



Hello, Wizard Parents.

It's May and our calendar for the month features two fun events for our student Wizards to enjoy.

Coming May 11 (rain date of May 12): The Annual Spring Fair, with a Book Fair

Please come and celebrate Spring with your Woodlin Wizard on May 11th at the PTA's annual Spring Fair from 2 pm to 5 pm. And for an added treat for our Woodlin Wizard readers, there is a Scholastic Book Fair from Noon to 5 pm.

- **Activities:**

Bounce houses, games, a rock climbing wall, airbrush tattoos, petting zoo, food trucks and more!

Suggested admission for Spring Fair is \$5 per student.

Coming May 28 (rain date of May 31): Olympic Day

This event is organized each year by Mr. George, our PE teacher. Students in grades K-5 participate in a variety of activities that challenge their physical prowess, stamina, and determination. The day is also devoted to promoting sportsmanship and celebrating both individual and class participation and performances.

- Olympic Day begins at 9:05 with an Opening Ceremony, Class Parade, and Lighting of the Olympic Torch.
- The Olympic Day Events take place from 9:20 pm – Noon.
- A Medals Ceremony takes place from 2 pm – 3 pm in the gym for grades 2, 3, 4, and 5 only. Each student in these grades receives an Olympic Day Certificate with his or her name on it.
- Students in grades K, 1, and 2 also receive Olympic Day Certificates at the end of the day. Each student receives a certificate with his or her name on it.

It's a busy time here at Woodlin with standardized testing and a few fun events during May as we enter our final stretch of the school year!

Craig Jackson

P.S. Not to be outdone by May, June will feature our **Junior Achievement Day** on **June 4**.



Mrs. Scott's Home & School Connection: May Tip

What can you do for test anxiety, which may affect your children?

With the increase in tests and assessments on the elementary school level, more and more young students are experiencing symptoms of test anxiety. Here are a few steps you can take to help your child tackle anxiety about tests before it becomes overwhelming for them:

- **Ask questions to clarify how your child is feeling.** “What is your biggest worry?” “Do you worry when you think about the test or when you take a test?”
- **Encourage a positive attitude or positive self-talk.** “I can do this!” “Everything is going to be fine!”
- **Teach relaxation strategies.** Suggest your child take a few deep breaths when feeling anxious or think of a calming place.
- **Bolster their confidence.** Help your child to find inner strength and belief that he/she can conquer anything.



Kindergarten – May Activity

Happy May everyone! This month is going to be very busy and fun.

Dates to remember: **May 9th and 10th** -- Kindergarten Orientation for newcomers. There is no school for kindergarteners, but there is school for all other grades! **May 21st** -- Field trip to the zoo! Please make sure you signed the permission slip and sent it in. We always need a lot of chaperones! **May 28th (rain date, May 31st)** -- Olympic Day! The whole school gets together to complete obstacle courses and races! Kindergarteners will participate from 9:00am-11:00am.

In **Reading**, our students will be reading **informational texts** and **focusing on main idea and key details**.

Our kindergarteners have become such independent **writers!** We are **focusing on opinion pieces** and backing up our opinions with reasons. We are still **working on using lower case letters consistently, knowing when to use upper case letters, and checking on using our spaces and punctuation properly.**

In **Science**, we are **learning about plants, trees, animals, and birds.**

In **Social Studies**, we will finish off the year **learning about cultures and families.**

In **Math**, we are **doing a lot to get ready for first grade!** We will be doing a lot of addition, subtraction, graphing, and learning about place value.

I can't believe that our students are almost first graders!!



First Grade – May Activity

The first grade teacher will be administering spring **mClass assessments** for individual students.

Our first grade students will also **review reading concepts** such as beginning, middle, and end, theme (lesson learned), and text features.

First graders will **publish their Realistic Fiction narratives and write poems.**

In **Math**, the students will **explore concepts of geometry, create quilt squares and composite shapes**, and **learn about telling time on digital and analog clocks.**

We will also have a **Market Day!** The students will **produce goods that they will “sell”** to the other first grade students.



Second Grade – May Activity

In **Math**, our second graders will **use manipulatives and place value strategies** to subtract two 3-digit numbers. We will also **identify, describe, and draw polygons.**

In **Reading**, our students will **read informational text** to make connections between historical events, and use images to clarify text. The students will also ask and answer questions about the text.

In **Writing**, our second graders will **gather facts to develop a topic and to answer a question.**

In **Science**, our students will **identify ways to help bees survive.** They will read and research threats to the bee population and solutions being used to save them.

In **Social Studies**, our second graders will **examine the contributions of leaders, innovators, and heroes of the past and today.** Then we will **explore democratic beliefs, attitudes, and principles represented by people recognized by holidays.**



Third Grade – May Activity

Our third graders are getting ready to take their first MCAP assessment this month. We have been exploring new testing tools to help our students do their best!

In **Math**, our students will work on **telling time** to the nearest minute as well as solving word problems with elapsed time. We will work on **describing quadrilaterals** and review composing, decomposing, multiplication and division.

In **Writing**, students will **form an opinion on a topic** and **write to inform others about this topic**. We will wrap up our fairy tale writing unit.

In **Reading**, we will read several informational text and **determine the meaning of unknown words**.

Third graders will also **learn about planning a budget** and the **production of a product** as well as **understanding how fossils give us clues to past environments**.



Fourth Grade – May Activity

In **Reading**, our fourth graders will flexibly adapt and integrate information from several different types of text including texts told from different points of view. Students will **engage in intellectual risk-taking** as they challenge themselves as readers to adapt their use of reading strategies and select and use a variety of resources. Students will **read and compare a variety of genres**, including poetry, drama, literary nonfiction, realistic fiction and technical text throughout the marking period. Students will **explore literary nonfiction** by reading autobiographies, biographies, and memoirs. Students will **summarize text in writing and orally**, using key details to determine main idea, compare and contrast first and secondhand accounts, and explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support particular points.

In **Math**, students will **explore division** based on place value, properties of operations, and understand the relationship between multiplication and division. Area models and drawings are pictorial representations that support student understandings about place value and the relationship between multiplication and division. Students use these understandings, as well as their knowledge of basic facts, to **develop and refine efficient strategies for dividing**. It is not the expectation that students use the standard algorithm for dividing. This algorithm is a Grade 6 expectation.



Fifth Grade – May Activity

What's happening in Grade 5 in May?

In May, our fifth graders will **tour the University of Maryland campus** and find out about life as a college student. They have **state and district assessments**, the **annual Grade 5 picture**, **Olympic Day**, and their **final Chorus Concert**.

In **Social Studies**, the students are **studying how economics influence society**. They are currently working in groups to **develop a business plan** and will soon **participate in an online business simulation**. They will **run a coffee shop** and **use the data to make purchasing and pricing decisions**.

In **Science**, fifth graders will **learn about inherited and learned traits** as they study how physical traits in plants and animals are passed from generation to generation.

In **Writing**, our students are connecting the study of Maryland economics with informational writing. Each student is researching a county in Maryland and using the research to **create an informational brochure**.

Thank You!
