

Windsor Knolls Middle School
11150 Windsor Road
Ijamsville, MD 21754

Phone - 240-236-5000
Fax - 240-236-5001
Principal - Nancy Doll
Assistant Principal - Brooke Anthony

Homework Hotline: 240-236-5000 - Option 4 -
(Select 1 for 6th grade, 2 for 7th grade, 3 for 8th grade)

Check your child's grades by visiting:

<https://fcsd.gradebook.net/Pinnacle/PIV/Logon.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2fpinnacle%2fpiv%2fDefault.aspx>

Windsor Knolls Middle School The Back Pocket September 18, 2009

(The Back Pocket is subsidized by the PTSA)

Is it an "A" day or a "B" day	
"A" Days	"B" Days
22, 24, 30, 2	21, 23, 29, 1

Upcoming Events

9/21 Parent Volunteer Training – 9am- Room 112
9/21-23 6th Grade Outdoor School
9/22 PTSA Meeting – 7-9pm
9/23 6th grade Social Studies Classes to Walters Art Museum
SGA 6th grade social – 3-5pm - Cafetorium
9/24 2-hour early dismissal for students (Dismissal at 1pm)
9/25 Teacher Work Day – No School for students
9/28 School closed – Yom Kippur
10/5 Walking School Bus Program – registration required – Hayward Road – 11am-3pm
10/6 Yearbook meeting – 3-4pm – Room 202
10/7-15 Book Fair – Media Center

Dear Parents,

Homework requests can be made directly to the teachers. Many teachers use the Homework Hotline or post assignments on their websites. If you are taking your child on vacation, students should request work within two days after they return.

If your child is sick and out of school for more than three days, contact his/her guidance counselor and she will coordinate collecting work. We like to give our teachers 24 hours to gather the work.

Please remember that we have tutoring and study hall time available Tuesdays-Thursdays to help your child make up missed work.

We will have conference sign-ups beginning September 30.

- Walk-ins: September 30 and October 1 in the cafetorium
6:30 a.m. – 8:00 a. m., 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- Call-ins: October 2 -- 8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Conferences are October 13 and 14 in the evening (schools open 4 hours late) and October 15 in the afternoon (schools close 3 ½ hours early).

Did you misplace your child's Pinnacle Password? Call the front office and we will give it to you.

Sincerely,
Nancy Doll

POSITIVE BEHAVIOR at WKMS: We are excited to begin our third year as a Positive Behavior School. Last year hundreds of students were rewarded through our “positive catch” ticket program and the student of the month recognition. We look forward to continuing to recognize students for:

1. Rising to the high expectations we have in academics through home and class work completion, and good quiz and test scores
2. Demonstrating good character by helping others, being responsible, making good choices, going above and beyond
3. Good citizenship by picking up trash, following all rules, etc...

Ask your child if they have been “caught” with positive behavior lately. Chances are they have already accumulated several positive catch fish! If you are interested in learning more about our PBS program, we are looking for a parent to serve on our PBS committee. Please contact Brooke Anthony or Gail Costello for more information at 240-236-5000.

We Need Your Help! CALLING ALL PARENT VOLUNTEERS! - Did you know that volunteers are one of the most valuable resources we have in Frederick County? Did you know that volunteering helps to improve, enhance and expand the educational achievement of students? You can volunteer in many ways from coming in to WKMS to helping with tasks from home. If you're interested in volunteering please contact Debbie Hall at DVHall@aol.com by September 15 to attend a brief meet and greet training. Thank you!

Schools Ramp up Recycling

Blue bins—nearly 2,000 of them—are springing up in classrooms across Frederick County and at our school as we ramp up to single-stream recycling. Look for expanded mixed-paper recycling that now includes empty bottles, cans, plastics and more, with no sorting required.

Students are learning which items they can place in the big blue bins...and which they can't recycle. Parents and family members can help: Recycle your household waste to set a good example, and teach children what goes in the recycle bins. While the above-mentioned items can go in the blue bins along with spiral notebooks and empty school milk cartons, here's what cannot: used tissues and soiled paper towels, anything with food waste, light bulbs, Styrofoam, microwavable trays, clamshell containers and electronics.

County-waived tipping fees and Allied Waste Services' donation of 1,800 18-gallon containers are making our commingled recycling affordable.

“This is a great start and will cover all schools and at least half of the school system's classrooms and offices,” says FCPS Energy/Recycling Coordinator Charlie Dalphon. “We hope to add about 300 32-gallon containers for cafeteria and stadium use,” he says. “Allied will weigh the waste quarterly so FCPS can analyze the program's effectiveness.” For more about recycling in schools: www.fcps.org/recycling.

Walking School Bus Program: On October 5, FCPS and the Frederick County Health Department are sponsoring a workshop to teach parents and school administrators about the benefits and implementation of a Walking School Bus Program. A Walking School Bus is a group of children walking to school together, accompanied by one or more adults. It can be as informal as two families taking turns walking their children to school, to as structured as a route with meeting points, a timetable and a regularly rotated schedule of trained volunteers. Parents often cite safety issues as one of the primary reasons they are reluctant to allow their children to walk to school. Providing adult supervision may help reduce these worries for families who live within walking or bicycling distance to school. The workshop will be held in the Staff Development Room at Hayward Road on Monday, October 5, 2009 from 11 am – 3 pm. Registration is necessary. Attached is a flyer with registration information

Guidance Department News and Information: Welcome to the 09/10 school year! Please remember that your school counselor can be a wonderful resource for you if you have any questions or concerns during the school year. This year, Ruth Travis will be working with the 6th grade students and will be helping them transition to Windsor Knolls. She can be contacted at ruth.travis@fcps.org or 240-236-4973. Amanda Furajter and Carrie Geisbert will continue to work with the same group of students as they did last year. Therefore, Amanda Furajter will be the 7th grade counselor, and Carrie Geisbert will be the 8th grade counselor. Mrs. Furajter can be contacted

at amanda.furajter@fcps.org or 240-236-4960 while Ms. Geisbert may be reached at carrie.geisbert@fcps.org or 240-236-5048.

Organizational Assistance: If your child is having difficulty keeping track of all his/her assignments due to a lack of an organizational system, we are offering assistance during the school day. On Tuesdays and Wednesdays, there is an organizational group that meets during CCA time. The Guidance department runs the group on Tuesdays, and Ms. Baughman and Ms. Runfola facilitate a group on Wednesdays. Essentially, students are assigned to one of these groups that meet on a weekly basis for a minimum of four weeks. Each week, the students are assessed on a scale of 1 to 10 by the staff members who are facilitating the group. Students must maintain a score of 8 or better consistently for 4 weeks before returning to their originally assigned CCA. Once he/she have achieved the 8 or better for four weeks, then the staff members who are arranging the organizational groups will check with the child's teachers and parents for feedback before they are able to graduate from the organizational group. If you are interested in signing your child up for this assistance, please contact your child's counselor.

Study Hall: If you are finding that your child may need more time to complete his/her homework, you can refer your child to Study Hall. Study Hall is offered during CCA time on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Your child can attend one, two, or three of these sessions. This is a fluid program; therefore your child may need to come one week but not the next. Please remember that this is intended to be extra time for your child to work on homework, long-term projects, or missing assignments. This is not the same thing as tutoring. If you are interested in placing your child in Study Hall or would like more information, then please contact your child's counselor.

PE Department News and Information:

Sweatshirts & Sweatpants Sales: The Physical Education department will be selling sweatshirts and sweatpants for the next month. We will be taking orders through October 16th and the sweats will be in by October 30th. Attached is an order form. If you have any questions please contact your child's physical education teacher.

We Need Your Help With:

Donation Request: The 8th grade Make-a-Difference club is making pillows for dogs and cats in local rescues. We are in need of material to stuff the pillows. In addition to traditional pillow stuffing, we can use old socks and other clothing too ragged to wear or donate. Any fleece or soft cotton material can be used for the pillow coverings or stuffing. Please send donations to Mrs. Church's room 117. If you have any questions, contact Mrs. Church at Theresa.Church@fcps.org. Thank you for your help.

SGA News and Information: The SGA invites all 6th grade students to the **6th grade only** dance on Wednesday, September 23, 2009 from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Tickets will be on sale during the 6th grade lunch shifts Monday, September 21 - Wednesday, September 23. You must have the permission slip and \$5.00 to purchase your ticket. Ticket price includes drinks and snacks. Come out, show your spirit and get to know your fellow 6th graders.

PTSA News and Information

Membership: WE ARE COMING TO A CLOSE ON ACCEPTING PTSA MEMBERSHIPS THAT WILL HAVE INFORMATION INCLUDED IN THE PTSA DIRECTORY. We need to publish the directory so if you want to be included please use the next week to turn in your membership. We encourage each WKMS parent, teacher, and student to join the PTSA. PTSA Membership forms are available on the school's website (within the PTSA section) and in the school's mailroom (in the PTSA box).

Open Positions: There are still open positions on the PTSA including a second County Council Representative along with Committee Chair positions for Volunteer Coordinator, Reflections, and PTSA Liaison with Green Valley Elementary. If you have an interest in any of these positions, please contact Greg Hall at gregmhall@aol.com or 301-865-4454.

PTSA Meeting: Our next PTSA meeting will be a PTSA Board Meeting scheduled for September 22nd at 7:00 pm in the Media Center. Anyone is welcome to attend!

Reflections: WKMS Students: The National PTA Reflections Contest has begun and this year's theme is "**Beauty is...**" Please visit www.pta.org Programs-Reflections for more information and contest rules. Parents please

contact Joey Punturiero of the PTSA (gajfm@verizon.net and 301-829-3287) if you have questions or are interested chairing this worthwhile creative artistic contest.

Fundraising: WKMS PTSA fundraising selling period runs thru Oct 19th. Payment should be collected at the time of the orders (checks payable to WKMS PTSA). Citrus orders can also be placed online: https://www.fruitorder.com/orderFundraising_pre3.asp?orgId=752103 (don't forget to put the student's name in the 'comment' box on the checkout screen). Orders can be turned in to the Advisory teacher indicated on their envelope or to the front office. Prizes will be awarded to the overall top seller, top seller in each of the three fundraisers as well as the top selling class in each grade!

Other School and Community Information:

Girls' Basketball Try-Outs: Try outs for the LUYAA/Mid-Maryland WKMS Girls Basketball Team will be held on Tuesday, October 6, and Thursday, October 8. JV tryouts will run from 5pm to 7pm and varsity will run from 7pm to 9pm. Girls should register through LUYAA travel basketball before October 6. The coaches will be holding open gym time on Monday, September 21, and Thursday, October 1, from 6:30pm to 8pm for any girls wishing to shoot around and get some extra practice time. Please call the girls coordinator, Beth Lohr at 301-865-9562 with any questions.

Info from Mrs. Clardy in the Media Center:

Happy Fall! I wanted to update you on what's going on in our media center. We have a wonderful library and always welcome students looking for something good to read. WKMS students have ample opportunity to exchange books during their school day. We not only have regularly scheduled book exchanges with all grades visiting the library on a regular basis, but students can drop by as time allows. Many students visit the library before school, while others come during lunchtime, and from class with a pass. Encourage your child to visit the library when they need to exchange books.

Last summer, we supplied a summer reading list and offered an ice cream social to all students who handed in documentation that they read at least 5 books over the summer. We had 25 students just from 6th grade attend our ice cream social earlier this month. We really enjoyed having ice cream and chatting about what we read over the summer.

Our **Fall Scholastic Book Fair** starts **October 7th**. The book fair runs through Thursday, **October 15th** operating **during school and conference hours**. Book Fairs are such a great way to promote literacy while also generating extra funding for library resources. Any profit made at the fair will be used to purchase library print and online resources. We could not purchase these resources without your support of our book fair. Thanks so much in advance. Look for book fair flyers that students were given today in advisory group. Just to let you know, I'll be having another book fair in the spring during spring conferences.

Before report cards will be distributed, I wanted to let you know that WKMS has a policy that report cards of all students with extremely overdue library books are held until the student makes restitution for any lost or damaged book. Before giving the list of students whose report cards are to be held to guidance each quarter, I call, at least once, every student with overdue books. This is a big job, so any help you can give me to help your child stay on top of book checkouts is appreciated. We follow the same policy as the public library concerned lost books. No refunds will be given if a lost book is returned to the library.

We're planning several book club sessions again this year. Students sign up if interested and come to the library during lunch shifts to eat lunch and discuss the book read. We usually focus on a title or a series or author each session. It's such fun. More information is on our school's web page.

WKMS School Dance Permission Slip – Grade 6 ONLY

Dear Parent/Guardians:

The Windsor Knolls Middle School Student Government Association cordially invites your 6th grade son/daughter to attend our SGA sponsored “6th grade Social” on Wednesday, September 23, 2009 from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

To attend our dance, your child needs to bring this permission slip, along with \$5.00, to the sales table at lunch on Monday, September 21 – Wednesday, September 23. Tickets will be sold during the lunch shift. Students without permission slips will not be allowed to purchase admission tickets. No tickets will be sold at the door. The price of admission includes snacks and soft drinks. PLEASE NOTE THE DANCE RULES BELOW. YOUR SIGNATURE BELOW INDICATES THAT YOU HAVE READ THESE RULES AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY THEM. Thank You!

WKMS DANCE RULES

1. Admission tickets will only be sold at lunch.
2. Students not entering the dance by 3:15 will not be admitted.
3. Students who leave the dance will not be permitted to re-enter. A student may not leave before 5:00 unless this has been noted on his/her permission slip or a parent/guardian comes to get him/her in person.
4. Only **CURRENT** WKMS students will be allowed into this dance.
5. Students acting inappropriately will be asked to leave the dance by a teacher or administrator. This may result in a suspension of future dance privileges.
6. Inappropriate dancing such as slam dancing, break dancing, and full body touching will not be permitted.
7. At 5:00 students will be released to wait for a parent to collect them. Students will only be released to a parent/guardian. Parents/Guardians **MUST** come into the gym to meet and collect students.
8. Please be considerate of dance chaperones and pick up your child by 5:10 p.m.

My son/daughter, _____, has my permission to attend the WKMS SGA 6th grade Social” on Wednesday, September 23, 2009 from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.. in the WKMS Cafeteria. I agree to support the school in enforcing the dance rules. I understand that WKMS is NOT responsible for transportation home from the dance.

PARENT SIGNATURE: _____ Date: _____

Printed parent/guardian name: _____

Emergency Phone No: _____ Alt Emergency No: _____

I am interested in being a Chaperone for this dance. ____ YES ____ NO

Contact me at: _____

I have read the dance rules and agree to abide by them.

Printed Student Name: _____ Grade: _____

STUDENT SIGNATURE: _____

ORDER FORM FOR BOTH SWEATPANTS AND SWEATSHIRT: 40.00

Sweatshirt only: \$25.00

Sweatpants only: \$20.00

Sweatshirt AND sweatpants: \$40.00

STUDENT NAME: _____

STUDENT GRADE: _____

STUDENT P.E. TEACHER _____

STUDENT P.E. DAY _____ (A,B,C,D)

HOME PHONE NUMBER: _____

COLOR OF WRITING ON BOTH: (PLEASE CIRCLE ONE)

TEAL OR BLACK

SIZE OF SWEATSHIRT: (PLEASE CIRCLE ONE)

YOUTH LARGE

ADULT SMALL

ADULT MEDIUM

ADULT LARGE

ADULT X-LARGE

SIZE OF SWEATPANTS: (PLEASE CIRCLE ONE)

YOUTH LARGE

ADULT SMALL

ADULT MEDIUM

ADULT LARGE

ADULT X-LARGE

PAID: CASH OR CHECK