



# Relay Elementary School News

## October 2022

### Important Dates to Mark on Your Calendar This Month

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
						1
2	3	4	5 Yom Kippur - Schools Closed	6 Targeted Assistance Title I Meeting at 5:00 PTA Meeting 6:15 Relay Library	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 Fall Picture Day	19	20	21 MSEA Convention - Schools Closed	22
23	24 Systemwide PD Day - Schools Closed	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Looking Ahead to Next Month:

November 4 <sup>th</sup>	End of 1st marking period; half day for students
November 8 <sup>th</sup>	Election Day, schools closed
November 14 <sup>th</sup>	Report Cards Distributed; American Education Week - more information is forthcoming!
November 21 <sup>st</sup>	PreK and Elementary Conference Day - Elementary Schools Closed for students

November 22 <sup>nd</sup>	PreK Conference Day; No School for PreK students
November 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Schools and Offices close 3 hours early
November 24 <sup>th</sup> & 25 <sup>th</sup>	School closed for Thanksgiving

## **Principal's Message**



We are off to a great start so far this year! Back to School Night was a huge success, featuring Relay Elementary School's first ever Community Partnership Fair! Many thanks to the following who supported the evening:

- Arbutus Public Library – Mr. Sergio
- Chick-fil-A – Lansdowne Station
- Bridge MD, Inc.
- MCSS (Maryland Coalition for School Safety)
- Cub Scouts
- Caliday Before & After Care
- BCPS ParentMobile
- Relay PTA



We are also so grateful to our dedicated classroom and special area teachers and resource and support staff at Relay Elementary School who stayed to shared information and resources that are available to our students and families, including the following people:

- School Cafeteria – Ms. Margaret Barnard, Person-In-Charge (PIC)
- Volunteer Coordinator & Magnet Liaison – Robin Kodek, office secretary
- Nurse Rob West

- SEL (Social Emotional Learning) Support Team – Jillian Attanasio (SEL Teacher), Brittany Kipp (School Counselor), April Lewis-Carter (Social Worker), and Leslie Lichter (MTSS Resource Teacher)

We hope our families will feel supported and welcome to reach out to any and all of these resource staff members any time throughout the year as needs change and evolve. We are here for you.

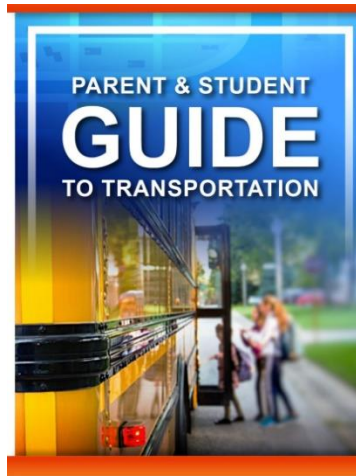


On September 27<sup>th</sup>, a second family event was held at the Arbutus Public Library to provide kindergarten students and their families an opportunity to meet and greet each other, pick up a free book and bookmark from Ms. Wymer, our school librarian, and enjoy a special read aloud experience with the Arbutus BCPL librarian. What a fun night!



**From Your Very  
Proud Principal,  
*Lisa Grace***

Thank you so much for taking time out of your evenings to spend it with us, your Relay school family. As always, we are so grateful to you, our Relay community, for partnering with us to keep our students safe and learning. Please remember to reach out any time to share your concerns, questions, ideas, and feedback. You can reach me by email at [lgrace3@bcps.org](mailto:lgrace3@bcps.org) or by calling the school at 443-809-1426.



## **BCPS Transportation Updates**

If a school, parent, community member, etc. has a concern with the location of an assigned bus stop (i.e. safety concern with a student needing to cross a busy road to get to the bus stop) or there is a request to add a new bus stop, the stakeholder can complete this [form](#). *←click for the link*

After the form is completed and submitted, the originator will be contacted regarding the status of the request.

Link to Parent and Student Guide to Transportation: [BCPS Student Guide to Transportation 080922.pdf \(sharpschool.com\)](#)

Questions regarding this information should be directed to the Department of Transportation at 443-809-4321.

## **School Attendance**

It is very important that children start their day at school in a calm and consistent manner so that they can gain maximum benefit from the instructional program. Thanks for your continued cooperation to ensure all students arrive to school on time.

### **Relay Elementary's Bell Schedule:**

<b>Opening Bell</b>	<b>8:40am</b>
<b>Late Bell</b>	<b>8:55am</b>
<b>Dismissal Bell</b>	<b>3:40pm</b>

## **Cell phones**

Please remind students of the cell phone policy: If you choose to bring your cell phone to school, it must be off and away during school hours. This includes similar devices, including smart watches. Students are not permitted to make phone calls, text, use social media, take photos or videos, etc. while at school. If parents need to reach students or vice versa, please call into the front office at 443-809-1426.

\*The BCPS Cell Phone Policy is included with this newsletter for your reference.

## **Social Emotion Learning (SEL) Support**

Did you attend Back to School Night and visit our SEL Table at the Partnership Fair in the cafeteria? That is where you would have met our fabulous team of resource staff available to support students and families with social and emotional related needs, including:



Jillian Attanasio - SEL Teacher - [jattanasio@bcps.org](mailto:jattanasio@bcps.org)  
April Lewis-Carter - Social Worker - [alewiscarter@bcps.org](mailto:alewiscarter@bcps.org)  
Brittany Kipp - School Counselor - [bkipp@bcps.org](mailto:bkipp@bcps.org)  
Leslie Lichter - Resource Teacher - [llichter@bcps.org](mailto:llichter@bcps.org)  
Please reach out for assistance at any time.

## **Dismissal Changes**

We understand that life requires changes so please follow the steps below if your child will need to change their normal dismissal plan.

- Send in a note indicating the normal plan, the change, and the reason.
- Your child should give the note to his/her teacher. Children are not allowed to ride a bus other than the one assigned to them. If you are concerned that the note will not find its way to the teacher, please email your child's teacher along with the office staff, Jennifer Szczesniakowski at [jszczesniakowski@bcps.org](mailto:jszczesniakowski@bcps.org), Stacey Cronin at [scronin@bcps.org](mailto:scronin@bcps.org), and Robin Kodek at [rkodek@bcps.org](mailto:rkodek@bcps.org).
- If you have not received a confirmation email by 3:00, please call the main office at 443-809-1426 to ensure your child is dismissed properly. **Please make sure dismissal plans are in place prior to 3:00pm.**
- We are unable to make changes to dismissal plans after 3:00, unless there is an emergency.

## **School Meals**



Breakfast will be offered free of charge to all students this year. Lunch will be available for purchase, and parents must complete the online Free and Reduced Meal application to determine eligibility for meals at no cost:

[MySchoolApps - Getting Started](#)

\*Please note that we will no longer include the lunch menu with the newsletter because BCPS has moved to only publishing two weeks of meals at a time. Please visit the website if you are interested in viewing the lunch menu options: [Menus | Baltimore County Public Schools \(nutrislice.com\)](#)

## **Safe and Healthy Environment**

We ask that families update all student emergency contacts; anyone who comes to pick up a child MUST be listed on the contact form.



ALL visitors will be asked their reason for visiting and must show ID upon entering the building. Visits to classrooms will be allowed only when scheduled in advance with the teacher.

If you pick up your child(ren) in our car rider line, please feel free to pull into a parking spot if you need additional time to ensure your children are properly secured in your vehicle before pulling out of the parking lot.

<https://zerodeathsmd.gov/road-safety/child-passenger-safety/>



## **Where to find Information**

Updates and information will be shared out regularly by teachers, and by administration via our SchoolMessenger tool as needed, which may include text, email, and/or phone calls. Contact the front office if you need to update any of your contact information to ensure you receive this information.

School Website:

<https://relay.es.bcps.org>

BCPS Website:

[www.bcps.org](http://www.bcps.org)

Relay Elementary Main Office

443-809-1426

Twitter:

@BaltCoPS

@Relay\_BCPS

@LisaGraceRelay

BCPS Transportation Department

[Transportation.Contact.Us@bcps.org](mailto:Transportation.Contact.Us@bcps.org)

443-809-4321

SEL Resources



### **Attachments Included with this Newsletter:**

- Strawbridge School Picture Ordering Information
- BCPS Cell Phone Policy