



Mon., Jan. 5 **Happy New Year and Welcome Back!**
Computer/Video Programming, 3:30-4:30 pm, rm. 148

Tue., Jan. 6 **MSA Basketball, 3:30-4:45 pm, gym**
PTA Meeting, 7:00 pm, APR

Wed., Jan. 7 **Intermediate French, 8:00-9:00 am, rm. 212**
Intro to Spanish, 8:15-9:00 am, rm. 125
Beginning Spanish, 3:30-4:30, rm. 120
Gr. 2 Brownies, 3:30-4:30 pm, rm. 155

Thur., Jan. 8 **Chinese, 3:30-4:30 pm, rm. 213**
MSA Indoor Soccer, 3:30-4:30 pm

Fri., Jan. 9 **Odyssey of the Mind, 3:30, Media Center**
Wear your school colors today
Have a great weekend!

Jan. 14 **Instrumental Music Concert, 7:00 pm, APR**
Jan. 15 **Math and Literacy Game Night, 6:45 pm-8:15 pm**

- **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 8, 2015.** The test will take place during the morning. Please make every effort have your child arrive at school on time. Please try to not schedule your child's doctor's appointments during this time. An outside testing assistant from the Office of Enriched and Accelerated Instruction will be administering the test 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.
- **We have outdoor recess if there is no precipitation and the outside temperature is 32 degrees or above.** Please watch the weather forecast and make sure your child is dressed for outdoor recess.
- **Save the date for our 2nd Annual Family Math and Literacy Game Night, Thursday, January 15, 6:45-8:15 pm.** A complimentary pizza dinner will be served, and there is no charge for the event. Connect with your family and neighbors while playing fun and educational games! Check the PTA website <http://bellsmill.org/> after break for more information. Middle and high school volunteers who wish to earn SSL hours should check the PTA website for Sign Up Genius. Six spots will be available. See you there!

- **Thank you.** We appreciate your generous donations to the Bear Hug Fund, the SGA New Toy Drive, and Mrs. Kanter's holiday gift collection. Your kindness will touch many families in our area.
- **It's important to remember that MCPS has a contingency calendar should we exceed four days of closings.** If MCPS has to make up instructional days this school year due to emergency closings, the district will follow the already approved contingency calendar for the 2014–2015 school year. MCPS will add days onto the end of the school year, unless a waiver is granted by the Maryland State Department of Education. MCPS will not open on holidays, reduce spring break, or cancel negotiated professional days. The contingency plan, indicating when days will be made up if the number of emergency closings exceeds four days, is as follows. If the school year is disrupted by emergencies and schools are closed—
 - 5 days—the school year will be extended by one day to Monday, June 15, 2015;
 - 6 days—the school year will be extended by two days to June 15 and June 16, 2015;
 - 7 days—the school year will be extended by three days to June 15, 16 and 17, 2015;
 - 8 days—the school year will be extended by four days to June 15, 16, 17 and 18, 2015; and
 - 9 days—the school year will be extended by five days to June 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19, 2015.
 You can find the school contingency calendar online at <http://montgomeryschoolsmd.org/info/calendars/>.
- **Winter is here!** In the event of school closings or delayed openings due to weather conditions, all announcements are made as early as possible, generally in time for news broadcasts that begin at 5:00 am. Early release announcements are made by 11:00 am. Please tune in to local radio and television news stations or MCPS Channel 34 for information regarding school closings, delays and early releases. MCPS offers numerous ways for parents to learn about school closures, delayed openings, and early dismissals due to inclement weather.
 - AlertMCPS**
Receive text messages or emails from MCPS during weather-related emergencies and other major events that impact school system operations. Parents can also sign up to receive alerts specific to their child's school. Subscribe to AlertMCPS at <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/emergency/alertmcps.aspx>
 - MCPS homepage**
www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org
 - QuickNotes email news service**
Subscribe at <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/info/quicknotes/subscribe/>
 - MCPS cable channel**
Comcast 34, Verizon 36 or RCN 89
 - Recorded information (English and Spanish)**
301-279-3673
 - Ask MCPS**
301-309-6277. Staff take calls from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, in English and Spanish.
 - Twitter**
<http://twitter.com/mcps>
 - Local radio and TV stations**
Visit <http://montgomeryschoolsmd.org/emergency/> for more information.

Thank you for being partners in your child's education