



***Spotlight on Bells Mill Elementary***  
Week of January 7, 2013  
Office of the Principal  
[www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/bellsmilles](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/bellsmilles)  
<http://www.twitter.com/bellsmilles>

**Week Ahead:**

- Mon., Jan. 7**      Language Stars, 3:30-4:30, 236  
Art, 3:30-4:30, rm. 163  
Lego Cyber-Robotics, 3:30-4:30, rm. 153  
Cub Scouts  
Basketball, 3:30-4:30, gym
- Tues., Jan. 8**      K Daisies, 3:30-4:30, rm. 129  
Voice class, 3:30-4:30, rm. 163  
Basketball, 3:30-4:30 pm, gym  
Rock Guitar, 3:30-4:30, rm. 125  
Lego Engineering, 3:30-4:30, rm. 120  
Reading Network, 3:30-4:30, Media Center  
PTA Meeting, 7:00 pm, Media Center
- Wed., Jan. 9**      Beginning French, 8:00-9:00 am, rm. 218  
Intermediate Spanish, 8:00-9:00 am, rm. 223  
Gr. 1 Daisies, 3:30 pm, rm. 149  
Gr. 2 Brownies, 3:30 pm, rm. 154  
Gr. 3 Brownies, 3:30 pm, rm. 128  
Beginning Spanish, 3:30-4:30 pm, rm. 223  
Power Hour, 3:30-4:30 pm, rm. 164  
Hip Hop, 3:30-4:30 pm, rms. 120-124
- Thur., Jan. 10**      Hip Hop, 3:30-4:30, rm. 120  
Reading Network, 3:30-4:30 pm, Media Center  
Basketball, 3:30-4:30, gym
- Fri., Jan. 11**      Odyssey of the Mind, Media Center  
Violin, 3:30-4:30

**A Look Ahead**

- Jan. 16**      Instrumental Music Concert, 7:00 pm, APR  
**Jan. 17**      Information Meeting for Incoming Kindergarten Parents, 7:00 pm, Media Center  
**Jan. 21**      Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday, School Closed  
**Jan. 22**      Professional Day for Teachers, No School for Students

- This is a reminder that we now utilize the electronic visitor management system. All visitors are required to show their driver's license and have it scanned. Those who do not have identification will manually enter their information in the system. All visitors will receive a badge to wear while in the building and are expected to return the badge and check out before leaving the building.

- **Please plan on attending the PTA meeting on Tuesday, January 8, 2013. Mrs. Thomas will present the school safety procedures and Mike Harting, School Safety and Security Coordinator for the Churchill cluster, will be available to answer questions you may have about current security practices within MCPS.**
- **Winter weather is here. Please make certain that your children are dressed properly for outdoor recess.** We do our best to send the children outside every day unless there is rain, snow, or temperatures below 32 degrees. **Please send in a doctor's note if your child is to stay in for recess.**
- **Please help us get the message out to parents with incoming kindergarteners for the next school year.** We are now gathering names and contact information for next year's kindergarten class. Please ask your neighbors to call the school if they have a child who will be 5 years old by September 1, 2013. Parents of incoming kindergarteners are invited to an **information meeting on Thursday, January 17, 7:00 pm**, in the Media Center, where they will learn about our kindergarten program and get their questions answered. Parents and their future kindergarteners are invited to an **Open House on Friday, February 8, 9:30-11:30 am**, when they can observe a typical morning in a kindergarten classroom (we ask that younger siblings not attend). **Our tentative dates for Kindergarten Orientation are Thursday and Friday, April 18 and 19 (by appointment).**
- **Special thanks to all families who supported our toy drive and to those who donated to the Bear Hug Fund.** Once again our community demonstrated a great sense of family and community.
- **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.
- **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.

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