

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 October 9, 2009

(The Back Pocket is subsidized by the PTSA)

<http://schools.fcps.org/wkms/backpock/backpocket.htm>

Is it an "A" day or a "B" day	
"A" Days	"B" Days
12, 14, 19, 21, 23	13, 15, 20, 22

Upcoming Events

10/7-15 Book Fair – Media Center
10/9 Read-A-Thon
10/13 PTSA Board Meeting – 7-9pm – Media Center
Yearbook Meeting – 3-4pm – Room 202
10/13-14 Parent/Teacher Conferences – School opens 4 hours late – NO lunch served
10/15 Parent/Teacher Conferences – School closes 3 ½ hours early – Lunch IS served
Last Day to order PE Sweatshirts/sweatpants
10/16 School closed
10/18-24 Character Counts! Week
10/19 Last day for PTSA Fundraiser orders
10/23 SGA Dance – 3-5pm
10/27 Yearbook Meeting – 3-4pm – Room 202
11/2 Teacher Work Day – No Students
11/3 Yearbook Meeting – 3-4pm – Room 202
11/3-6 Yearbook Sales

Message from the Principal:

Dear Parents and Students,

We are busy preparing for conferences next week. We invite you to bring your child with you so there can be three-way communication. Your child should be able to explain class expectations, show you materials he/she has for class and examples of completed work. There will certainly be discussion on what your child does well and if there are areas of improvement.

Our schedule next week is: Monday, October 12: A Day with advisement
Tuesday, October 13: B Day, Mods 1 and 2 with CCA's
Wednesday, October 14: A Day, Mods 1, 2, 3, 4
Thursday, October 15: B Day, Mods 3 and 4 with CCA's and lunch.

We are beginning sign-ups for Term 2 CCA's (co-curricular activities). Your child may begin in a tutoring session and then transition to a CCA or your child might begin in a CCA and later attend tutoring sessions. These sessions, though they focus on MSA skills, are designed to strengthen students' skills in Language Arts and Math. Students may be in the tutoring sessions for brief or long periods of time depending on their needs. Our CCA time is designed for intervention and enrichment so your child may be in a variety of educational opportunities to support his/her learning throughout the term.

While you are here for conferences, visit our Book Fair, Information Table, Lost and Found, and take a look at the redistricting maps. I hope you find your conferences to be an informative experience. Sincerely, Nancy Doll

Classrooms Need Tissues! With the cold and flu season upon us, it would be most helpful to receive tissues for teachers' classrooms. If you would like to send in a box with your student, it would be most appreciated!

Yearbook Sales: The 2009-2010 WKMS yearbook order forms will be sent home soon. The yearbook will go on sale from October 27th to November 6th. Checks are to be made payable to WKMS. Parent volunteers will be collecting order forms and money during the lunch shifts. If you wait until the spring to order, it will be a first come first serve basis on a limited supply of yearbooks. Yearbooks can also be sold online and over the phone. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. J. Main.

Mrs Gaeta's Spanish I classes. Please bring a new spiral notebook to class next week. We will be starting an interactive notebook/portfolio that we will use throughout the year. Also feel free to bring in items, souvenirs from a Spanish-speaking country next week to share with the class and/or display. Gracias!

Character Counts Week: To help us work together in strengthening the character of our students, we want you to be aware of the values we will be encouraging and learning about as we use CHARACTER COUNTS! National CHARACTER COUNTS! week is a celebration of the values that form the core of this program:

The Six Pillars of Character plus effective decision-making.

- **Trustworthiness.** Be honest. Be loyal—stand by your family, friends and country. Don't deceive, cheat or steal. Be reliable—do what you say you'll do. Have the courage to do the right thing. Build a good reputation.
- **Respect.** Treat others with respect; follow the Golden Rule. Be tolerant of differences. Use good manners, not bad language. Be considerate of the feelings of others. Don't threaten, hit or hurt anyone. Deal peacefully with anger, insults and disagreements.
- **Responsibility.** Do what you are supposed to do. Persevere: keep on trying! Always do your best. Exercise self-control. Be self-disciplined. Think before you act—consider the consequences. Be accountable for your choices.
- **Fairness.** Play by the rules. Take turns and share. Don't blame others carelessly. Listen to others. Don't take advantage of others.
- **Caring.** Be kind. Be compassionate. Show you care. Express gratitude. Forgive others. Help people in need.
- **Citizenship.** Do your share to make your school and community better. Cooperate. Stay informed; vote. Get involved in community affairs. Be a good neighbor. Obey laws and rules. Respect authority. Protect the environment.

We encourage you to follow the TEAM strategy at home. It is the same one we will employ at school.

Teach children that their character counts.
Enforce the Six Pillars of Character.
Advocate character.
Model good behavior.

We also encourage you to offer opportunities for students to act in accordance with these values and to experience them in a meaningful way to help shape their character and strengthen their abilities as learners.

Parent-Teacher Conferences FCPS Survey: Parents: What do you think about our parent-teacher conferences schedule? The FCPS Family-School Partnership Committee has launched a survey to gather your feedback about the conferences, held in the fall and early spring of each school year.

FCPS will compile responses to the quick 10-question survey with information supplied by the local PTA County Council and FCPS teachers. The committee will present findings to the Board of Education later this fall.

Parents are our most important partners in education. It's important for FCPS to hear what you think of the current schedule and also learn more about other ways parents typically communicate with their children's teacher(s).

Thank you to all who go to this link and tell FCPS what you think: <http://tinyurl.com/PTConferences>. The survey closes October 16.

Guidance Department News and Information:

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:

Sweatshirts & Sweatpants Sales: The Physical Education dept 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 Oct 30th. Attached is an order form, and if you have any questions, please contact your physical education teacher.

PTSA News and Information

Memberships: The PTSA membership drive is coming to a close. If you want to join and be included in the WKMS directory, please turn your forms in by Friday, October 9th. Contact Heidi Holley with questions at (301) 829-6779 or psufan1982@comcast.net

Fundraising: Please continue sending in your orders for the current PTSA fundraising campaign.

- o Ordering deadline is **Monday, October 19th**.
- o Ordering citrus online is easy at: https://www.fruitorder.com/orderFundraising_pre3.asp?orgId=752103
- o NOTE – There were questions on how long the popcorn and nuts would last (could they be purchased for Holiday Gifts)? The answer received back was Kettle and Cheese popcorn lasts two months while all others including nuts last three months.
- o Please return your fundraising packets so that unused materials can be returned and the rest recycled.
- o Contact Debbie Hall at (301) 865-4454 or DVHall@aol.com with questions or to receive a fundraising packet.

2009-2010 Reflections Program: The PTA Reflections Program ("Beauty is...") is designed to enhance quality arts education for students in preschool through grade 12, encouraging them to create works of art in the areas of dance choreography, film production, literature, musical composition, photography, and the visual arts. More than 500,000 students participate through their local PTA's each year---millions over the course of the program's 40 year history. Interested students may access an entry form and guidelines for each category from our PTSA website. Entries will be collected on Monday and Tuesday, November 16th and 17th. The top 4 entries in each category will advance to the Council PTA of Frederick County for further judging. These students will also have the opportunity to have their artwork displayed or presented at a county wide reception at the Cultural Arts Center in downtown Frederick on November 30th. For questions or further information, please contact Tina Flynn at 301-865-4548 or dan-tina.flynn@comcast.net.

Open Positions: All positions have now been filled! Gigi Mathews volunteered for the 2nd County Council Representative position (thanks Gigi!).

Next Meeting: The next PTSA meeting is Tuesday, October 13th beginning at 7:00 PM and is a Board meeting.

Other School and Community News and Information:

Life After Middle School Program-For Parents of Eighth Graders: On Monday, October 26, 7-9pm, Frederick Community College, will host an evening for parents of eighth grade students. Learn about high school requirements, high school assessments, career and technology options, linking high school and college courses and post high school opportunities. Talk with representatives from high schools, colleges and other post-secondary institutions about career and college options. The event will be held in FCC's Jack B. Kussmaul Theater. Please RSVP to: 301-624-2716

ORDER FORM FOR BOTH SWEATPANTS AND SWEATSHIRT: 40.00

Sweatshirt only: \$25.00

Sweatpants only: \$20.00

Sweatshirt AND sweatpants: \$40.00

STUDENTS NAME: _____

STUDENTS GRADE: _____

STUDENTS P.E. TEACHER _____

STUDENTS 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