



***Spotlight on Bells Mill Elementary***  
**April 11, 2016**  
**Office of the Principal**  
[www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/bellsmilles](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/bellsmilles)  
<http://www.twitter.com/bellsmilles>

**This Week**

**Mon., Apr. 11**      **No School for Kindergarteners**  
**Kindergarten Orientation by appointment**  
**Basketball, 3:50 pm, gym**  
**Gr. 3 Scout Troop 4093, 3:50 pm, rm. 132**  
**Scout Troop 2794, 3:50 pm, rm. 159**

**Tues., Apr. 12**      **No School for Kindergarteners**  
**Kindergarten Orientation by appointment**  
**Mixed Media, 3:50-4:50 pm, rm. 163**  
**Basketball, 3:50 pm, gym**

**Wed., Apr. 13**      **French, 8:00 am, rm. 154**  
**Spanish Intro, 8:00 am, rm. 150**  
**Spanish Beginner, 8:00 am, rm. 233**  
**STEM, 3:30 pm, rms. 120 and 124**

**Apr. 14**              **Clay Creations, 3:50 pm, rm. 163**  
**Basketball, 3:50 pm, gym**

**Apr. 15**              **Gr. 4 to St. Mary's City**  
**Science Fair, 7:00-8:00 pm, APR**  
**UN Model, 8:10 am, rm. 149**

**A Look Ahead**

**Apr. 19**              **Head Start Parent Meeting, 10:00 am, APR**  
**Apr. 20**              **Gr. 1 to National Zoo**  
**Apr. 22**              **Report cards distributed**  
**Apr. 26**              **School Closed for primary elections**

- **Attention parents of current kindergarteners, this is a reminder that there will be no school for kindergarteners on Monday and Tuesday, April 11 and 12.** On these days we will hold Kindergarten Orientation for next year's kindergarteners. Bar-T is offering daycare for current kindergarteners on these two days. Registration is required. Check backpacks for information flyers.
- **Please note: Last week's Spotlight contained an incorrect date for the Science Fair. The correct date for the Science Fair is Friday, April 15, 7:00-8:00 pm, in the APR. Science Fair entrants arrive at 6:45 pm. We apologize for any confusion.**

- **Attention parents of students in Grades 3-5. PARCC assessments are scheduled for May 9 through May 27. Please refrain from making appointments on your child’s testing dates. Have your child eat a good breakfast, be well rested and arrive on time. Check the schedule below for your child’s testing dates:**

Gr. 3	May 9, 10, 12 & 18--Language Arts	May 23, 24, 25 & 27—Math
Gr. 4	May 11, 12, 13 & 16—Language Arts	May 17, 20, 24 & 27—Math
Gr. 5	May 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13—Language Arts	May 16, 18, 20 & 23—Math

Students who are absent due to illness will have the opportunity to make up all or part of the assessments.

- **Registration is ongoing for prekindergarten and Head Start programs for the 2016–2017 school year.** The programs serve income-eligible families with children who will be 4 years old by September 1, 2016, including children with disabilities. Walk-in applications will be accepted Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.–4 p.m., at Rocking Horse Road Center, 4910 Macon Road in Rockville. Additional information about eligibility, registration, and required documents to complete an application is available on the MCPS website at [www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org), search “preK”, or by calling 301-230-0676.
- **The Eighth Annual Extraordinary Minds in MCPS Forum is offered to help parents learn about educational services and resources in MCPS for students on the autism spectrum, Wednesday, April 13, 2016, 6:30-9:00 pm, at Julius West Middle School, 651 Great Falls Rd., Rockville, MD.** The forum is sponsored by MCPS Department of Special Education and the Partnership for Extraordinary Minds. To register for the forum and for childcare, [www.xMinds.org](http://www.xMinds.org).
- **It’s not too late to purchase tickets! The “Slamtastic” Harlem Wizards vs. Churchill Cluster teachers basketball game is Sunday, April 17, 2016, 4:00 pm, in the Churchill HS gym.** See our own Mr. Romans and Mr. Leffler play in the game. Tickets are limited. Purchase tickets online at [www.harlemwizards.com/schedule-tickets](http://www.harlemwizards.com/schedule-tickets) (students \$13, adults \$17 online, or \$20 at the door). Questions, email [wchsedfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:wchsedfoundation@gmail.com). For more information [www.wchsfoundation.org/events](http://www.wchsfoundation.org/events).
- **The class photos are now available for online ordering.** Use the following link and password:
  - [www.freedpics.com](http://www.freedpics.com)
  - password: BEARS15F
  - \*click on the first gallery, "Class Photos"
- **Volunteer for the International Festival on Friday, May 13, 2016. All families are invited to travel around the world by experiencing the wide variety of cultures that make up Bells Mill.** Help us celebrate our cultural diversity by hosting a country and sharing your heritage through images, food and crafts. Students can perform a 1-2 minute cultural act with their families or friends. Sign up here: [SignUpGenius.com/go/20F0B4EA9AF22A5FE3-international2](http://SignUpGenius.com/go/20F0B4EA9AF22A5FE3-international2). **Deadline to volunteer is Monday, April 18.**
- **Parent Academy Offers New Workshops.** The spring session of the MCPS Parent Academy will begin on April 9. The Parent Academy helps equip parents with the tips and tools they need to help their children succeed. All of the workshops are FREE and are held at schools and other locations throughout Montgomery County. Spring workshop topics include active parenting, preparing for college, PARCC assessments, and cyber safety and social media. Childcare and interpretation services are provided at all classes. For a schedule of workshops visit [www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/parentacademy/workshops.aspx](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/parentacademy/workshops.aspx).
- **MCPS Special Education Summit Set for May 14.** Parents, staff, and community members are invited to the third annual Special Education Summit, *Leading the Way Today, Partnering for a Better Tomorrow*. The

summit will take place on **Saturday, May 14**, 8:15 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Gaithersburg High School, 101 Education Boulevard in Gaithersburg. The summit is free and will feature resources and workshops for families of students with disabilities. Families will also have an opportunity to meet representatives from many MCPS offices, Montgomery County agencies, and non-profit organizations. For more information, visit [www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/special-education/events/](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/special-education/events/).

- **Don't Miss the Gaithersburg Book Festival.** Montgomery County Public Schools is proud to be a partner in the 2016 Gaithersburg Book Festival on Saturday, May 21, on the grounds of Gaithersburg City Hall. The book festival has a great lineup of authors and activities for children of all ages. Several members of the MCPS community will be conducting readings at the festival and there will be many programs, workshops, and activities in the Children's Village that are designed to promote interest in reading and writing. For more information, visit [gaithersburgbookfestival.org/](http://gaithersburgbookfestival.org/).

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