



## ***Spotlight on Bells Mill Elementary***

**February 8, 2016**

**Office of the Principal**

[www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/bellsmilles](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/bellsmilles)

<http://www.twitter.com/bellsmilles>

### **This Week**

**Mon., Feb. 8**

**Learn Music Now, 8:15 am, rm. 149**  
**Etiquette Class, rm. 125, 3:50-4:50 pm**  
**Glee Club, rm. 164, 3:50-4:50 pm**  
**Learn Music Now, 3:50-4:50 pm, rm. 149**  
**Basketball, 3:50-4:45 pm, gym**  
**Gr. 3 Scout Troop 4093, 3:50 pm, rm. 150**  
**Gr. 5 Scout Troop 4387, 3:50 pm, rm. 128**  
**Daisies, 3:50 pm, rm. 236**

**Tues., Feb. 9**

**Clay Creations, 3:50-4:50 pm, rm. 163**

**Wed., Feb. 10**

**Report Cards distributed today**  
**Vision/Hearing Screening for K, 1 and those new to MCPS**  
**French, 8:00 am, rm. 159**  
**Spanish Intro, 8:00 am, rm. 150**  
**Spanish Beginner, 8:00 am, rm. 154**  
**STEM, 3:30 pm, rms. 120 and 124**  
**Chess, 3:50-5:15 pm, Media Center**  
**Lego Robotics, 3:50-5:00 pm, rm. 124 and 120**

**Thur., Feb. 11**

**Vision/Hearing Screening for K, 1 and those new to MCPS**  
**Mixed Media 3:50-5:00 pm, rm. 163**  
**Strong Voices 3:50-5:00 pm, rm. 164**  
**Indoor Soccer, 3:50-5:15 pm, gym**  
**Parents of Incoming Kindergarteners Mtg., 7:00 pm, Media Center (snow date Feb. 22)**

**Fri., Feb. 12**

**Wear your school colors today**  
**United Nations Model, 8:10 am, rm. 149**  
**Valentine parties in classrooms, 2:30 pm**  
**Odyssey of the Mind, 3:50 pm, Media Center**  
**Mad Science, 3:50-4:50 pm, rm. 163**  
**Lego Minecraft, 3:50-5:30 pm, rm. 153**

### **A Look Ahead**

**Feb. 15**

**School Closed for Presidents' Day**

**Feb. 16-19**

**No Head Start**

**Feb. 19**

**Class Photos**

**Feb. 23**

**Family Life Info Mtg. for Gr. 5 Parents, 6:00-7:00 pm, Media Center**

- **Due to school closings, the new date for report card distribution is Wednesday, February 10.** Please check backpacks.
- **Due to disruption caused by the recent blizzard, PARCC Night for Parents that was scheduled for Monday, February 1, at Richard Montgomery High School has been cancelled. Instead, MCPS will present a webinar on Wednesday, February 10, from 7:00-8:00 pm.** During the webinar, staff will provide an overview of PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers) assessments, as well as information on upcoming changes for the 2016 administration of the tests. In addition, information will be shared to help parents understand their children's score reports from the spring 2015 administration of the PARCC tests. Parents will have an opportunity to ask questions, and foreign language interpretation will be provided. Instructions for accessing the webinar will be posted on the MCPS website at <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org> by Friday, February 5. If you are unable to watch it live, a video recording of the webinar also will be posted on the website. Visit <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/parcc/> for more information about the PARCC assessments.
- **Vision and Hearing Screenings will take place on Wednesday and Thursday, February 10 and 11, for all students in K-1 and those who are new to Montgomery County Public Schools. Parents who do not want their children screened should contact the Health Room.**
- **There will be an informational meeting for parents of next year's incoming kindergarteners, Thursday, February 11, 7:00 pm, in the Media Center (snow date: Monday, February 22).** If you have a child who will be age 5 by September 1, please plan on attending this important meeting. Children should not attend. You will meet the kindergarten teachers, begin the registration process, and get answers to your questions. Please help spread the word to neighbors who have incoming kindergarteners. Kindergarten Orientation will be held in the spring. Tentative dates for Kindergarten Orientation are April 11-12, by appointment. As soon as these dates are firm, we will notify parents to sign up for an appointment.
- **Valentine Parties will take place in classrooms on Friday, February 12, 2:30-3:30 pm.** Parents are welcome. Please park on the street that day. It is important that the driveway and bus lot remain open during this time.
- **Schaeffer Piano Co. and MCPS have partnered to offer our families new upright and grand pianos at reduced prices.** This sales event will take place on February 13, 14, and 15 at 105 N. Stonestreet Ave., Rockville. February 13 and 14 are by appointment only. On February 15 the sale will be open to the general public. To schedule an appointment, call 301-424-1147.
- **Class photos are rescheduled for Friday, February 19.** Please use the order forms that were sent home in January. You will also have the opportunity to order online.
- **Student Transfer Application Season begins Feb. 1, 2016.** Montgomery County parents/guardians who wish to request a Change of School Assignment (COSA) for their children may begin the process during the upcoming transfer season. All COSA requests must be submitted no later than **April 4, 2016**. The *Change of School Assignment Information Booklet* contains the COSA form, describes the process and provides useful information. The COSA booklet is available on the MCPS website at <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/info/transfers>.
- **The dates of the application and lottery process for the Elementary Foreign Language Immersion Programs are February 2 to April 8, 2016.** Parents may participate in the immersion lottery process using the *Elementary Immersion Interest Form*. The form, directions and more information on the Elementary Foreign Language Immersion Programs are available on the MCPS website at <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/specialprograms/admissions/immersion.aspx>. Mail completed forms directly to DCCAPS, Spring Mill Field Office, 11721 Kemp Mill Rd., Silver Spring, MD 20902, or hand deliver by April 8. Please do not return completed forms to school, as that will only delay the application process. DCCAPS will notify parents by mail of student selections.
- **The George B. Thomas Learning Academy Saturday School is now accepting registrations for spring.** Saturday School supports core academics and is offered at 12 sites throughout the county. For registration and information,

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

- **Cybersafety and Social Media** is a FREE workshop for parents offered by the MCPS Parent Academy, Thursday, February 18, 7:00 pm, Bethesda-Chevy Chase HS. To register, request child care, request foreign language and sign language interpreters, and for more information, please visit [www.mcpsparentacademy.org](http://www.mcpsparentacademy.org) .
- **Register now for Kids' College spring enrichment courses at Montgomery College.** Courses are offered for students in grades 1-10, Saturdays and after school, Germantown and Rockville campuses. Please visit [www.montgomerycollege.edu/youth](http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/youth) to view course offerings and to register.

*Thank you for being partners in your child's education.*