**Principal’s Message, Tricia Angelini**

We were thrilled to welcome our students and families back to Warren for the 2021-2022 school year! The safety of our students, staff, and Warren community is most important as we all return for in-person instruction.

Because the safety of our students is most important, it is essential that we have your most up-to-date telephone number, address, and email address. If you have had a change in contact information, it is imperative that you contact school with the latest contact information. If you are picking up your child(ren) for early dismissal, you must send in a note or email, and have your ID with you when you sign them out. If someone else is picking up your child(ren) from school, they must be listed on the student emergency contact form and have identification with them. Your assistance in keeping our students and school safe is appreciated.

School attendance is crucial for our students. We will carefully be monitoring student attendance. We want your child to stay on track with his/her academic career and it is critical that he/she participate regularly in assigned classes and come to school each day on time.

**School Hours:**
- Kindergarten - 5th grade: 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- AM PreK: 8:40 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.
- PM PreK: 12:55 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Warren’s Positive Behavior Team spent time during this summer reviewing and revising student expectations. Each day our students will recite the new Warren expectations.

As part of the Warren school community,
I am expected to be safe, responsible, and respectful.
I am expected to learn something new today.
**School Social Worker, Jessica Julien**

Hi Warren Family! I am Ms. Julien, and I am so excited to be a part of the Warren family for my 3rd year. My role is to support the students emotionally and socially to ensure they are successful. I also partner with teachers, staff, and families to connect the school family with resources and assist with navigating community resources. I can’t wait to work with Warren students, families, and staff! If you would like to contact me, I can be reached by:

Email: jjulien@bcps.org. I am in the building on Mondays and Wednesdays and alternate Fridays!

**School Counselor, Laura Sherline**

Warren Elementary is embracing the use of Virtues and virtues language to enhance our character education program. Children will be taught the key virtues. Grade levels will choose a virtue to concentrate on each week with students. We get our resources from the Virtues Project, whose mission it is to inspire the practice of virtues in everyday life, through empowering strategies. We hope to develop and enhance a safe and caring community at our school through this work.

As always it is most effective for children to learn in a variety of ways and to have all the adults in their lives speaking the same language and encouraging the learning, in this case, of virtues, for life-long character development.

In our first month, teachers at grade levels will be encouraging virtues that will help students be organized and do their best in school. Here is an example of how to speak to children about the virtue of 'Orderliness,' which fits nicely with 'Responsibility' and 'Respect.'

**Orderliness** is being neat and living with a sense of harmony. When we begin the school year in an organized way, we know where things are when we need them, which reduces stress. If we learn to solve problems and handle the tasks of the day step by step, we avoid wasting time and frustrating ourselves. Order around us and in our classroom helps us to have peace of mind and to feel calm and safe.

Here are some helpful hints for being Orderly:

- Have a place for all your things.
- Put your things back in that same place every time.
- Have a plan before you begin and activity.
- Make your space feel harmonious and comfortable for you.
- Appreciate the harmony and beauty of nature.

We can say something like this to ourselves: "I live with order today. I do things step by step in the right order. I feel harmony and see beauty in my space and in my life." (source- Virtues Project International, www.virtuesproject.com)
Welcome back! I am really looking forward to seeing familiar faces again and meeting new friends! It’s going to be a great year here at Warren Elementary!

**Top 10 Things your School Nurse Wants You to Know at the Start of the School Year**

1. **IMMUNIZATIONS**: Every student must be up to date on their immunizations as required by the State of Maryland. Your child **will not be allowed to come to school after September 19th** if they are not up to date.

2. **Medications**: Whether your child is going to start taking medications at school this year, or took them last year, we must have a **new order** from your child’s doctor each year. For prescription OR over-the-counter meds (not covered on the Discretionary med form) he/she will need A) “Parent’s Request to Administer Medications in School” form filled out and signed by the provider and B) the medication **in its original packaging with the pharmacy label**, matching the order. Until we received **both** the signed form and the packaged medication, the medication cannot be given at school.

3. **Discretionary Medication Forms**: Please look for these **PINK** forms coming home the first week of school. We need a new form filled out and signed by the parent/guardian each school year in order to give these medications in school.

4. **Contact Information**: It is very important that you notify the front office immediately if there are changes in your contact information. We must be able to reach you quickly if your child is ill or has an emergency, while in school.

5. **Health Changes**: Please notify the nurse if there are changes in your child’s health condition, as they arise. It is important for us to keep their health charts current!

6. **Glasses, hearing aids, other adaptive equipment**: Please be sure your child comes to school with any adaptive devices that he or she requires to maximize their learning capacity in the classroom.

7. **Clothing**: The children will go out to play most days, even when it may be cold or wet. Please dress them accordingly!

8. **Extra clothing and Masks**: **ALL students should keep a change of clothing and an extra mask in their lockers**. Everyday children of all ages have bathroom accidents, yogurt spills on their shirts, wet, muddy knees from a fall on the playground, and so on. While the Health Suite has a limited amount of clothing for emergencies, having backup clothes in your child’s locker will assure they have something that will fit, allowing them to quickly get back to the classroom.

9. **School nurses are great resources!** If you need assistance meeting your child’s medical needs- getting required vaccines, visiting the doctor, visiting the dentist, getting eyeglasses, etc., please give me a call! We often do not know what the medical needs of our students are until the parents or guardians reach out to us for help. We can often hook you up with **low-cost or no-cost services** for your child.
10. **Communication:** I love getting to know your children and their families! While we just do not have time to contact parents for each and every visit to the health suite, I will notify you with a Health Suite visit note or a phone call if it is warranted. If you ever have a question or need some clarification, please do not hesitate to give me a call anytime!

**Contact the School Nurse:** Kate Melito at 410-666-8376 or kmelito@bcps.org

**PTA News**

The Warren PTA is thrilled to welcome our students, families, and staff to a new school year. We have been busy in August and September, hosting playground playdates for kindergarten students, organizing a welcome luncheon for teachers and staff, providing free Kona Ice for students at Sneak A Peek and bringing clothes and shoes to families who need a hand.

- Please take a few minutes to visit [WarrenCubsPTA.membershiptoolkit.com](http://WarrenCubsPTA.membershiptoolkit.com) to sign up. The purpose of the PTA is to share information, build community, amplify the voices of families, remove barriers to equity and provide the extra supplies and experiences that make school fun and exciting. Dues are just $7, but we also offer a free membership option.

- While you're at our website, check out opportunities to volunteer. We are looking for parents and family members to help with Read-A-Thon, the Spring Festival and Warren's 50th Anniversary Celebration, family reading night, and the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee. We are also looking for bilingual parents who can help translate meetings and share information with our Spanish-speaking families.

- The PTA's **School Spirit Wear** store is open for business. We have cozy hoodies, the always popular "Kindergarten Cool Club" tee, an awesome long-sleeve red t-shirt to commemorate Warren's 50th anniversary, and a white 50th anniversary t-shirt perfect for tie-dyeing. (We're planning a tie-dyeing party after everyone gets their shirts.) Order by Oct. 8.

- **Family Appreciation Day.** Stop by the PTA's table outside of school on the afternoon of September 15 to pick up some treats, enter a raffle and learn more about the PTA.

- The first **PTA Meeting** of the year will be Tuesday, Sept. 21 at 7 p.m. We'll gather virtually via Google Meets. Use your child's BCPS account to log into Google Meets and enter the code WarrenPTASept.

- We have two exciting fundraisers planned for September. Dine at Coal Fire in Hunt Valley on Sept. 28 and a portion of check will go to the PTA. And, for the first time, we are partnering with **Taharka Brothers** ice cream for an exciting deal for Warren families. Order a case of ice cream on Sept. 27, 28 or 29 and use the code Warren2021. Taharka Brothers will deliver it to your home on Oct. 1. For each case of ice cream sold, $10 will come back to the PTA.

- Are you following the Warren PTA on social media? We post lots of tips, activities and more on our **Facebook** and **Instagram** accounts. We also have a Spanish-language Warren PTA group on **What's App.**
• Would you like to be a **room parent**? Room parents coordinate gifts for teachers, help prep materials for teachers and assist with other tasks. If you are interested in being a room parent, contact Kristen Dreaper at kddreaper@gmail.com.

• Don’t forget to visit the Warren’s **Little Free Library**! Purchased and installed by the PTA at the end of last school year, the Little Free Library is full of books for kids of all ages. Stop by and pick up a book or leave books that you have already read.