



Office Phone: 540-667-7863

Web: [www.frederick.k12.va.us](http://www.frederick.k12.va.us)

# January 2018

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Here at GMES we are always trying to find ways to create a more positive learning environment for students. That is why we are starting to implement a Positive Behavioral Intervention Supports system. This system focuses on a more proactive approach to behavior that focuses on the staff teaching the behavior to students and then supporting the students along the way to help them learn the desired behaviors. So far we have implemented supports with the buses. We showed models of bus behavior on the morning show and are choosing a bus of the week based on the behavior shown on the bus. Next we are planning to implement supports for appropriate cafeteria behavior by creating a Cafeteria Dojo system. Grade levels will earn points based on their behavior and the grade with the most points for the week will earn a video during one of their lunch shifts. If you have any questions about this new system, please feel free to contact us!

## GATOR CAFÉ NEWS

*Congratulations to December's winners for excellent behavior in the cafeteria.*



- Kindergarten—Feyisayo Akinrinlola
- 1st Grade—Andrew Price
- 2nd Grade—Kalista Payton
- 3rd Grade—Jessica Bryce
- 4th Grade—Victor Martinez
- 5th Grade—Rshungo Hill

- Dates to Remember—January
- Jan. 3 School Reopens
- Jan. 5–15 PTO Read-A-Thon
- Jan. 12 Report Cards Issued
- Jan. 15 No School
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Jan. 29 No School
- Professional Development Day



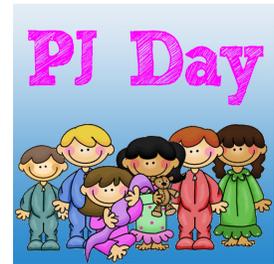
Parents, students, staff and members of the community can all play a part in keeping our schools safe and secure. If you see suspicious activity in the vicinity of our school, report it to school staff and the authorities. Suspicious activity may include: a vehicle or individual in an odd or concealed location; an unattended package or backpack; individuals seeking information about a school, its operations or security procedures beyond mere curiosity; or unusual, repeated or prolonged observation of school buildings, bus stops or students. Contact the Frederick County Sheriff's Office at 540-662-6168 if you observe any suspicious activity.

From the Principal	1
Gator Café News	1
Speak Up, Stay Safe	1
PTO News	2
Counselors' Corner	2



## PTO NEWS

Greenwood Mill's Read-a-thon is January 5–15! We will start things off with Pajama day Friday, January 5 to celebrate our theme "Snuggle Up with a Good Book." Students are encouraged to wear PJs, bring something soft to snuggle and will participate in a school wide reading session!



## COUNSELOR'S CORNER...

A huge thanks to the Chick-fil-A at Rutherford Crossing who is partnering with us with ideas to support our character education program at Greenwood Mill. Our Word of the Month for January is Honesty. Through the Chick-fil-A Core Essentials program, they share these thoughts with parents to promote honesty with your child.

### **SAY IT:**

Honesty is choosing to be truthful in whatever you say and do.

### **KNOW IT:**

Ask your child:

- ◆ Have you ever heard the saying "honesty is the best policy"? Can you think of a person you know that is consistently honest?
- ◆ Think of a time when it was difficult to be honest because you were afraid of the consequence.
- ◆ What happens at school and home when you are not honest with adults? What happens in these settings when you are honest?

Ask another grown up or share your own experience:

- ◆ Share an example of a time when you were honest even when it was difficult to do so.
- ◆ What was your consequence when you were growing up for not being truthful with your parents?

### **SEE IT:**

The Disney classic Pinocchio is a perfect example of how being dishonest only increases the problem. Viewers are able to see Pinocchio's nose grow with every fib and white lie he tells. While this is simply a figurative way of teaching honesty, we can see how this relates to real life. Think of real life consequences of being dishonest and discuss them with your family.

### **BE IT:**

As a family, discuss ways to be honest with others. Ideas for discussion might be accepting responsibility for your actions rather than lying about the incident, and avoiding situations in which you might be asked to lie for others.

We are looking forward to hearing who will be our students of the month for demonstrating honesty.

### **Happy New Year!**

Sherry Hall, K, 1, 2 Elementary Counselor  
Jenny Carson, 3, 4, 5 Elementary Counselor

Frederick County Public Schools shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, political affiliation, disability or veteran status in the education program and activities, or employment and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Questions concerning the application of this non-discrimination policy may be made to:

Title IX Coordinator (Adults)

John Linaburg

Executive Director of Human Resources

Title IX Coordinator (Students)

Teresa D. Ritenour

Director of Student Support Services

Section 504 Coordinator

Michele Sandy

Director of Special Instructional Services

1415 Amherst Street, Winchester, VA 22601, 540-662-3888

For further information on notice of non-discrimination, see list of OCR enforcement offices for the addresses and phone numbers of the office that serves your area, or call 1-800-421-3481.