

WOODMOOR WILDCAT



GAZETTE

MONTHLY
PUBLICATION

January 2019

An International Baccalaureate Candidacy School



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Our Vision:

*Engaging all members of
the greater Woodlawn
community in a
transformational learning
experience.*



Our Mission:

*Woodmoor Elementary will
provide each student with the
highest quality education where
global citizens are developed
through advanced rigor and
engaging teaching methods in a
passionate learning environment.*



Happy New Year, Woodmoor Families!

With the start of 2019, we are elated to officially begin our International Baccalaureate – Primary Years Programme units of study. Woodmoor teachers and staff will begin to present transdisciplinary concepts which will challenge and engage all of our students. The themes we will explore afford us with the opportunity to incorporate local and global issues into the curriculum and allow students to “step-up” beyond the confines of learning within subject areas. We will study topics such as: Who We Are, Where We Are in Place and Time, How We Express Ourselves, How the World Works, Sharing the Planet, and How We Organize Ourselves.

This month, we will also focus on the Learner Profile, **BALANCE**. When we are balanced, we perform well in our social life, develop strong physical stamina, and have superior academics. This month we will focus our efforts on:

- ✓ Helping students to stay active
- ✓ Developing students’ positive and lasting relationships with their peers, neighbors, and adults.
- ✓ Encouraging students to place effort into their work and persevere with completing work assignments; and
- ✓ Having students evaluate their own work performance and set new goals.

At Woodmoor, we remain committed and excited about providing our students with a well-rounded rich academic program that is both rigorous and engaging. Thank you for your continued support and best wishes for a prosperous new year!

Partners in Education,

Franchesca O. Brown

Franchesca O Brown

Principal

Woodmoor Elementary School

International Studies in Global Communications and Science Magnet Program

 @PrincipalFBrown

Absences

An absence note from a parent is required on the first day the student returns to school. If an absence note is not received or the reason stated is not a lawful excuse, the student absence will be coded as unexcused. Please place your child's full name and your name and date on all notes.

Lawful excuses are listed below

- Death in the immediate family
- Illness of the student
- Court summons
- Violent weather
- School related or approved work
- Observance of religious holiday
- State emergency
- Suspension
- Lack of authorized transportation (shall not include student denied authorized transportation for disciplinary reasons)
- Other emergency or set of circumstances which, in the judgment of the superintendent or designee, constitute a good and sufficient case for absences from school

A student is counted present for a full day if the student is in attendance four hours or more of the school day. A student is counted present for ½ day if in attendance for at least two hours of the school day, but less than four hours.

A student scheduled for less than a full day is to be counted present based on the amount of time he/she is scheduled.

CONFERENCES

Conferences with teachers are encouraged; however uninterrupted instructional time is critical for success. Teachers may be contacted by note, message, or email. They will contact parents to set up a mutually agreed upon meeting time.

PHONE MESSAGING SYSTEM

Woodmoor Elementary uses the phone messaging system as a way to get messages to families. These recorded messages could be anything from an emergency closing for Woodmoor ONLY to information on testing, upcoming events, and school updates.

Schoology on BCPS One gives parents and students quick, 24/7 access to student courses, grades, and assignments. Stay informed and monitor your student's daily progress.

TOP BENEFITS FOR PARENTS

- Quick access to student courses, grades, and assignments for all of your children
- Improved communication with teachers including announcements and messaging
- Minimal clicks and intuitive design
- Easier navigation
- Efficient ways to communicate and collaborate
- Personalized experience including saving resources and joining groups set up by teachers
- Mobile app

QUICK TIPS AND LINKS

- How to access Schoology:
[VIDEO](#) - [PDF](#)
- How to access your child's account and switch between multiple children:
[VIDEO](#) - [PDF](#)
- Navigating your Schoology account:
[VIDEO](#) - [PDF](#)
- Learn more about Schoology:
[VIDEO](#) - [PDF](#)
- Navigating your child's Schoology account:
[VIDEO](#) - [PDF](#)
- Getting started with the Schoology mobile app
[PDF](#)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Why did we switch to Schoology?

A: The contract for our previous learning management system expired, and we had the opportunity to choose a system that gives parents, students, and educators the features you asked for.

Q: How are students and teachers using Schoology?

A: Students are using Schoology to access and turn in assignments, take tests, and see their grades. Teachers are using Schoology to organize materials for individual students, collect assignments, post tests and grades, set up online discussions, and post announcements.

Q: Is there an app for my mobile device?

A: Yes! Download the free app from your device's app store, and choose Baltimore County Public Schools (bcps.schoology.com).

Q: How do you pronounce Schoology?

A: skoo-luh-jee



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Your child's school has purchased DreamBox Learning, a K-8 digital math program that independent studies have found to raise student achievement and better prepare children for future success.

To Access DreamBox on a Browser

Your student can access DreamBox Learning from any computer, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. All you need is a high-speed Internet connection.

If you're using a browser, use this link: <https://play.dreambox.com/login/s8nn/woodmoore>

To Access DreamBox on an iPad

To download the DreamBox Learning Math app, go to <https://www.dreambox.com/ipad>, or search for "DreamBox Learning Math" in the App Store. If you already have the app installed, you'll want to make sure the latest version of the app has been installed so your student receives the most current experience and lessons.

When prompted in the app, enter this school code: s8nn/woodmoore

Create your DreamBox Account to review your student's academic progress at home in your Family Dashboard. Please follow these steps to create your free account:

1. You will need your child's DreamBox school login information from their teacher to login for the first time.
2. Have your student login to their profile just as they would at school.
3. Click *Setup Parent Access* at the bottom of the page.
4. Follow the instructions provided to create a new login and password.
5. Read *Terms of Use* and *Privacy Policy*.
6. Click "Submit".

Log into your home account after setup:

1. Go to <https://play.dreambox.com>
2. Enter your email address and password.
3. To see student progress, click the "Family Dashboard" button.

If you have any questions, please contact DreamBox Support by calling them at 877-451-7845 (weekdays 5 a.m. to 5 p.m., Pacific Time), or emailing support@dreambox.com.

NOTE: The DreamBox Support team is unable to provide your child's login information and password for security reasons. Please reach out to your child's teacher directly for their DreamBox login information.

Sincerely,
Woodmoor Elem



Keeping You Connected with Updates from Around Woodmoor

Musically Speaking! - Mrs. Stephanie **OEUR**



Hello Woodmoor Families!

Permission slips for the spring session of **Bucket Band** are being handed out this month. Registration is first come first serve. You will receive a confirmation letter if your student is placed in the program. If you have any questions please contact me at soeur@bcps.org. Thank you!

Stephanie Oeur

Get Physically Fit - with Mrs. Alyse **BROWN**

This month we are working on fitness. K to 2nd grade is running and doing exercise while discussing how they stay active outside of school and keep their heart healthy. The students will be completing Fitnessgram for 3rd to 5th grade. Please remember to send your child in sneakers or leave a pair for them at school so they are prepared for Physical Education class! Your child's scheduled PE class is listed below:

- Day 1: Chapman, Westrick, Russell, Burton
- Day 2: Danilin, Miller, Somerville, Hicks, Miss Taylor
- Day 3: Love, Deese, Becker, Phillips, Mr. Taylor
- Day 4: McBride, Garrett, Maas, Lewis, Swann
- Day 5: McClung, Miller, Morrison, Wise, Barrett



Math Minute – with Ms. Alicia **ETIENNE**

Continue to **practice math facts**. Use flashcards to practice addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts. **All students should know their facts (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division) by the end of 3rd grade.**

K: 0 to 10 Addition & Subtraction Facts

1st Grade: 0 to 20 Addition & Subtraction Facts

2nd Grade: 0 to 20 Addition & Subtraction Facts

3rd: 0 to 100 Multiplication & Division Facts

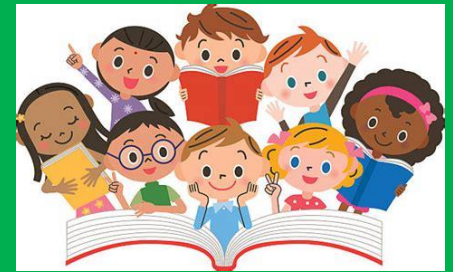


Hello Parents and Families,

Happy New Year! With the New Year, comes a new book order for our school library. If you or your child have any book requests or suggestions, please share your requests with me. I will do my very best to add the titles you wish to our school book order. My hope is to create a rich and diverse collection of books that our children love to read.

As always, please email me with any questions or book requests at rsaks@bcps.org.
Stay warm and keep reading!
-Ms. Saks

Sincerely,
Ms. Saks (Library Media Specialist)



Uniform Reminders

Students attending *Woodmoor International Studies in Global Communications and Science Magnet School* wear school uniforms daily unless an out of school uniform day is announced in advance.

The school uniform consists of:

Tops: Yellow or Hunter Green (short or long sleeve) polo shirts
Bottoms: Khaki pants, shorts, skorts, or jumpers.

Thank you for adhering to the uniform standard established at our school.



SAFE SCHOOLS IT'S UP TO US

Please be sure to follow these important steps when entering and exiting our school:

- Each visitor to schools must be screened at the entry door **individually**.
- Please be prepared to state your name and the purpose of your visit
- Do not open or hold open a door for anyone else. **You are not being rude.**
- Pull/Push the front door closed upon entry or exit.
- Report directly to the main office upon entry and show your identification.
- All visitor must wear a visitor's badge at all times.
- Check out in the main office before exiting the building.
- Please remind your children not to open the door for anyone.

The safety of our students, staff, and visitors is a top priority for all of us at Woodmoor Elementary School. You can help us and we thank you for your continued support!

Conferencing with Teachers and Staff

Visitor Information

Classroom visits and conferences by parents and other authorized individuals are encouraged. However, in an effort to keep our school safe as well as limit interruptions and distractions to teaching and learning, we encourage the following:

- Classroom teachers should be contacted in advance to discuss the purpose of the visit and to establish a convenient mutual time for both the visitor and the staff member
- Please be mindful that visits cannot interfere with the instructional program, and parents should refrain from discussing his or her child's progress during the observation. In addition, the school setting is not to be used for personal visits with students.
- We discourage parents from bringing younger siblings into the classrooms and cafeteria during visitation.
- Due to the privacy laws, using cell phones or taking pictures or videos during classroom visitations is not allowed.
- The principal reserves the right to limit or schedule the visit in such a way to diminish or avoid disruption to the normal operations of the school.

Million Minute Reading Incentive Program

Happy New Year, Woodmoor Families! During Winter Break, your children had the opportunity to read and log their reading minutes to help us as we work together as a school community to read a Million Minutes from now until the end of May.

Every week your child's teacher will send home a new reading log. Each child is asked to read (or be read to for our youngest students) 20 minutes a day. Some of this time can happen during the school day when there is independent reading time. The rest of this time (and more) can be read and recorded at home.

Every Monday, your child can return his or her completed reading log to their teacher. They will receive a new log and continue the process.

We will be recording Woodmoor's total number of minutes on our thermometer on the bulletin board in the lobby. Each time we reach 100,000 minutes there will be a fun school incentive.

When we reach the million minute mark, then we will have a school-wide celebration. More details will follow as we get closer to our goal!

Thanks for all you do to share the love of reading with your children!!

Happy Reading!

Karen Morris
Reading Specialist

January



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Schools Reopen	3	4	5
6	7 Magna g. 6:00 Cancelled	8 PTA Cancelled	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18 R.O.L.E. Fashion Show 6:00 PM	19
20	21 Schools Closed MLK Day	22	23 Food Pantry Distribution	24	25 2 nd Quarter Ends Schools Close 3hrs. Early	26
27	28	29	30	31		

**A DAY OF
SERVICE,
MENTORING,
AND
POSITIVE
PRESENCE.**

WOODMOOR PRESENTS

100 MEN OF COLOR

FEBRUARY 20TH

What: Spend time with the students of Woodmoor, reading, doing enrichment, and serving.

When: 8:30-11:30, or 12:30-3:30

How: Contact Ken Patterson (kpatterson@hops.org), or call 408-857-1318 to sign up.

Join us for this historic event at Woodmoor! See you soon!



February



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 Magnet Advisory Committee Meeting, 6:00	5 Grandparents Day PTA Meeting 6:30 PM	6	7	8 PTA's Valentine's Day Dance 6:30 – 8:30	9
10	11	12	13	14 Happy Valentine's Day	15	16
17	18 Schools Closed	19 Heart Healthy Family Night 6:30 PM	20 100 Men of Color	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

We are currently hiring for the following positions at Woodmoor Elementary School:

- Additional Adult (full-time position)
- Cafeteria Assistant (part-time position)
- Kindergarten Assistant (full time position)
- Office Professional (full-time: 12-month)



Volunteer Opportunities

Do you have time in your schedule to lend a helping hand? We could use your help. Assisting in the cafeteria is a great way to spend time with your child and help others as well.

Classroom teachers need help with all sorts of activities. From cutting to copying, there are plenty of things for you to do both inside and outside of school.

Volunteer Instructions:

All volunteers must complete the volunteer application *and* participate in an orientation/training session annually.

Step 1: Complete the BCPS Application for Volunteer Services.

Step 2: Attend a scheduled BCPS volunteer training at any school **or** complete the online volunteer orientation.

- New Users
- Returning Users with an existing Safe Schools Login

You will be provided with a certificate once you successfully complete the training.

Step 3: Submit the application and the valid training certificate to Woodmoor. Volunteers may provide hard copies or the documents may be emailed to Brittney Kipp, school volunteer coordinator or the principal, Franchesca Brown. **Both documents must be submitted at the same time to be accepted and reviewed by the school staff.**

Once the application is reviewed and training has been verified, volunteers may begin their work with Woodmoor.

See http://www.bcps.org/community/volunteer_info/

As an International Baccalaureate (IB) candidacy school, Woodmoor Elementary will be revising our current mission statement to align with the mission of IB. Please complete the following questions to give input about your personal educational values. We will use this information, along with information from our staff and community stakeholders, to review and revise our mission statement. We appreciate your input in this very important process.

How would you describe your educational hopes and dreams for your child?

IB mission statement: The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

In what ways, if at all, does the IB mission statement align with the educational hopes and dreams you have for your child? Does any aspect of the IB mission statement stand out or resonate with you?

How can Woodmoor foster your child's **academic** development?

How can Woodmoor foster your child's **personal** development?

How can Woodmoor help your child to become **internationally minded**, or to appreciate and respect other cultures and beliefs?

Thank you for taking the time to provide us with this valuable feedback. In the coming weeks, we will communicate with you about the process we will use to refine or revise our school mission statement.



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.





Stay informed and monitor the learning your child receives daily. Follow us on Twitter and/or Facebook. Also please visit the school website at www.woodmoores.bcps.org for important updates and announcements.

Follow us on Twitter:
@TeamWoodmoor



Facebook:
@WoodmoorElementarySchool

