, but also social etiquette and respect. Our guest teacher, Abby Stone, is co-owner of Ministry of Swing, a dance studio in Baltimore. An information letter with more details will be sent home with all 5th grade students. Please contact me if you have any questions. We thank our PTA, who generously funds the program for us!



Beginning March 16, Physical Education classes will explore the Movement Education Equipment. MEE is traveling equipment provided by the BCPS Office of Physical Education that encourages movement exploration, problem solving and fitness. It is one of our most popular units of the year. More detailed information will be included in a parent/guardian letter, but please remind students to wear sneakers on PE days-the equipment is here for a limited time and they won't want to miss out!

Music News  
Ms. Michael [amichael2@bcps.org](mailto:amichael2@bcps.org)



K: Last month, students learned songs about bears and hibernation. We read stories using speaking and singing voices and added sounds to accompany a story. This month we are learning about kangaroos.

1: Students have been practicing reading quarter notes, eighth note pairs, and quarter rests. They have also been writing music notes and rests to complete a musical sentence! This month we are learning about PITCH- the highness or lowness of a sound. Students will learn about pitch patterns using pitches: So and Mi.

2: Students are learning all about the orchestra. Over the next month, students will learn about the four families that comprise an orchestra. They will make connections between the size of an instrument and how high or low it plays.

3: We have begun our RECORDER KARATE Unit. Students will need to come to class every week with: a folder specifically for music class, their recorder, and their device with headphones. If they do not have these items, they will be marked as unprepared and will not be able to fully take part in portions of the class.

4: Students have been focused on singing short songs with good diction - pronouncing the words to songs clearly so they can be understood by an audience. This month we will be taking those short songs and singing them in ROUNDS. Groups will begin and end the song at different times creating HARMONY.

5: Students recently completed a UNIT on African Folk songs. They are now learning about African American spirituals. They are singing these songs and making connections to slavery in American history. They will also identify the rhythmic similarities between African folk songs and spirituals.

Instrumental Music News  
Ms. Gingrich [dgingrich@bcps.org](mailto:dgingrich@bcps.org)



4th Exploratory Music: The fourth-grade students are learning important concepts on the Violin. Using the bow students will play songs using notes from the D Maj scale. Students will also learn about Percussion instruments and how to play them.

5th Instrumental: The fifth-grade students are learning musical notes and concepts for our concert on May 18th. Band students are playing quarter notes, half notes, and eighth note rhythms. Violins are working on bow motions and songs using the D Maj Scale.

5th C&CRS: The class is working on Work Readiness and Business Management in the month of March. We will be discussing the four different career types - people, ideas, data, and things.