

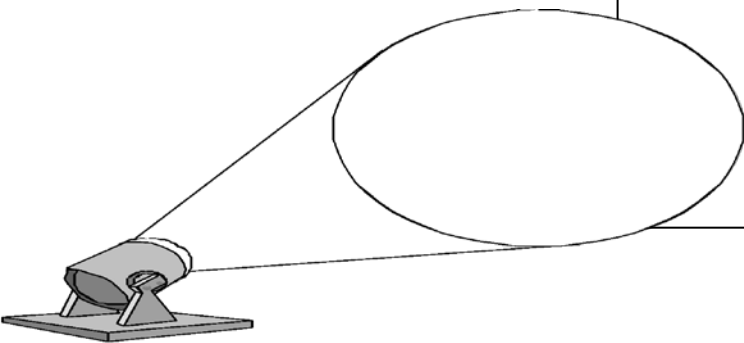
Spotlight on Bells Mill Elementary

October 30, 2017

Office of the Principal

www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/bellsmilles

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



The week ahead

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| Mon., Oct. 30 | 4 -5 pm MSA in gym |
| Tue., Oct. 31 | 4-5 pm – Chess Club (K-5) Media Center 4 -5 pm – Drawing with Young Rembrandts (K-5) Art Room 4-5 pm – MSA Basketball in gym |
| Wed., Nov. 1 | Model UN meeting 8:15 - 9:00 am 4-5 pm – Crazy Chemworks (K-5) 4-5 pm- ROBLOX Coding (Grades 3-5) Room 233 4-5 pm – Soccer on field |
| Thur., Nov. 2 | 8:15 – 9:15 am – Beginning/Intermediate Spanish (K-5) Room 121 4-5 pm – Lower School Tennis (K-5) Blacktop 4-5 pm – MSA Soccer and Flag Football on fields |
| Fri., Nov. 3 | School Spirit Day -- Show your Bells Mill Bear Pride and wear blue/white 4 – 5:30 pm Odyssey of the Minds 4-5 pm - Daisy Troop 33042 in room 150 Have a nice weekend making memories with your families. |

A Look Ahead

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| Nov. 7 - | PTA Meeting - Come and learn about our math programs in grades 3-5 |
| Nov. 9 | Early Dismissal at 1:20 pm |
| Nov. 10 | Early Dismissal at 1:20 pm (No School for Head Start students today) |

- **Thanks to all families who supported our fabulous PTA** family evening at California Tortilla. A very special thank you to the celebrities who were sighted scooping delicious treats for all. It was a great evening for our school family.
- **Mark your calendars for our annual Halloween parade and parties.** This year we will be gathering as a school for our parade around 2:15pm in the afternoon of Tuesday, October 31. After our parade, classes will hold their Halloween parties. An early thanks to all room parents who have planned a fun event for each class. We will be moving our entire lunch schedule back by 15 minutes to allow the last group time to get changed into their costumes. With that said, we ask that parents send costumes in that day. Please do not have children come to school in costume. We are asking that you not send in any weapons as part of the costume. Children

can include all of those extra parts when they go trick or treating that evening. We invite you to join us for the parade and of course the parties too. The parade will follow the sidewalk along the recess side of the school with children exiting the back of the building. They will walk down the sidewalk and then around the basketball court, out the gate, down the sidewalk in front of the school and in the main entrance on their way back to classrooms. We ask that you park on the street. You may not park in the fire lanes in the front of the school. We also request that you not park in the bus loop so our buses can get in on time for dismissal. All parties will end at 3:30pm providing time for clean-up and an organized dismissal. Please contact your child's teacher with questions.

- **Donate Extra Halloween Candy for the Troops and First Responders!**

The BMES SGA will collect extra Halloween candy to send to deployed troops and first responders through Operation Gratitude. Please bring in unopened Halloween candy to student drop off on the mornings of November 1st-3rd. The SGA will collect candy and have materials available for students to write cards for troops. BMES is partnering with MVPSmiles, a local pediatric dentist to support the costs of shipping the candy. MVPSmiles will also donate toothbrushes to both students and the troops. Please bring in your excess Halloween candy and help support this event! More information will come home in backpacks. If you have any questions, please contact Lauren Ramos at raskinramos@gmail.com.

- **Pre-printed Federal Impact Aid Survey forms are coming home today.** Please complete these forms and return to the address on the form. Completion of the forms may result in additional Federal funding for MCPS. Thank you for your attention to this request. Please contact the school if you have questions.

- **Box Tops For Education Ice Cream Party Contest** It's time once again for our annual Box Top Ice Cream Party Contest! Last year, grades K-5 competed to see which class could bring in the most Box Tops for the year. Mrs. Tabachow's 2nd graders were the winners and won a fabulous ice cream party in June. So, let's get ready for the new 2017-2018 Box Top year! Clipping Box Tops is an easy way to help earn cash for our school. Just look for the pink Box Tops on hundreds of products. All you have to do is clip them and send them to school with your child. There is a Box Top collection bin in the entrance of the school where they can be deposited. Make sure to put your Box Tops in a Ziploc bag, envelope, or the collection sheet sent home with your child, and label which teacher you are turning them in for. Please make sure that the date on the bottom of them has not expired. For more information on Box Tops, including a list of participating products, go to BTFE.com. Be sure to sign up as a member (it's free!) so you can check out our school's earnings details and get access to coupons and bonus offers. There is even a new app for your phone to earn bonus Box Tops! If you have any questions, please contact Kellie Zuba at kelliezuba@gmail.com. Let's make our school's Box Tops for Education program a huge success this year! I'll be posting updates on Facebook about which classes are in the lead to win the contest. Thanks for your help!

- **November 7, at 7:00 pm is our next PTA meeting.** At this meeting we will have a panel of grade 3,4,and 5 teachers talking to you about the rigors of the elementary math program and

what that looks like for your children during instruction. Please plan on joining us for this informative presentation.

Health Room NEWS

- **Has your child received a flu shot yet?** If your child is between the ages of 3 and 18 years, make an appointment for your child to receive a free flu shot at John F. Kennedy, Northwest, or Rockville high schools on Thursday, November 9, 2017 from 1:30 - 4:30 pm by visiting the Montgomery County Government website at MontgomeryCountyMD.gov or calling 311.#FightFlu

MCPS NEWS

Homework Help Available to all MCPS Students

Free homework help is available from MCPS-TV's *Homework Hotline Live* (HHL). Students may call, or submit a question online, to *Homework Hotline Live* at 301-279-3234 or go to AskHHL.org. Students can watch teachers address their homework questions live on MCPS-TV from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m., Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, or get after-hours online help from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday. New this year, students and parents can download the free *Homework Hotline Live* app, where you can send questions, watch live, and find more homework help resources, all from your phone (now available in App Stores for your Apple or Android device).

Ways to contact *Homework Hotline Live* for free homework help:

- Phone: 301-279-3234 (during TV broadcasts)
- Web: AskHHL.org
- Text: 724-427-5445 (7244-ASK-HHL)
- Email: question@AskHHL.org
- Snapchat (username: AskHHL)
- The new *Homework Hotline Live* phone app! (download for [Apple](#) or [Android](#))

Ways to watch *Homework Hotline Live*, from 4:30 – 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday:

- Comcast 34 & 998(HD)
- Verizon 36
- RCN 89 & 1058(HD)
- AskHHL.org
- YouTube (search: AskHHL)
- *Homework Hotline Live* phone app

Go to AskHHL.org to learn more.

Attend Open Houses for Middle and High School Consortia Application Programs

The deadline for applications to participate in the *Choice* process is November 3. Parents/guardians and students are encouraged to attend open houses to learn about the *Choice* programs scheduled in October at Northeast Consortium (NEC) and Downcounty Consortium (DCC) high schools, and at the Middle School Magnet Consortium (MSMC) middle schools. Go to the website for more information on dates and locations. <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/enrichedinnovative/events/>

Grade 8 DCC and NEC parents/guardians will receive information about the *Choice* process in the mail in mid-October. Grade 5 families received information about the middle school options in the mail in late September.

Parents/guardians and students are also encouraged to attend information meetings to learn more about the application-only programs. Check out the MCPS website for more information about the magnet programs at the elementary school Centers for Enriched Studies, Roberto W. Clemente, Eastern, and Takoma Park middle schools, and Montgomery Blair, Richard Montgomery, and Poolesville high schools.

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/specialprograms/admissions/applications.aspx>