



***Spotlight on Bells Mill Elementary***  
 Week of September 23, 2013  
 Office of the Principal  
[www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/bellsmilles](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/bellsmilles)  
<http://www.twitter.com/bellsmilles>

**Week Ahead:**

- Mon., Sept. 23**      Hip Hop, 3:30-4:30, gym  
 Cyber Minecraft, 3:30-4:30, rm. 214  
 Cooking, 3:30-4:30, rm. 163  
 I9 Sports Lacrosse, 3:30-4:30 pm
- Tues., Sept. 24**      Big Learning for K-1, 3:30-4:30, rm. 219  
 Art Escapades, 3:30-4:30, rm. 163  
 MSA Basketball, 3:30-4:30, gym  
 MSA Soccer, 3:30-4:30  
 Guitar, 3:30-4:30, rm. 121
- Wed., Sept. 25**      Adventure Theater, 3:30-4:30, rm. 124  
 MSA Street Hockey, 3:30-4:30
- Thur., Sept. 26**      Head Start Parent Meeting, 10:00 am, APR  
 Kung Fu, 3:30-4:30, rm. 121  
 Big Learning for 2-4, 3:30-4:30, rm. 223  
 Art Escapades, 3:30-4:30, rm. 163  
 I9 Sports Soccer, 3:30-4:30

**Fri., Sept. 27**      Wear your Bells Mill Spirit Wear Today!  
**Early Release, dismissal at 1:00 pm**

**A Look Ahead**

**October 1**      Room Parent Information Meeting, 6:30 pm, Media Center  
 PTA Meeting, 7:00 pm, APR (childcare available)

- **Bells Mill Families:** I want introduce myself to you as the acting principal. I will be ‘substituting’ for Mrs. Oglesby through October 25 while she is on medical leave. I know she is already looking forward to getting back to work. I am a retired MCPS principal having worked as a principal for over 25 years in multiple schools. In just the first few days I can see Bells Mill Elementary School is a wonderful school. The students are so capable and fun to be around and the staff is outstanding. During the brief time period that I will be at Bells Mill, we will continue to operate at the high level you are accustomed to, and I welcome you to stop by as needed.  
 Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns. Lee Meiners

- **We need your help.** We are seeing an increasing trend in parents picking up their children between 2:50 and 3:20 pm. Please keep in mind that classroom instruction continues until 3:20. At 3:20 students are given a few minutes to organize their materials and prepare for dismissal. Every early pick up requires a call into a classroom. When you pull your child out of school early, it

**interrupts the teacher's lesson, distracts the class, and deprives your child and the class of valuable instructional and organizational time.**

- **Attention Head Start parents, you are invited to a parent orientation meeting on Thursday, September 26, 2013, 10:00 am, in the Bells Mill all purpose room.** Learn about the program and meet the Head Start team. Questions, call Amabilia Reyes at 301-230-0676.
- **Please remember to send a note to the teacher when your child has to stay for an after school activity.**
- **If you have volunteered to be a room parent, please plan on attending an orientation on Tuesday, October 1, 6:30-7:00 pm, in the Media Center. The first PTA meeting of the year will immediately follow at 7:00 in the APR.**
- **Foreign language classes are postponed.** Enrollment is still open. Families who are interested in having your child participate in foreign language instruction should go to the [www.big.learning.org](http://www.big.learning.org) website and sign up for the classes. If you have questions please contact Mrs. Nina Price at [ninaprice@comcast.net](mailto:ninaprice@comcast.net) .
- **Builders of the Future** is a special one-day program for students in grades 4-6. Students take on the roles of engineers and designers to creatively solve problems and learn skills of collaboration. This program is offered by Montgomery College Youth Programs, **Saturday, October 19, 8:30 am-3:30 pm**, on the Rockville Campus of Montgomery College. Cost is \$85. To register for this program and learn about other programs, please visit [www.montgomerycounty.edu/wdce/youth.html](http://www.montgomerycounty.edu/wdce/youth.html) .
- **Duct Tape Parenting: Making Every Word Count** is a parent seminar offered by YMCA Youth and Family Services, Thursday, October 17, 7:00 pm, Suburban Hospital Auditorium. The fee is \$15 per person/\$25 per couple. Fee waivers are available. Registration, [www.yfsparentsfall2013.eventbrite.com](http://www.yfsparentsfall2013.eventbrite.com) .
- **The Churchill Girls Varsity soccer team is sponsoring a soccer skills session for girls ages 8-14 on Sunday, September 29, 9-10:30AM on the Churchill lower field.** Cost is \$20, proceeds to fund the varsity girls' ACL injury prevention training and uniform needs. The skills session will focus on shooting and finishing, 1v1 drills, running for speed technique, step-over and other soccer moves. Email [jane\\_johnston@verizon.net](mailto:jane_johnston@verizon.net) with any questions. Please support the team!

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