



2016

February Newsletter

Directors' Note

Dear Families,

Happy February! It is time to stop and remember those who are so dear to our hearts. This is also a perfect time of year to teach the children how to show their love to the special people in their lives. Give someone a compliment, make a thank you card, or bake some cookies. Make someone feel special! This month, we will be collecting chocolate and cards to send to our troops to say thank you. We are also beginning the steps to renew our 4 star rating with the Virginia Quality System. We are excited to take part in this program, which ensures excellence in early childhood education programs.

Warmest Regards,

Miss Cindy & Miss Natalie

Sweets for the Troops

We would like to collect cards and chocolates to send to our military heroes to thank them for their service. If you would like to donate something, we will accept "sweets" through Friday, February 12th. Thank you so much for your generosity!

Dental Health Month

February is National Dental Health Month. Ms. Michelle from Midgette Family Dentistry is visiting us to teach the children about good dental hygiene and how to take care of our teeth. She is coming to WBA on Thursday, February 18th and Monday, February 22th.



Valentine's Day Parties

Classroom Valentine's Day will be held on Thursday, February 11th and Friday, February 12th. Please check with your child's teacher for the date and sign up sheet for their classroom party. We look forward to celebrating Valentine's Day at WBA!

Inclement Weather Policy

In the case of inclement weather, Western Branch Academy follows the Chesapeake Public Schools closure schedule for inclement weather. In some cases we are able to open when the public school is unable; therefore we ask you to check our school website for inclement weather information and updates. There are no tuition refunds if school is closed for weather.

Summer Camp Registration



Summer camp registration has begun! Summer camp brochures are available in the office. The registration fee for summer is \$75 for the first child and \$50 for each additional child. Camp runs for ten weeks: June 20th through Aug. 26th. There is a minimum attendance requirement of at least two weeks. The overall camp theme is "The Olympics." We hope to see you there!

Western Branch Academy will be closed in observance of Presidents' Day on Monday, February 15th.



Western Branch Academy News

Enrichment Classes

Chapel, Music & Spanish with Miss Natasha



IN MUSIC, the songs for February will focus on Groundhog Day, Valentine's Day, Lincoln/Washington (Presidents' Day), community helpers, pets and teeth!

IN CHAPEL, the month of February is all about love stories in the bible. We will learn about sharing love and respect with others through song, verses, and Bible stories. We continue to use our "prayer ball" to send out special thanks and prayers each week!

IN SPANISH, Happy winter! Feliz Invierno! We will continue to practice our colors and numbers. February will begin a unit on animals.

IN YOGA, I could not be more thrilled at the response to the new yoga songs and teaching style! I have gotten quite a few questions about the new songs we are doing. The artist for "Rocketship Run" is called Laurie Berkner and you can find her on [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com). She is also the singer for "The Goldfish" song, "The Airplane Song", and "We Are the Dinosaurs". In February, we will be working on developing deeper breathing and learning new postures to support that. Namaste!

Technology with Miss Aimee

Last month, we finished learning about the physical parts of computers. This month, we will move onto different keys, buttons and functions of the keyboard, mouse, and tablets. In typing, we have moved onto the top row of keys! The children are doing great with these lessons and continue to make lots of progress with the literacy and math games on the Hatch tablets too!

Upcoming Events

February 2 – Groundhog Day

February 3 – Mystery Reader

February 15 – Presidents' Day
WBA Closed. No School.

February 18- Visit from Midgette Dentistry

Miss Michelle will visit us for Dental Health Month.

February 22 – Visit from Midgette Dentistry

Miss Michelle will visit us for Dental Health Month.

February 26 – Scholastic Book Fair Arrives

March 27 – Easter

March 28 to April 1 – Spring Break

WBA Closed. No School.

Courtesy Calls

Many parents ask if they should call the office if their child is going to be absent due to illness or family plans. The answer is...YES! In addition, if your child comes for after school care, please let the office know if they will not be taking the bus to WBA. The teachers appreciate knowing and it helps them plan for the day. Thank you!

REMINDER: Please refrain from talking on your cell phone while in the building. Your children cherish your hellos and goodbyes.

