



Spotlight on Bells Mill Elementary

Week of March 23, 2015

Office of the Principal

Mon., Mar. 23

**Gr. 3 Brownies, rm. 159
Gr. 2 Scouts, rm. 132
Gr. 4 Brownies, rm. 128
K Daisies #690, rm. 150
Photoshop & Animation, 3:30-4:30 pm, rm. 121
Legos Engineering, 3:30-4:30 pm, rm. 209
Art Escapades, 3:30-4:30 pm, rm. 163**

Tue., Mar. 24

**Gr. 1 to National Zoo
Chess, 3:30-4:45, Media Center
MSA Basketball, 3:30-4:45 pm, gym**

Wed., Mar. 25

**Intermediate French, 8:00-9:00 am, rm. 212
Intro to Spanish, 8:15-9:00 pm, rm. 125
Beginning Spanish, 3:30-4:00 pm, rm. 120
Art Escapades, Clay Creations, 3:30-4:30 pm, rm. 163
Chess, 3:30-4:45 pm, Media Center
Cooking and Math, 3:30-4:30 pm, rm. 129
Imagination Stage, 3:30-4:30 pm, rm. 121**

Thur., Mar. 26

**End of Third Marking Period
Book Exchange
K Daisies #1643, rm. 163
MSA Indoor Soccer, 3:30-4:30 pm
Intermediate Chinese, 3:30-4:30 pm, rm. 209
Chemistry, 3:30-5:00 pm, rm. 121 (note new dismissal time)**

Fri., Mar. 27

**NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS, Professional Day for staff
Have a great weekend!**

A look ahead

April 1 & 2

**NO SCHOOL FOR KINDERGARTENERS
Kindergarten Orientation for next year's kindergarteners (by appointment)**

April 3-10

Spring Break

- **Once again Bells Mill was well represented at the Maryland State Reflections Competition.** Please join us in congratulating **Ilayda Dogan**, recipient of the Award of Excellence in Literature, and **Jonah Ramos**, recipient of the Award of Merit in Visual Arts. Families are welcome to view all 27 Bells Mill entries as well as the other Montgomery County entries at the Gallery Art Show, date, time and location to be announced.

- **We want to congratulate Zoe Rosenstock** (Gr. 4) on being one of the winners of the Bethesda Literary Festival's Youth Writing Contest. There were almost 500 entries into the contest and only 10 winners were selected, so this is a wonderful achievement!
- **Attention Kindergarten and Gr. 4 Parents, your child's teacher is collecting payment and permission forms for upcoming field trips. Please send in payment/permission forms as soon as possible.**
- **Streptococcal sore throat is a common illness in childhood.** Recently we have seen several cases of strep. It usually occurs as a sore throat, which may or may not be red, and is commonly accompanied by a fever. A definite diagnosis can only be made through a throat culture done by your source of medical care. Please review proper hand washing with your child, particularly before eating, handling food and after contact with body secretions or discharges. For more information contact the health room.
- **Lice** is a common condition found in preschool and elementary-age children and can occur at any time throughout the year. Recently we have had 2 reported cases of lice. It is important to routinely and frequently examine the hair and scalp of family members. For more information contact the health room.
- **I want to take this opportunity to remind pet owners that dogs must be on a leash and under the owner's control at all times.** A few days ago, an aggressive, unleashed dog came to the front of the school while parents were outside awaiting dismissal. No people were injured, but unfortunately the dog attacked two other dogs that were waiting with their owners. The dog also briefly entered the open front doors. Since the inner doors were still closed, the dog did not gain entry to the building. With the safety of students our priority, we delayed dismissal and held busses until school grounds were safe and the dog was contained in the owner's vehicle.

This recent incident prompted parents to inquire about the policy regarding dogs and to remind us that some children are not comfortable around animals. Therefore, I am asking for the cooperation of pet owners. If you must bring your dog to school at dismissal, please be considerate and stand away from the front doors so that children can exit the building without encountering your pet.

For you information I have included Montgomery County Code, Chapter Sec. 5-203(a)(7) regarding dogs on public school grounds: An owner must not allow a dog to be on public school grounds on a day when school is in session, or in a public recreation area during an organized activity, unless the dog is controlled by a leash or similar restraining device.

- **Attention Kindergarten Parents, there is no school for kindergarteners on Wednesday and Thursday, April 1 and 2. On those two days we will hold orientation for next year's kindergarteners.**
- **A tremendous thank you to the following parents who gave so much of their time to the success of recent Bells Mill programs:**
 - **Stacy Kahn** and **Kysha Pierre-Louis** for their efforts in bringing Mr. Martin Luther King III to Bells Mill;
 - **Latisha Gasaway** for organizing the popular Black History Celebration and the two talent shows, as well as five nights of rehearsals;
 - **Debbie Denney** for organizing, collecting and sorting used books for the Book Exchange.

Thank you for being partners in your child's education