



***Spotlight on Bells Mill Elementary***  
**October 26, 2015**  
**Office of the Principal**  
[www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/bellsmilles](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/bellsmilles)  
<http://www.twitter.com/bellsmilles>

**Click here for the weekly schedule of PTA-sponsored after school activities:**  
**<http://bellsmill.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Enrichment-Schedule-Week-of-October-26.pdf>**

**This Week**

**Mon., Oct. 26**

**Red Ribbon Week**  
**Manna Food Drive continues through Oct. 30**  
**Scout Troop 4093, rm. 132, 3:50 pm**  
**Scout Troop 2794, rm. 159, 3:50 pm**  
**Scout Troop 4387, rm. 128, 3:50 pm**

**Tue., Oct. 27**

**Wed., Oct. 28**

**Gr. 5 to Strathmore concert, 9:40 am-1:00 pm**  
**Principal's Tea for K-1 Parents, 7:00 pm, APR**

**Thur., Oct. 29**

**Fri., Oct. 30**

**End of First Marking Period**  
**Model UN Club, 8:00 am, rm. 149**  
**Last day of SGA food drive**  
**Halloween Parade 2:20 pm, Parties 2:35 pm**  
**Odyssey of the Mind, 3:50 pm, Media Center**

**A Look Ahead**

**Nov. 2**

**No School for Students**

**Nov. 5**

**Donuts with Dad, 8:30-9:00 am, APR**

**Pajama Day**

**Nov. 11-12**

**Early Release at 1:25 pm, No Head Start**  
**Parent/Teacher Conferences by appointment**  
**Report Cards Distributed**

- **The SGA food drive ends October 30. Please continue to send in your donations of non-perishable food.** Items of most need are: canned vegetables/fruit /tuna/meats/soups/chili, dried soups, brown rice, rolled oats, quinoa, low sugar/high fiber cereal, plain oatmeal, vegetable oils, evaporated milk, tea, coffee, infant cereals and formulas, crackers, and whole wheat pasta.

- **A gentle reminder:** In the morning the driveway is for drop off only. If you must walk your child to the doors, please park in the lot. When dropping off students, please do not exit your car, patrols and adults on duty will assist your child in getting out on the passenger side of your vehicle.
- **This week Bells Mill celebrates Red Ribbon Week, a campaign co-sponsored by the Maryland Alliance for Drug-Free Youth and MCPS Safe and Drug-Free Schools.** Red Ribbon Week is a time when we celebrate making healthy choices. Each student will receive a red ribbon at school on Monday, October 26, to wear throughout the week. Mrs. Kanter has been visiting classrooms to promote healthy choices and to encourage these choices all year long. Kindergarteners learned about the importance of going to the doctor; Gr. 1 learned about limiting sweets (just in time for Halloween!); Gr. 2 learned about the harmful effects of smoking; Gr. 3 learned about the importance of a balanced diet; and Gr. 4-5 learned about responding to peer pressure.
- **Please check backpacks for the Federal Impact Aid Survey form.** Complete and mail this form (no postage necessary) *only if you are on active duty with the uniformed services, employed on federal property, reside in federal or public housing, or are a foreign government military officer.* The information will only be used to help determine the amount of funding available for MCPS under the Impact Aid Program and may be provided to the U. S. Department of Education.
- **Gr. K/1 parents are invited to the Principal's Tea on Wednesday, October 28, 7:00-8:00 pm, in the APR.** This is an informal evening that provides you with an opportunity to ask questions that are specific to the Gr. K/1 programs.
- **We will hold our Halloween parade and parties on Friday, October 30.** The parade will start at 2:20 pm, immediately followed by classroom parties. In the event of rain, the parade will be held indoors. Parents, please help your child choose an age-appropriate, non-violent costume (no weapons please).
- **Thank you to the many parent volunteers who helped make last week's Book Fair a great success.**
- **The PTA invites students and their fathers to Donuts with Dad on Thursday, November 5, 8:30-9:00 am, in the APR.** Begin the day with donuts, milk, coffee and fruit, and bring a book to read to your child. This is also Pajama Day at school, so fathers are welcome to wear their pajamas too. Flyers were sent home in backpacks. Tear off and complete the RSVP portion of the flyer. Questions, please email [jenniferlevenberg@gmail.com](mailto:jenniferlevenberg@gmail.com) or [Joey.brookhart@gmail.com](mailto:Joey.brookhart@gmail.com).
- **Parent-Teacher Conferences are held on the two early release days, November 11 and 12.** Please contact your child's teacher and schedule a conference to discuss your child's progress. Your involvement in education is critical to your child's success. *Dismissal is at 1:25 pm on both days, and there is no Head Start on those days.*
- **Attention parents of students in Gr. 3: Montgomery County Public Schools offers students in Gr. 3 the opportunity to apply to the Center Program for the Highly Gifted, a two-year program that begins in Gr. 4.** The center program is designed for highly gifted and motivated learners whose need for advanced instruction may not be easily met in their local school. Admission is competitive. To learn more, please attend a parent meeting, visit the website at [www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/specialprograms/](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/specialprograms/) and/or call 301-592-2040. **The deadline to submit the application is Friday, November 6, 2015, to DCCAPS, 11721 Kemp Mill Road, Silver Spring, MD 20902.**

- **Attention parents of students in Gr. 5: November 6 is the application deadline for the Middle School Magnet Programs at Roberto Clemente, Eastern and Takoma Park Middle Schools.** Please visit [www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/specialprograms](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/specialprograms) for application forms, test preparation materials and a list of dates for important parent meetings. Testing for the middle school magnet application programs will take place on December 5. More information regarding the December 5 testing will be available on the above website after November 6.
- **The GTLD Network will offer a presentation by Cindy Walsh, Assistive Technology Specialist, regarding useful apps for helping GTLD students, Thursday, November 19,** Walter Johnson HS Media Center, 6400 Rock Spring Dr., Bethesda. The presentation is for parents and students and begins at 6:30 pm, followed by a meet-up with other families.

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