



Spotlight on Bells Mill Elementary
December 10, 2012
Office of the Principal
www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/bellsmilles
<http://www.twitter.com/bellsmilles>

This Week:

Mon., Dec. 10 **Language Stars, 3:30-4:30, 236 (note room change)**
Gr. 1 Boy Scouts, 3:30-4:30, rm. 235
Art, 3:30-4:30, rm. 163

Tues., Dec. 11 **K Daisies, 3:30-4:30, rm. 129**
Big Learning Anatomy, 3:30-4:30, rm. 150
Rock Guitar, 3:30-4:30, rm. 125
Voice class, 3:30-4:30, rm. 163
Basketball, 3:30-4:30 pm, gym
Reading Network, 3:30-4:30, Media Center

Wed., Dec. 12 **Beginning French, 8:00-9:00 am, rm. 218**
Intermediate Spanish, 8:00-9:00 am, rm. 223
Beginning Spanish, 3:30-4:30 pm, rm. 223
Art, 3:30-5:00 pm, rm. 163
Chess, 3:30-4:30 pm
Power Hour, 3:30-4:30 pm, rm. 164

Thur., Dec. 13 **Hip Hop, 3:30-4:30 pm, gym**
Guitar, 3:30-4:30 pm, rm. 148
Reading Network, 3:30-4:30 pm, Media Center

Fri., Dec. 14 **Odyssey of the Mind, Media Center**
Violin, 3:30-4:30 pm, rm. 120

A Look Ahead: **Dec. 15** **Skate Night at Cabin John Ice Rink, 6:00-8:00 pm**
Dec. 24-25 **School Closed for Christmas holiday**
Dec. 26-31 **School Closed for winter break**
Jan. 1 **School Closed for New Year's Day**

- **Attention ALL Grade 2 Parents**, our school will begin gathering information about Grade 2 students to help match students to appropriate instructional placement in Grade 3 and for Gifted and Talented (GT) identification. During the weeks of January 7-18, 2013, all Grade 2 students in Montgomery County Public Schools will be assessed using the InView. The InView is an assessment of cognitive abilities. Each subtest takes approximately 25 minutes to complete. Over the next few months we will continue gathering information about each student from a variety of sources, including parents.

- **Attention Parents of Grade 3 Students Applying to the Center for the Highly Gifted at Coldspring ES**, all Grade 3 students applying to the Center for the Highly Gifted at Coldspring ES will be tested at Bells Mill ES on January 9, 2013. The test will be during the morning. Please make every effort to not schedule your child and doctor's appointments requiring them to miss this test. An outside testing assistant from the Office of Enriched and Accelerated Instruction will be administering the test along with Ms. Debra Taylor, Gifted/Talented Liaison at Bells Mill. *If your child is sick the day of the test, it is the parent's responsibility to contact Mrs. Betty R. Shevitz, instructional specialist, DCCAPS, at 301.592.2040 for information on the make-up date.* Please mark your calendars.
- **Students in the 4th/5th Grade Best Buddies Program and students in the Autism Program are collaborating with Artist-in-Residence Carien Quiroga on a project entitled *Best Buddies Learn Tolerance and Inclusion Creating a Mosaic*.** They are creating two 3'x3' mosaic murals based on the Ezra Jack Keats book Louie, which emphasizes the importance of friendship and acceptance. The completed mosaics will be installed in the hallway near the Autism Program. The project is being funded through two different grants, one from the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation and one from the MCPS Educational Foundation. Thank you, Ms. Taylor, Mrs. Kanter, Ms. McNamara and Ms. Boyle for writing the grant proposals and planning this valuable experience for our students.

On a related note, thank you to the Bells Mill PTA for funding an assembly featuring Kids on the Block puppets. The presentation reinforced the concepts promoted by the mosaic project.

- **Thank you to Mrs. Vinson and the 4th/5th grade chorus for their wonderful performances on Thursday, December 6.**
- **On behalf of the SGA, thank you to all who sent in toys for the toy drive. These toys will be distributed to families in Montgomery County.**
- **Helping Kids Deal with Anger** is a workshop for parents to help their children develop strategies for dealing with anger in a positive way. The workshop is offered by YMCA Youth & Family Services, FREE, Monday, January 28, 7:00-9:00 pm, Bethesda Library, 7400 Arlington Rd., Bethesda.
- **Ten Reasons Children Don't Succeed** is a workshop to help parents discover common pitfalls that deprive children of the opportunity to succeed. Parents will learn strategies for helping kids become more confident, courageous, capable and caring. The workshop is offered by YMCA Youth & Family Services, FREE, Thursday, January 10, 7:00-9:00 pm, Davis Library, 6400 Democracy Blvd., Bethesda.

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