

# WOODMOOR WILDCAT GAZETTE

MONTHLY PUBLICATION

March 2022

An International Baccalaureate World School

## IN THIS EDITION

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

GRADE LEVEL  
UNITS OF INQUIRY

UPDATES & NOTICES

CALENDARS

### *Our Philosophy*

*Woodmoor Elementary aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable, and caring young people who are active lifelong learners seeking to create a better more peaceful world.*



Greetings Woodmoor Families,

Last month, we celebrated Black History Month with a Black History Living Museum featuring our 4th graders. We are elated to have Jeremiah on this month's cover. Jeremiah was Louis Armstrong. It was amazing to open our doors and once again welcome our family and friends into the building after 2 years. February was also National Magnet School month where we hosted our monthly Family STEM night, World Culture's Week, our new Literary Society, and the annual Winter Musical Concert. We also celebrated the 100th day of school. Yes, we have been in school for over 100 days! We continue to stay focused on implementing a well-designed curriculum steeped in building critical thinkers who problem-solve and develop their individual learner profile. Our magnet program allows us to focus on building the whole child instilling learning through concepts and ideas.

For the month of March, we look forward to introducing our students to their next Unit of Study. We have analyzed each child's middle of the year assessment results and we have a clear plan to improve their learning based on their individual results. You are encouraged to join us monthly for the Magnet Advisory Council and provide us with feedback on the upcoming units.

We are making great strides in their IB units of study. From Pre-school to 5th grade, students are participating in studies that afford them with opportunities for hands-on learning and exploration. Grade levels are exploring units like How the World Works which is an inquiry into the natural world and its laws. Others are learning about Where we are in Place in Time which is an inquiry into histories, journeys, and explorations. Students are interacting with students from different countries, constructing houses based on what they know about migration while others are learning about how to make a democracy fluid to meet the needs of all the various constituents. Our students are successfully exploring the world around them and beyond. They are creating solutions to problems both near and far.

This month, we will host Family STEM night which will include opportunities for families to engage in a science and engineering project while using math and technology skills to solve the problem. All are welcome and encouraged to participate; families must register to reserve a table.

As our weather continues to be topsy-turvy outside, at Woodmoor, we are only moving up to the top, with our learning and our overall performance. Be on the look-out for invitations to special events scheduled throughout the month. We hope to see you at Woodmoor, soon. Best wishes for a wonderful Spring season.

Your Partner in Education,

*Franchesca O. Brown*

Principal - Head of Schools  
An IB World School

# Primary Units of Study

## **Preschool, How We Organize Ourselves**

Preschool students are working in their How We Organize Ourselves unit, in which they will inquire into the structure and function of organizations. Students will explore types of transportation, how we move, and how transportation helps people in order to develop an understanding of how transportation helps people move around their community.

## **Pre-K, How the World Works**

Pre-Kindergarten classes are working in their How the World Works unit, inquiring into how living things grow and change. Students will continue to study how animals, plants, and people grow and change. The key concept of form (What is it like?) and change will guide students' conceptual understanding of stages and cycles. Students will have exciting opportunities for hands-on learning and observation during this unit.



## **Kindergarten, How the World Works**

Kindergarten students are currently working in their How the World Works unit, in which they will inquire into the natural world and its laws. Through a study of English Language Arts, Science, and Math concepts, students will learn about how things grow, weather patterns, and the seasons.

## **1st Grade, How We Organize Ourselves**

First Grade recently concluded their How We Organize Ourselves unit, in which students learned about how understanding the world around us can help us meet the needs of our community. First graders learned about the people and places in a community as well as how communities meet

people's needs. Working together, students brainstormed community issues they would like to solve; students settled on the issue of litter. As a grade-level, First Grade planned a community clean up and created posters around our school inviting others to clean up trash.

In their next unit, How the World Works, students will inquire into how living things adapt to meet their needs and to thrive in their environment. They will learn about how living things interact, why living things adapt, and how people mimic the features of other living things. Be on the lookout for students' creative solutions inspired by the natural world!



## **2nd Grade, How the World Works**

In their How the World Works unit, Second Grade students will inquire into how humans apply their understanding of matter and how it affects the world around them. Students will learn about matter's observable properties, how matter can change, and processes that change the earth. The key concepts of form (What is it like?), causation (Why is it as it is?), and change (How is it changing?) will guide students' conceptual learning and understandings as they engage in hands on activities and investigations.

## **3rd Grade, How We Organize Ourselves**

Third Grade students will learn about how economic activities impact humans and the environment in their How We Organize Ourselves unit of inquiry. Students will examine motivations for financial decisions, as well as consequences of financial decisions in the past and present. Third graders will explore and practice making financial decisions of their own as they explore the topics of needs and wants, spending and saving, and making a personal spending plan.



# Intermediate Units of Study

## **4th Grade, Where We Are in Place and Time**

Soon, Fourth Grade students will begin their Where We Are in Place and Time unit, which will focus on how the past is evidenced in what we see today. Students will explore the concept of “building on our past” through literature. Through the study of geology, students will learn how what is left behind helps us to understand the past. By focusing on change (How is it transforming?) and causation (Why is it as it is?), students will develop their conceptual understanding of place, time, and evidence as they relate to time and place.

## **5th Grade, Where We Are In Time and Place**

The Fifth Grade is finishing up their Where We Are in Time and Place unit, in which they have studied how people’s lives are shaped by the time and place in which they live. Students have inquired into how perspective is a reflection of time and place, how power and actions are interconnected, and human response to challenge.

In their next unit, How We Express Ourselves, the Fifth Grade will explore how culture influences people’s beliefs, values, and feelings. Students will inquire into how people express their culture and how our beliefs, values, and feelings shape our political systems.



## IB learner profile

The aim of all IB programmes is to develop internationally minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world.

As IB learners we strive to be:

### **INQUIRERS**

We nurture our curiosity, developing skills for inquiry and research. We know how to learn independently and with others. We learn with enthusiasm and sustain our love of learning throughout life.

### **KNOWLEDGEABLE**

We develop and use conceptual understanding, exploring knowledge across a range of disciplines. We engage with issues and ideas that have local and global significance.

### **THINKERS**

We use critical and creative thinking skills to analyse and take responsible action on complex problems. We exercise initiative in making reasoned, ethical decisions.

### **COMMUNICATORS**

We express ourselves confidently and creatively in more than one language and in many ways. We collaborate effectively, listening carefully to the perspectives of other individuals and groups.

### **PRINCIPLED**

We act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness and justice, and with respect for the dignity and rights of people everywhere. We take responsibility for our actions and their consequences.

### **OPEN-MINDED**

We critically appreciate our own cultures and personal histories, as well as the values and traditions of others. We seek and evaluate a range of points of view, and we are willing to grow from the experience.

### **CARING**

We show empathy, compassion and respect. We have a commitment to service, and we act to make a positive difference in the lives of others and in the world around us.

### **RISK-TAKERS**

We approach uncertainty with forethought and determination; we work independently and cooperatively to explore new ideas and innovative strategies. We are resourceful and resilient in the face of challenges and change.





### **BALANCED**

We understand the importance of balancing different aspects of our lives—intellectual, physical, and emotional—to achieve well-being for ourselves and others. We recognize our interdependence with other people and with the world in which we live.

### **REFLECTIVE**

We thoughtfully consider the world and our own ideas and experience. We work to understand our strengths and weaknesses in order to support our learning and personal development.

**The IB learner profile represents 10 attributes valued by IB World Schools. We believe these attributes, and others like them, can help individuals and groups become responsible members of local, national and global communities.**



# **WOODMOOR LITERARY SOCIETY**

## **MEETING #2**

### **MARCH 1, 2022**

### **6:00 PM**

**GOOGLE MEET**

**[HTTPS://MEET.GOOGLE.COM/OBG-PEVS-IGR](https://meet.google.com/obg-pevs-igr)**



### **Woodmoor Literacy Society**

is a family reading event. Each month, we will have a guest reader reading a book about a character who exemplifies one of the 10 Learner Profiles (noted on the previous page) of an IB magnet student. This will be a monthly event for the entire family to enjoy. Please join us. The meeting in March will be virtual.



## Message from the School Nurse

Hello families!

With the warm months approaching it is a great time to think of ways to incorporate healthy eating into your daily habits. The percentage of obesity is over 20% for children aged 6 to 11. Obesity can lead to health issues later in life so it is best to start healthy eating habits in children. Some great ideas include:

- Encourage children to pick out some fruits or vegetables that interest them at the supermarket.
- Cooking together as a family is a great bonding tool to encourage healthy choices.
- Mirror healthy eating habits.
- Serve a fruit or vegetable at every meal



## Message from the School Counselor Ms. Martin

As part of our School Counseling Program, your child's class will have the opportunity to engage in a counseling core curriculum lesson during the month of March. The theme for this month is Mindfulness. Students in both primary and intermediate grades will be invited to participate in learning around sensory awareness, attention, and relaxation with the hope that they can then utilize these mindfulness strategies as positive coping skills. The primary grades incorporate movement and sensory exercises to support motor development and awareness. 3<sup>rd</sup> graders will learn test taking strategies which include mindfulness to help reduce test anxiety. 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders will learn about the structures of the brain that regulate physical and emotional responses to stressful events..

We want our students to feel empowered by many different tools of self-regulation. Mindfulness exercises are research-proven strategies for stress and anxiety management that do not require extensive training to implement. We are encouraging students to share the strategies with their families and hope that this will be a source of meaningful and enriching discussions at home!

It is our hope that the core curriculum counseling lessons will help to promote the social emotional, academic, and career development of our students. We hope that you can help your child reflect on these lessons by discussing their content together. Please feel free to contact me with any questions about the program. I can be reached via phone at 410-887-1318 or via email at [amartin9@bcps.org](mailto:amartin9@bcps.org).



## Happy Reading!

Hello Woodmoor Families!

Below you will find a link to Destiny Discover which is our online library catalog. Students can use this link to check out eBooks (books students can read on their devices). To check out an eBook, your child will need to log in by clicking "Log In" in the top right corner and then click on BCPS Log In. Once your child is logged in, they can check out the eBooks or Interactive eBooks and read them directly on their laptop! If you have any questions about how to check out eBooks, please email Ms. Saks at [rsaks@bcps.org](mailto:rsaks@bcps.org).

<https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/ui/1734>

Happy Reading!

Ms.Saks



# Hola from Spanish!

The students are playing games like the Fly swatter game to practice vocabulary.

This month in Spanish we are working on learning names of places and things in the classroom, clothing and jobs in our unit on How we organize ourselves? K-3 is learning about Mexico and 4-5th is learning about Venezuela. The students will complete a project from the country to conclude the unit. All the students have learned a song about Bate Bate Chocolate. Ask your student to share this song with you!!



## Musically Speaking

Hello Woodmoor Families!

Thank you to those who were able to attend the Virtual Band & Orchestra concert. We were thrilled with the turnout; there was about 130 people on the Google Meet!

Information about the Spring Concert will be handed out in April. Please be on the lookout for this flyer.

In Exploratory Music we are continuing to learn about the Brass Family and becoming more familiar with the ukulele. In our Brass Unit, we are learning the different parts of the trumpet, how to make sound on a brass instrument, and what makes an instrument belong to the Brass Family. With our ukulele's, we have mastered rest and play position as well as the different strumming techniques. Now, we are learning how to play different chords on the instrument such as the A Minor, C Major, and F Major!

If you have any questions or concerns, please e-mail Mrs. Oeur at [soeur@bcps.org](mailto:soeur@bcps.org)

Thank you!





# Information & Updates:



## Woodmoor Magnet Advisory Council #5

Monday, March 7, 2022  
Meeting begins at 6:00 PM

Google Meet link:  
<https://meet.google.com/jge-osgx-xnw>



**Woodmoor**  
Elementary School

You are invited to our seventh  
**Community Partnership Meeting for the  
2021-2022 school year**

Date: March 25, 2022

Time: 1:30 PM

Platform: Google Meet

<https://meet.google.com/hnn-yikf-btz>



## Back for 2022! • SAVE THE DATE!

Join Us for a Day of Family Fun!

SUMMER CAMPS  
& ACTIVITIES  
2022 **FAIR**

Win a  
**\$100**  
Camp  
Scholarship!

**Saturday**  
**March 5, 2022**  
**Noon to 3 pm**

**Towson Town Center**  
825 Dulaney Valley Rd.  
Towson, MD 21204

Register: [baltimoreschild.com/2022campfair](https://baltimoreschild.com/2022campfair)



For advertising opportunities contact us  
at [advertising@baltimoreschild.com](mailto:advertising@baltimoreschild.com)  
or call 410-902-2300, ext. 2

**Baltimore's  
CHILD**





**PTA PRESENTS:**

**WOODMOOR E.S. FAMILY!**

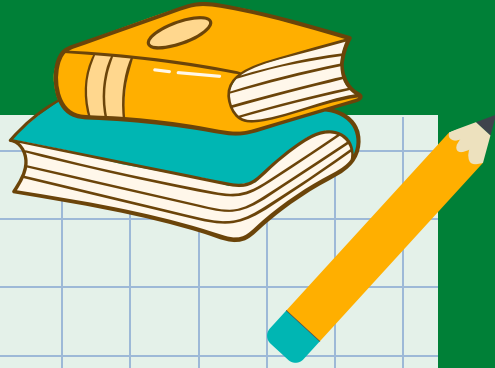
**PLEASE JOIN US ON WEDNESDAY,  
MARCH 8, 2022 AT 6 PM.**

**VIRTUAL OR IN PERSON!**

**RSVP REQUIRED FOR IN-PERSON  
ATTENDANCE VIA EVITE!**

<http://evite.me/ts6sGJkmj4>

**GOOGLE MEETS LINK WILL BE SENT VIA  
EMAIL OR FOLLOW US ON FB  
@WOODMOORPTA**

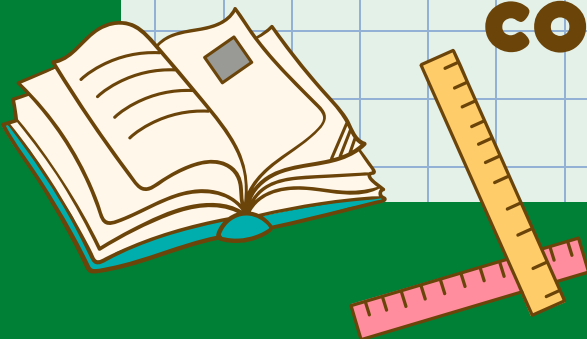


✧  
**Woodmoor Elementary  
School has...**

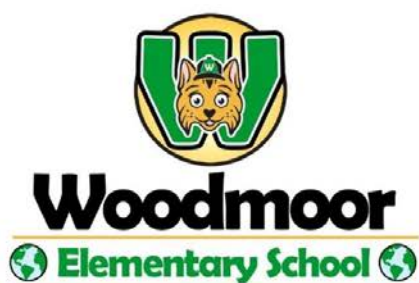
**A NEW PHONE  
NUMBER!**

**(443) 809- 1318**

**Please use this  
number to  
contact us!**







&



# FAMILY STEM NIGHT



**March 22, 2022**

**6:00 PM - 7:00 PM | Woodmoor Cafeteria**

**RSVP Required**

**Only 20 Seats Available**

- Each family will receive (1) STEM kit upon arrival.
- Build along with Mr. Penn or build as a family at your own pace.
- Social distance guidelines will be implemented and masks must be worn at all times.
- An adult (18+) must attend and remain with their student(s) at all times. This is not a drop off event.
- Please RSVP and provide contact information, in case of emergency cancellation, you can be notified.

**To RSVP, email Mr. Penn ([bpenn@bcps.org](mailto:bpenn@bcps.org))**

**First come, first served.**





# Take a look into our Woodmoor World Cultures Week





# Flashback to Black History Month!

## Woodmoor's "Black History Living Museum"



**Check IT Out!!**

**Important information from The Special Education Resource Center!**



# SERC PARENT WEBINARS

free trainings to support you and your child!

Winter 2022

**Self-Regulation: Managing My Best Self** Self-regulation allows us to manage our emotions and behaviors within various environments and contexts. Self-regulation skills assist us in making it through each day by allowing us to engage, participate in activities, work with others, and learn. At any given time, someone may need self-regulation supports to manage difficult situations, follow directions, manage frustration, as well as establish, and maintain attention. During this webinar we will look at strategies to assist students in being as productive and independent as possible as they strive toward their potential. Presented by Lisa Melody, M.S., CCC-SLP, Supervisor, Related Services, Baltimore County Public Schools  
**Register via Eventbrite:**

**Wednesday, March 2, 2022 7:00 - 8:30 PM** <https://sercselfregulation.eventbrite.com>

**What's Executive Functioning and Why Is It Such a Big Deal?** Executive Function (EF) impacts many areas of life and includes skills related to self-monitoring, sustaining attention, task initiation, impulse control, planning, decision making, organization, emotion regulation, and working memory. Strengthening our skills related to EF can enhance our academic success; our success with friends and family; and assist us in reaching personal goals. In this webinar, strategies will be taught to improve Executive Functioning in children, teens, and yes, even adults. Presented by Tana Hope, Ph.D. The Child and Family Therapy Clinic, Department of Behavioral Psychology at Kennedy Krieger Institute **Register via Eventbrite:**

**Saturday, March 5, 2022 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM** <https://sercefdag.eventbrite.com>

OR

**Wednesday, March 9, 2022 7:00 - 8:30 PM** <https://sercefnight.eventbrite.com>

All parent trainings are **free** and brought to you by the BCPS Special Education Resource Center! Register via Eventbrite links and login information will be emailed to you one day in advance. **Questions? Email: [SERC@BCPS.ORG](mailto:SERC@BCPS.ORG)**

For more great opportunities check out our partner **Parent University**.

[https://cos.bcps.org/departments/communications/family\\_and\\_community\\_engagement/parent\\_university](https://cos.bcps.org/departments/communications/family_and_community_engagement/parent_university)

**WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!!**



## Parent University - Stock Market Game



The Stock Market Game - A Family Activity

January 31 – April 8

The Stock Market Game teaches the importance of saving and investing. Family teams invest a hypothetical \$100,000 in listed stocks, bonds, and mutual funds and learn the value of the capital markets as they work together to maximize the return of their portfolios. No experience required, learn as you go using provided resources.

Register Today!

[www.stockmarketgame.org](http://www.stockmarketgame.org)

Click on register, enter name and email, select parent/child team

([click here for step-by-step instructions to register](#))

Team fees will be sponsored by *First Financial Federal Credit Union*

Take a Tour: <https://www.stockmarketgame.org/expparent.html>

*The SMG's Teacher Support Center provides materials that support teaching fundamental investment concepts in afterschool, homeschool, other out-of-school and alternative*

# Water & Masks Updates



## Masks are **OPTIONAL!**

As of March 1st, masks are optional for students and staff in all Baltimore County Public Schools. If you would like your child to wear a mask, please review your expectations with your student.

## Bring Your Water Bottles:

All students should plan to bring **water bottles** to school daily. Please ensure your students' bottles are labeled with their name.

Staying hydrated is a great healthy practice for







WOODMOOR ELEMENTARY

A DISTRIBUTION PARTNER OF THE MARYLAND FOOD BANK



MARYLAND  
FOOD BANK

# Food Drive

**March 16th**

• 3200 Elba Drive, Gwynn Oak, MD •

Distribution begins  
at **4:00 PM**







**Woodmoor**

 **Elementary School** 

# ***NEEDS! VOLUNTEERS!***

**Complete the BCPS Volunteer training  
so you can support our students!**

**Contact Mr. Penn ([bpenn@bcps.org](mailto:bpenn@bcps.org)) with any questions**

# March



| Sunday | Monday                        | Tuesday                        | Wednesday       | Thursday | Friday                                   | Saturday |
|--------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|----------|--|----------|
|        |                               | 1                              | 2               | 3        | 4  | 5        |
|        |                               | Woodmoor's<br>Literacy Society | Spirit          |          |  |          |
| 6      | 7                             | 8                              | 9               | 10       | 11                                       | 12       |
|        | MAGNET<br>Advisory<br>Meeting | PTA<br>Meeting<br>6 PM         |                 |          |  |          |
| 13     | 14                            | 15                             | 16              | 17       | 18                                       | 19       |
|        |                               |                                | MD Food<br>Bank |          | 1/2 Day<br>Dismissal<br>12:25 PM         |          |
| 20     | 21                            | 22                             | 23              | 24       | 25                                       | 26       |
|        |                               | STEM<br>Family<br>Night        |                 |          | Community<br>Partnership Mtg.<br>1:30 PM |          |
| 27     | 28                            | 29                             | 30              | 31       |  |          |
|        |                               |                                |                 |          |  |          |
|        |                               |                                |                 |          |  |          |

# April



| Sunday               | Monday                         | Tuesday                           | Wednesday          | Thursday | Friday                                   | Saturday |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|----------|--|----------|
|                      |                                |                                   |                    |          | 1<br>I/2 Day Dismissal 12:25 PM          | 2        |
| 3                    | 4<br>MAGNET Advisory Meeting   | 5<br>PTA Mtg 6 PM                 | 6<br>Spirit Day    | 7        | 8<br>Spring Break beings @ 3:45          | 9        |
| 10                   | 11                             | 12                                | 13                 | 14       | 15                                       | 16       |
| Spring Break Begins  |                                |                                   |                    |          |  |          |
| 17                   | 18<br>School Reopens           | 19<br>Woodmoor's Literacy Society | 20<br>MD Food Bank | 21       | 22<br>Community Partnership Mtg. 1:30 PM | 23       |
| 24                   | 25<br>Report Cards Distributed | 26<br>STEM Family Night           | 27                 | 28       | 29                                       | 30       |
| Scholastic Book Fair |                                |                                   |                    |          |  |          |