



***Spotlight on Bells Mill Elementary***  
Week of March 17, 2014  
Office of the Principal  
[www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/bellsmilles](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/bellsmilles)  
<http://www.twitter.com/bellsmilles>

**Week of Mar. 17**

***DUE TO WEATHER CANCELLATIONS, PLEASE CHECK WITH YOUR AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROVIDERS TO CONFIRM MEETING DATES***

**Mon., Mar. 17**

Cyber Minecraft, 3:30-4:30, rm. 214  
Intro to Minecraft, 3:30-4:30, rm. 219  
Hip Hop, 3:30-4:30, gym  
Claymation, 3:30-4:30, rm. 163

**Tues., Mar. 18**

Art Escapades, 3:30-4:30, rm. 163 (make up)  
Guitar, 3:30-4:30, rm. 165  
Chess, 3:30-4:45 pm, Media Center  
MSA Basketball, 3:30-4:45 pm, gym  
Gr. 3-5 Talent Show auditions, 3:30-5:00 pm

**Wed., Mar. 19**

Beginning French, 8:00 am, rm. 212  
Intermediate French, 8:00 am, rm. 240  
Fitness Fun, 3:30-4:30, rm. 103  
Chess, 3:30-4:45 pm, Media Center

**Thur., Mar. 20**

Beginning Chinese, 3:30-4:30 pm, rm. 218  
Big Learning today (make up)  
Tae Kwon Do, 3:30-4:30, rm. 120  
Math Kangaroo, 3:30-5:15, rms. 239 & 240 (pick up at 5:15 in rm. 235)  
Gr. 3-5 Talent Show mandatory rehearsal, 3:30-5:00 pm

**Fri., Mar. 21**

Wear your Bells Mill Spirit Wear today!  
Intermediate Spanish, 8:00 am, rm. 239  
Gr. 3-5 Talent Show, 7:00 pm, APR

**A Look Ahead**

**March 26** Family Life Meeting for Gr. 5 Parents, 6:00 pm, Media Center (note time change)

**March 27** End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Marking Period

**March 28** No School for Students, Professional Day for Teachers

- Our Bells Mill family continues to grow. We wish Mrs. Kanter good luck as she awaits the birth of her new baby. We are working on obtaining a substitute counselor for her absence.

We also wish good luck to Mrs. Kemp. She will soon add a new member to her family. Welcome back to Mr. TenEyck who will substitute in her absence.

- The Bells Mill Science Fair is April 4, 7:00-8:00 pm, in the APR. The Science Fair is non-competitive and open to all students in Grades K-5. Participation is voluntary. Check the PTA website for registration.

- **It's time to order 2013-2014 yearbooks!** Parents may log on to [ybpay.lifetouch.com](http://ybpay.lifetouch.com) and enter your job # 11371914 to order a yearbook through a secure site exclusive to BMES. The cost is \$24. Yearbooks are a wonderful way to remember this fantastic school year! Supplies are limited. So please order soon.
- **A representative from the office of the State's Attorney for Montgomery County will speak on internet safety and cyberbullying, Tuesday, March 25 at 7:00 pm, at Seven Locks Elementary School.** All Churchill Cluster parents are invited to attend.
- **School Year May Be Extended Due to Snow Days.** As of now, Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) has had nine snow days this school year. The 2013-2014 school calendar, as approved by the Board of Education, has four snow days built in, so MCPS is five days over its allotted number of snow days. In order to meet the state-required 180 days of instruction, MCPS will need to add five instructional days to the end of the school year, as outlined in the Board-approved calendar. There are no plans to change spring break at this time. MCPS can apply for a waiver from the state so that we would not have to make up all of the snow days, but the state is not yet accepting these requests. **Without a state waiver, the last day of school for students will be June 19, 2014. Parents are asked to plan accordingly. We will keep you updated as more information becomes available.**
- **Thank you to the Gr. 3 Brownie Troop 4387 for leaving Girl Scout cookies in the staff lounge. We really enjoyed the surprise treat.**
- **The Grade 3-5 Talent Show is on Friday, March 21, 7:00 pm. Auditions are on Tuesday, March 18, 3:30-5:00 pm, and mandatory rehearsals are on Thursday, March 20, 3:30-5:00 pm. NO TRANSPORTATION IS PROVIDED.**  
**Please note:** Students must have a permission form in order to participate. The form is available online on the PTA website and in the office. Students should bring an afternoon snack to the auditions and rehearsals. Questions, contact LaTisha Gasaway at [minds\\_in\\_motion@yahoo.com](mailto:minds_in_motion@yahoo.com).
- **All are invited to attend the Japan Fair on Saturday, March 22, 1:00-5:00 pm, at the Bauer Drive Community Center, 14625 Bauer Drive, Rockville. Admission is FREE!** Students from Japan will present cultural activities including a tea ceremony, origami, calligraphy, martial arts demonstrations and traditional dances.
- **We have seen some instances of strep throat at Bells Mill. Please read the attached letter from the Health Room.**

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

Date: 3/14/19

Dear Parent:

Recently we have been informed by several parents from our school that their child has been diagnosed as having a streptococcal (Strep) throat infection.

Streptococcal sore throat is a common illness in childhood. It usually occurs as a sore throat, which may or may not be red, and is commonly accompanied by a fever. Children may also present with swollen glands, headache or abdominal pains. A definite diagnosis can only be made through a throat culture done by your source of medical care. Infection is spread by direct or intimate contact, through discharges from the nose, throat and skin of the infected person, who may or may not have any symptoms. Infection can also be spread indirectly through contaminated hands or objects. Symptoms appear between 1 - 3 days after exposure. Persons are no longer infectious 24 hours after the start of treatment.

If untreated, the streptococcal bacteria responsible for strep throat, can cause more serious illnesses, such as rheumatic fever. Therefore, check your child's temperature when she/he complains of a sore throat. If your child has a fever with a sore throat for longer than 48 hours, it is advisable to have your child seen by his/her source of medical care. If she/he has a strep throat, your child may not return to school until she/he has been taking medicine for at least 24 hours.

We would like to take this opportunity to emphasize the importance of prevention of infections through proper hand washing, particularly before eating or handling food and after contact with body secretions or discharges.

Since your child will need to continue the medication after she/he feels better, please contact the school principal or the nurse if a dose needs to be given during the school hours. The school nurse will explain our medication procedure and give you a form for both you and the doctor to complete.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Jeni B. Oglesby  
Principal

Deborah Stapleton (501)4691240  
School Health Nurse Phone