Greetings Timber Grove Community!

As we officially start the third marking period, it is a good time to reflect upon the experiences of our students in the first half of the year and plan for the successes that they will achieve during the second half. So that we can continually improve the communication between school and home, you are encouraged to regularly login to Schoology to monitor your student’s progress. This will allow you to stay in contact with your child’s teacher and work together to support their academic success. Together, we can meet the needs of every one of our learners.

The start of the third marking period also means that it is time for your voices to be heard in the annual BCPS Stakeholder Survey. On January 27th the BCPS Stakeholder Survey opened. It will remain available online until March 1st. Please use the direct link to the survey, https://survey.k12insight.com/r/SS2020, or follow the link from the BCPS homepage to provide your feedback. The survey takes less than five minutes to complete, is available in 16 languages and can be taken from anywhere using a phone, tablet, or computer. If you have more than one BCPS student, you are encouraged to take the survey more than once. Your feedback is important to us as our school uses the data from the BCPS Stakeholder Survey to make improvements for our students and school community. We can’t do it without you!

Lastly, as student safety is always the priority please review safe habits with your children as they walk to and from school, as well as to other places. Please remind them to cross the street at crosswalks and to always walk on the sidewalk. Similarly, a smooth and orderly drop-off and pickup at carpool is key for student and adult safety. When dropping students off or picking them up please pull as far down in the loop as possible. This will allow staff to more efficiently get students in and out of cars which will get everyone on their way as quickly as possible. Thank you for your partnership!

Best regards,

Scott Audlin, Principal
Timber Grove Elementary School
Baltimore County Public Schools
410-887-1714
@saudlin1
News from 3rd Grade

Field trip permission slips and money are due by February 14th!

News from 4th Grade

In the third unit of mathematics, students will use various place value strategies to solve division problems. We encourage students to work on their division facts 0-12 in their free time! In reading, we will be working in our second unit where our students will be exploring the stories told by Kate DiCamillo in order to compare and contrast themes as well as identify character traits using a variety of stories. During our small group experiences, our students will closely read excerpts from novels written by Kate DiCamillo. As the colder weather is upon us please be sure to have students dress warmly including coat, hat, and gloves!

** As a reminder, please ensure that your child is in school on time each day as our instruction begins promptly at 8:30! Please also ensure that your child has the necessary supplies needed daily and that the supplies are replenished when needed. Lastly, if there is a dismissal change, please be sure to send in a “signed” note to your child’s teacher! Thank you for your continued support! **

News from the Library

As we move into warmer weather the library is planning some amazing events. We will have our book fair the week of March 9th through the 13th. Family night will be March 10th. More information to follow as we get closer. If you are cleaning out your child’s bookshelves, please keep in mind our annual book swap. Students can donate their gently used books anytime and in June all students will get at least one new to them book to take home. This completely relies on donations of books in order to make this successful. Thanks!

Please return any overdue library books ASAP. If you have any questions, please email Mrs. Scott at rscott6@bcps.org.

News from PE

The Kids Heart Challenge will take place on Wednesday, February 12th. All students will be jumping rope during their specials time that day. You still have time to register. Please take time to register your child for the event. Our school goal is $5,000. Thank you to all of students have registered and have fundraiser already.

To register: Download our app or visit: heart.org/KidsHeartChallenge
News from Art

We hope you’ll join us on Tuesday, March 10th from 6:00-7:30 for Timber Grove’s annual Parent Fair and Art Show.

News from Vocal Music

The primary students are learning all kinds of songs for conscious discipline and for movement. They learned new songs about three nice mice, an old gray cat, and a grizzly bear. The intermediate students are still working on recorder assignments. Please make sure your child brings a folder, pencil, and recorder to music class each week. If your child has lost his/her recorder, please send in a note. Lost recorders are not replaced, but students can play assignments on bell sets.

News from Instrumental Music

In 4th grade Exploratory Music class, students have discussed the Woodwind Instruments and played on a clarinet. Currently, 4th grade students are learning about the String family and will play on the violin. Our 5th grade musicians did a wonderful job at their winter concert. Now they are preparing for our Spring concert on May 19th. Students are reminded that they need to practice 15 minutes a day for at least 5 days a week to maintain and reinforce skills learned class.

Attendance

Congratulations to the following classes on their attendance for January:

Mrs. Jones-96.2%
Mrs. Creevy-94.8%
Ms. O’Grady-93.7%

*An automated message is sent at 10:00 am if your child (ren) is absent.*

Please send in a note when they return. All absent notes must have a parent/guardian’s signature.
From the Nurse’s Office

Timber Grove will be having Hearing & Vision Screening on March 9-13th, 16th & 20th. All Pre-K, Grade 1 and Grade 4 students will be screened. In addition, any students who are new to Baltimore County Schools this year will be screened. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the school nurse, Mrs. Segall rsegall@bcps.org.

A reminder as we enter the Winter months that the flu is “highly” contagious. Symptoms may include a high fever, headache, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, and muscle aches. Please remember to keep your child home until their temperature is under 100 degrees for 24 hours without Tylenol or Advil. Please remember the importance of good hand washing techniques to prevent the spread of germs.

News from the Office

Timber Grove Parent Handbook

Please visit the Timber Grove Elementary Website to access the Timber Grove Elementary Parent Handbook. The parent handbook has helpful information as well as teacher email addresses.

https://timbergrovees.bcps.org

Important

Crosswalks

For the safety of everyone, please use crosswalks. Walking across the carpool lane is unsafe. If observed, staff will direct you to the crosswalk. Drivers are asked not to block crosswalks with their cars.

Carpool

If you utilize the carpool lane, please:

- Follow the directives of staff and signage, which includes pulling down as far as possible. Stopping at the steps or main entrance (when there is room to pull down) backs up the carpool line unnecessarily.
- Do not exit your vehicle. Park on Academy Avenue or in the parking lot if you need additional time getting your child(ren) ready for school.
- Adhere to posted traffic signs. Right turns only out of the school property are required until 8:20 a.m. (in the morning) and 3:00 p.m. (in the afternoon).

Please share this information with anyone who may help transport your child.
**Classroom Visits**

In accordance with BCPS Rule 1240, any visitor to the school building requesting a classroom visit must adhere to the following:

A. Classroom visits and conferences by parents and other authorized individuals are encouraged. Such visits and conferences must be arranged in advance with the school principal or with the classroom teacher.

B. Such visits and conferences are at the discretion of the principal.

C. Classroom visits and conferences must be conducted in such a manner that the visits and/or conferences do not interfere with the classroom activities of any student in the class.

We also request that non-school aged children not accompany parents for classroom visits.

**BCPS One Parent Account**

Sign up at [https://bcpsone.bcps.org/](https://bcpsone.bcps.org/).

- With a BCPS One Parent Account, parents can:
  - Pay for school lunches in MySchoolBucks
  - View assignments and grades in Schoology
  - Read report cards in Student info
  - Access student attendance in Student info

**DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL SAFETY**

**Safety and Security – Visitor Access to Our Schools**

The safety of our students, staff, and visitors is a top priority for all of us at Timber Grove Elementary. You can help us!

Please be sure to follow these important steps when entering and exiting our school:

- Each visitor to schools must be screened at the entry door individually.
- Do not open or hold open a door for anyone else. **You are not being rude! You are keeping us safe**
- Pull/Push the front door closed upon entry or exit.
- Report directly to the main office upon entry and show your identification.
- Check out in the main office before exiting the building.
- Please remind your children not to open the door for anyone.

As always, the safety of our students is our number one concern. Thank you for your continued support of your student and of Timber Grove Elementary.

Sincerely,

Mr. Scott Audlin
Principal
Morning Arrivals/Afternoon Dismissals

Please do not drop your student(s) off prior to 8:00 am. Staff are not on duty until 8:00 am. With colder mornings, we do not want student(s) waiting in the cold unsupervised. If your student(s) walk to school, please make sure they are dressed appropriately. Staff is not on duty after 3:05 pm, so please make sure your student(s) are picked up on time.

Dismissal Changes and Early Dismissal

Please put all dismissal changes in writing to the homeroom teacher (signed and dated by a parent). If you are emailing the change please cc the office at ehier@bcps.org and plindenbaum@bcps.org.

If you need to pick up a student early, please try to do so prior to 2:30 PM. Students will not be dismissed early to anyone other than the legal guardians without written notification stating who will be picking them up. Please make sure they bring photo identification for verification.

News from BCPS

Please make sure you take the BCPS Stakeholder Survey for students in grades 3-5, and all parents, and community members. The survey is open until February 24th.

To take the survey go to www.bcps.org. It only takes 5 minutes. Use any device, computer, or cell phone. It is available in 16 languages for students, parents, and community.

The Northwest Area Educations Advisory Council are holding a public meeting on career and technology education in the northwest area on Wednesday, February 13th, 7:00 PM at Deer Park Middle Magnet School Visual Arts Center located at 9830 Winands Road, Randallstown. The community is invited to attend.
Looking Ahead at Timber Grove

Timber Grove Elementary Spirit Days

**February-Spring Break**

**Weekly**

- Timber Grove Tuesday - wear your TGE gear
- Sports Fan Friday - wear your favorite team gear

**February**

- **Wednesday, 5th World Read Aloud Day** - Dress as your favorite book character or wear pajamas
- **Thursday, 6th BCPS College Day** - wear college gear

- **Wednesday, 12th** Jump Rope for Heart - wear tennis shoes to exercise for heart health
- **Friday, 14th** Show kindness and caring by wearing pink, red and/or hearts

**March (Youth Art Month)**

- Read Across America (more information coming soon!)
- **2nd Friday (13th)** Wear Primary Colors (red, blue, yellow)
- **3rd Friday (20th)** Wear Secondary Colors (purple, orange, green)
- **4th Friday (27th)** Wear Patterns (stripes, polka dots)

**April**

- **Thursday, 2nd National Autism Awareness Day** - wear blue

Kindergarten Round-Up 2020-2021 Coming Soon.

In order to be enrolled for the 2020-2021 school year your child needs to turn 5 years old by September 1, 2020.

**Pre-Kindergarten Round-Up 2020-2021 Coming Soon.**

In order to be enrolled for the 2020-2021 school year your child needs to turn 4 years old by September 1, 2020. Additional qualifications apply.

Additional information is located on the last page of this Timber Talk.
News from PTO

The next PTO Meeting is Tuesday, February 18th at 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm in the library. Please come to hear about the latest activities being planned and discuss any issues of concern. Hot Spots will be available for childcare.
As always, volunteers are always needed to make sure these events are a success. Please reach out to the PTO. The email address is timbergrovepta@gmail.com or Visit the Timber Grove PTO Facebook page for additional information.

Don’t forget to order your yearbook.

The cost of the yearbook varies. The standard yearbook is $20.50. You may also select optional add-ons.

➢ Go to the website: ybpay.lifetouch.com/order. Put in the school code 1301020, the child’s name and grade, complete the billing and payment information then submit.

➢ You can write a check for your amount to Timber Grove Elementary School PTO. Be sure to put your child’s name, grade and teacher’s name in the memo.

➢ Or if you prefer, log on to PayPal, send your amount to PTA/O PayPal Account:TimberGrovePTA@gmail.com. Be sure to put your child’s name, grade and teacher in the memo.

➢ Our next restaurant night is Tuesday, February 11th at Ledo Pizza in the Newtown Village Shopping Center in Owings Mills. Please bring a paper or digital flyer to the restaurant when placing your order.

➢ Announcing Timber Grove’s PTO 1st annual “Family Prom”. (Aged 3+) Dress up, take pictures, dance the night away. Join us on Friday, February 21st at Franklin High School from 6-8:00 pm. There will be a DJ, a photo booth, and catered dinner at this even. Tickets are on sale now for $7.00 per person until February 14th. Tickets will not be sold at the door. All students must be accompanied by an adult 18 or older.

➢ Visit the PTO Website for an order form and additional information
Save the Date

Please Join Us for our 5th Annual Timber Grove Parent Fair-Art Show-Book Fair

Presented to you by Ms. Goodman (School Counselor), Mrs. Segall (Nurse), Ms. Merchant (Art Teacher), Mrs. Scott (Library & Media Specialist)

When: Tuesday, March 10th from 6:00 pm-7:30 pm

You will have the opportunity to see your student’s artwork displayed throughout the school, shop at the book fair, visit with local business and organizations to discuss summer opportunities as well as meet with community partners that may benefit you and your children.
Early Dismissal/Late Openings/Closed Schools

If schools close early, open late, or are closed please do not call the school. We need to keep our phone lines available for emergencies. Call the BCPS information line at 410-809-5555, listen to WBAL Radio or the local news. You can also access the information on the internet: www.bcps.org, www.schoolsout.com, BCPSNow or on twitter Baltimore Co Schools@BaltCoPs

Early Dismissals:

If weather conditions require an early dismissal of one or two hours, the closures will affect programs as follows:

Afternoon Pre-kindergarten classes are cancelled.

All after school child care programs are cancelled.

All BCPS activities scheduled in schools are cancelled.

Closed School:

If weather conditions require that all schools be closed, the closures will effect programs as follows:

All before and after school activities and school sponsored events are cancelled.

All before and after school child care programs are cancelled.

All BCPS activities scheduled in schools are cancelled.

Delayed School Opening:

All before school child care programs are cancelled. After school activities will not be affected by a delayed opening.

When school opening is delayed 1 hour, our school day will begin at 9:20 a.m.

When school opening is delayed 2 hours, our school day will begin at 10:20 a.m.

Whenever possible, the morning decision to close or delay school will be made by 5:30 a.m. and communicated to media outlets.

If schools are closing 1 or 2 hours early, whenever possible, the announcement will be made by 10:30 a.m.

If schools must close three hours early, whenever possible, the announcement will be made at 10:00 a.m.

Please make sure you and your child/children have a plan if school should close early. Also, please check with your daycare provider(s) for their policies.
NEW Kindergarten/Pre-kindergarten Registration
2020-2021 School Year

Kindergarten Round-Up has been scheduled for Tuesday, April 21, 2020. Children born between September 2, 2014 and September 1, 2015 will be kindergarten age for the 2020-2021 school year and should attend round-up.

Screening for Pre-kindergarten age students will be held on Thursday, May 27, 2020. Children born between September 2, 2015 and September 1, 2016 are eligible to apply for the pre-kindergarten program. The pre-kindergarten program is two and one-half hours per day, five days per week.

In order to be screened for pre-kindergarten, a child must first meet the following age eligibility guidelines. After meeting the age eligibility guidelines, automatic and prioritized criteria will be used to determine eligibility.

If you have a child, or children, eligible for one of these programs, please complete the information sheet attached and return it to the school office. Also, children presently in Timber Grove’s pre-kindergarten program do not need to attend kindergarten round-up.

We would appreciate you sharing this information with neighbors who would not receive a newsletter but have children who would be eligible to attend Timber Grove next school year. Early registrations help us in planning effectively for the upcoming school year.

Registration packets will be mailed to you with detailed information regarding the registration process.

If you have any questions, please contact the office at 410-887-1714.

_______________________ Tear Here and Return Form Below to the Office ________________

2020-2021 Pre-kindergarten & Kindergarten

Circle applicable grade level below

Pre-K  Pre-kindergarten for children born September 2, 2015 – September 1, 2016
KG  Kindergarten – for children born September 2, 2014 – September 1, 2015

Name of Child: ________________________________________________________________

Birth Date: ___________________________  M/F _________

Name of Parent(s)/Guardian(s): __________________________________________________

Address: ___________________________________________  Apt. No. _______________

City: ___________________________  Zip: ______________

Home Phone: ___________________________  Cell Phone: _______________________

Is a language other than English spoken in the home?  Yes _____ No _____

If yes, what language? _______________________________________________________

Is your child currently attending a preschool/pre-kindergarten program?  Yes _____ No _____

If yes, where?  _______________________________________________________________

Name of Child: ________________________________________________________________

Birth Date: ___________________________  M/F _________

Name of Parent(s)/Guardian(s): __________________________________________________

Address: ___________________________________________  Apt. No. _______________

City: ___________________________  Zip: ______________

Home Phone: ___________________________  Cell Phone: _______________________

Is a language other than English spoken in the home?  Yes _____ No _____

If yes, what language? _______________________________________________________

Is your child currently attending a preschool/pre-kindergarten program?  Yes _____ No _____

If yes, where?  _______________________________________________________________