

**December 2018**

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**Important Dates to Remember**

**December 2018**

December 20  
Interim Reports

December 21-January 1  
Winter Break

**January 2019**

January 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Schools Re-Open

January 8th  
Winter Concert

January 21<sup>st</sup>  
Martin Luther King, Jr.  
Birthday School Closed

January 25<sup>th</sup>  
Second Marking Period  
Ends-Schools Close 3  
Hours Early

**February 2019**

February 7<sup>th</sup>  
Report Cards Distributed

February 18<sup>th</sup>  
Presidents Day  
Schools Closed



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**Timber Grove Elementary**



# Timber Talk

Greetings Timber Grove Community!

It has been an event-filled November and December looks to be just busy as we head towards winter break. The halls of Timber Grove were bustling with learning and excitement during the days and evenings throughout the month of November with events such as the Book Fair, Literacy Night, Conference Day and American Education Week! During the week of November 12<sup>th</sup> our classrooms were filled with family members enjoying the fun and engaging lessons designed by our outstanding faculty. Over 135 families visited during the four-day period! Not to be outdone, the building was filled with parents once again on Conference Day, November 30<sup>th</sup>. As with all of the events that I have experienced at Timber Grove, American Education Week, Conference Day, the Book Fair and Literacy Night exceeded my expectations and speak to the continuing growth of our community.

As we move into the second quarter our focus once again turns towards maintaining regular daily attendance. Regular school attendance is a very important part of every student's successful academic career. Consistent school attendance reinforces a student's sense of belonging to the school community and establishes important habits for future successes. Regular attendance is a key factor in student academic growth and achievement.

Timber Grove's goal for student attendance is 94%. Our first quarter attendance rate of 95.5% certainly exceeds that goal. Thank you for your part in helping us exceed our attendance goal during the first quarter. I am certain that we will have continued success throughout the school year!

Best regards,  
Scott Audlin, Principal  
Timber Grove Elementary School  
Baltimore County Public Schools  
410-887-1714

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[@timbergroveES](https://twitter.com/timbergroveES)   
**#RestoreTheRoar**

## News from

### Kindergarten

Thank you to everyone that came to visit during American Education Week. We loved having you see how hard we are working in kindergarten. This month kindergarten will be working on places and jobs in our community. We will explore what places and jobs we have in our neighborhood and what responsibilities and tools are needed for those jobs. In ELA, we will focus on asking and answering questions, identifying the main topic and details, and making connections with the text. In math, we will continue to represent larger numbers and begin to work on addition and subtraction story problems. Continue to log into BCPS One at home. There are excellent resources that help reinforce what we are doing in class. It also helps to increase your child's confidence logging in at school.

### News from 1st Grade

Thank you to all first grade parents and families who participated on conference day! In math, we are continuing to work on addition and subtraction story problems. In ELA, we are working to create a product to teach others about an animal that we researched as part of our nonfiction unit. We can't wait to see how they turn out!

### News from 2nd Grade

In reading, our 2<sup>nd</sup> graders are continuing with our "Unique" unit. We are reading about how cultures are unique. Then, we will begin reading pourquoi tales to learn about reasons why animals have unique features.

In math, we are adding and subtraction 2-digit numbers using a variety of strategies. We are also solving 2-digit story problems where we must show the strategy used to find the answer.

We are also finishing up our Social Studies unit on North America. We have been learning about the cultures of Canada, the United States, and Mexico.

### News from 3rd Grade

Third grade is currently working towards the end of their second ELA unit by creating their own original fables! We will soon move on to discuss inventors and innovations. We will be exploring a bit of geography in order to understand that we are only a small part of the world. In math, we are rounding and understanding that estimation is a good strategy to check our work. We will be moving on to addition and subtraction with three digit numbers both with and without regrouping. Daily practice at home should consist of reading each night and having discussions about what you read as well as continued practice with all math facts to improve their fluency.

## News from 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

In the second unit of mathematics,

In reading, we continue working in our first unit where our students will be exploring the stories people tell by comparing and contrasting first and second-hand accounts of the same events or topics. Through the exploration of multiple accounts, students will practice identifying main idea and details, summarization, and integrating information from two texts. During our small group experiences, our students will closely read excerpts from an extended text. These extended texts are autobiographical, or first-hand accounts. 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 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

Reading: Please continue to read at home. As mentioned in the in the last Timber Talk, some helpful things to do would be to ask your child questions about the book. Some questions can be taken from this link:

[\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](#) we also have started Book-It as well. Please initial when your child reads their goal minutes for the evening. Upon the completion, students will receive a certificate for a free pizza from Pizza Hut. Lastly, students are working with historical fiction for Unit 2 in ELA. Students were given library time to choose a historical fiction book in order to complete a culminating activity following Unit 2. Please ensure your child is reading their chosen book.

Math: Please continue to practice math facts at home. This is very helpful for many of our units, especially in the multiplying and division units that we are working on. Please also note that your child may be learning different methods to find an answer to a multiplication or division problem. We encourage the use of different methods to arrive at the product or quotient. You may see these different methods in classwork and homework. There are many great activities to try on our math book. You can log on to BCPSOne and go through the digital content to get to our math book.



## News from Vocal Music

Students in all grades are working on music games and activities through BCPSOne. Please look through the assignments and review concepts with your child. There are great songs in Tumble Books for the primary students and lots of note naming games for the intermediate students.



## News from the Library

The library's first Book fair was a success! Thank you to everyone who volunteered, made donations, and purchased items from the fair. Profits made from the fall fair will be divided between the library and the PTO. We look forward to hosting another fair in the Spring. Has your child out grown some of his or her books? The library will be hosting another Book Swap this spring. We will welcome any new, like new, or gently used children's book to add to our Book Swap.



## News from the PE

In P.E. the students are finishing up with their basketball unit. The classes worked on dribbling, shooting, and passing a basketball correctly. After Christmas break the students will bring home the Jump Rope for Heart packets. We will then begin our jump rope unit.

Happy Holidays from Mrs. Wagner and Mr. Handler!



## News from Instrumental Music

Greetings and Happy Holidays from the Instrumental Music Department at Timber Grove Elementary School!! Instrumental students are getting ready for their upcoming winter concert on January 8 at 6:00 pm. In order for our instrumentalists to be fully prepared, they are asked to practice for at least 15 minutes a day for 5 days a week. Please make sure they are documenting their practice times on their practice logs. If a student loses their practice log, practice times may be recorded on a piece of paper and signed by their parent/guardian or sent via email ([lgoldman@bcps.org](mailto:lgoldman@bcps.org)).

Looking forward to seeing you next month at our Winter Concert!



## From the Nurse's Office

As we move into the colder weather, it seems we are confronted with more viruses, colds and flu-like symptoms. Students who present in the Health Suite with a temperature of 100 degrees or more will be sent home by the school nurse. Students should not return to school until they are fever-free (less than 100 degrees) for 24 hours without Tylenol, Motrin, or Ibuprofen. If your child wakes with cold symptoms, please check their temperature before sending them to school. Students with vomiting or diarrhea before school will **probably not** get better during the school day. Encourage your child to use good hand washing techniques to prevent the spread of germs.

Donations of clean, slightly used clothing, particularly under wear and stretch pants, would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you,  
Mrs. Berringer, R.N.  
School Nurse

## Lost and Found

Please make sure to label your child (ren)'s items i.e. sweaters, jackets, coats, and hats so they do not end up in the Lost and Found.

## BCPS One Card

The BCPS Department of School Safety planned and developed a system for implementation of a one-card staff and student identification system during the 2013–2014 school year. Implementation began in the spring of 2014 with the distribution of One-card badges to all BCPS employees. The implementation continued during the 2014–2015 school year with all students receiving their One-card badges. Students have experienced the additional functionality of the One-card including, but not limited to:

- Identifying students; and,
- Checking out library and media materials.

Each student is given a BCPS One Card. All new students to Timber Grove will be provided a new BCPS One Card. All returning students should have their BCPS One Card from the previous year. If your student has lost their card, there is a fee of \$5.00 cash only to replace it.

## Volunteering

Please visit <http://www.bcps.org/parents/pdf/BCPS-New-Volunteer-Handbook.pdf> if you plan to volunteer.

## Dismissal Changes

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](mailto:ehier@bcps.org) and [plindenbaum@bcps.org](mailto:plindenbaum@bcps.org).

## Attendance

Congratulations to the following classes on their attendance percentage in November:

Mr. Sallow- 96.7%

Mrs. Wolfe- 96.7%

Ms. Battle- 95.3%

**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.



## 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.



## Please Use Our Crosswalks!

When walking your students to school, please model safety by using the cross walk near the Academy Avenue entrance to the car loop. With all of the traffic and hustle and bustle that occurs during arrival and dismissal, it is oftentimes hard for cars to see pedestrians stepping out into the street and carpool lane. We realize that this might add a few minutes to your walk, but appreciate your support in keeping our students safe!!



## Carpool/Front

An important reminder that cars are not supposed to turn left onto Academy Ave from 8:05 a.m.- 8:20 a.m. and not park on Academy Avenue (School side) from 2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. as posted on the sign. U-Turns are not allowed and cars may not turn left into the carpool lane.



## 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](http://www.bcps.org), [www.schoolsout.com](http://www.schoolsout.com), BCPSNow or on twitter [@BaltimoreCoSchools](https://twitter.com/BaltimoreCoSchools)**

### **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.