



Spotlight on Bells Mill Elementary

September 5, 2016

Office of the Principal

www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/bellsmilles

<http://www.twitter.com/bellsmilles>

This Week

Mon., Sept. 5

Labor Day Holiday, School Closed

A Look Ahead

Sept. 12

No school for students, Professional Day for teachers

Sept. 14

K-2 and Head Start Back to School Night, 7:00 pm

Sept. 15

Gr. 3-5 and Autism Program Back to School Night, 7:00 pm

Sept. 16

Back to School Picnic, 6:00-8:00 pm

Sept. 30

Early Release, dismissal at 1:20 pm

Oct. 3

School Closed

- **Important! MCPS has initiated for the 2016-2017 school year mandatory child abuse and neglect training for all volunteers.** All volunteers who regularly support schools need to complete the online module, "Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect for Volunteers and Contractors" which is accessed on the MCPS website. Lunch/recess, field trip, media and classroom volunteers **MUST** take the training. Once you have completed the 30 minute module, you will receive a confirmation of completion. We are requesting that you forward this to Mrs. Vincenty in the main office. We encourage all families to take the training in anticipation of your future volunteering at school. This new expectation will help us to ensure that all children are safe. Thank you for your attention to this important request. This is the link to the training module. <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/childabuseandneglect/>
- **We have had a great first week of school!** Thanks to all families who had their children follow their normal arrival and dismissal routines. Thanks for helping us have such a smooth opening week.
- **A gentle reminder about morning start time.** Children may enter the building at 9:05 am. By 9:20 am children are expected to be in their seats and ready to begin the school day. Instruction begins promptly at 9:25. Students who arrive after that time are tardy. Late arrivals interrupt the teacher and take valuable instructional time away from the class. We appreciate your help in giving students a calm and unhurried start to their learning day.
- **For the safety of our children please follow established morning drop off procedures.** When in the drop off lane pull your vehicle forward as far as possible and allow children to exit from the passenger side of your vehicle safely onto the sidewalk. Pulling forward will allow more cars to enter the drop off lane and reduce backups on Bells Mill Rd. Having children exit the vehicle onto the sidewalk will eliminate the chance of a student encountering a moving vehicle. We have staff members on duty to help children out of their cars, so drivers should never exit their vehicles while in the drop off lane. If you feel that you must accompany your child to the entrance, it is necessary that you park in the lot or on the street and walk your child to the door. Thank you to those drivers who have been following these procedures.

- **Please be sure your child's teacher knows your child's dismissal plans. Send a note to the teacher every time there is a change in plans.** This will avoid confusion at the end of the day, and it will also avoid last minute phone calls to parents in order to confirm a change in plans.
- **Back to School Night for Parents of Gr. K-2, and Head Start: Wednesday evening, September 14, 2016, is your Back to School Night.** We ask that you meet with us in the All Purpose Room at **7:00 pm** to kick off the new school year. Following a very brief meeting filled with important announcements, you will go to classrooms for information sessions with your child's teachers. You will hear about routines and procedures as well as information about the curriculum expectations. Session 1 will run from 7:20 – 8:00 pm, and session 2 will run from 8:05 until 8:35 pm. We look forward to seeing you at this very special evening.
- **Back to School Night for Parents of Gr. 3-5 and Ms. Ventura's, Ms. Guthridge's and Ms. Collins' Parents: Thursday evening, September 15, 2016, is your Back to School Night.** We ask that you meet with us in the All Purpose Room at **7:00 pm** to kick off the new school year. Following a very brief meeting filled with important announcements, you will go to classrooms for information sessions with your child's teachers. You will hear about routines and procedures as well as information about the curriculum expectations. Session 1 will run from 7:20 – 8:00 pm, and session 2 will run from 8:05 until 8:35 pm. Mr. Chris Allen, Instrumental Music Teacher will be here that evening to speak to parents of children in grades 4 and 5 who are interested in participating in the Instrumental Music Program. We look forward to seeing you at this very special evening.
- **Check backpacks for the *Bells Mill Discipline Policy* that was given to each student. We ask that you review the policy with your child, sign the tear-off portion of the cover memo and return it to your child's teacher as soon as possible. Please keep the discipline policy for your information.**
- **MCPS policy requires that every student bring home a copy of MCPS Form 230-35: *Bullying, Harassment, or Intimidation Reporting Form*.** This form is included in the *Bells Mill Discipline Policy* that was sent home in backpacks, as well as the *Bells Mill Parent Handbook* so that parents will be aware that procedures are in place to protect all students from bullying, harassment and intimidation.
- **Please check backpacks for important information regarding release of student information.** Each year we are required by law to inform parents of the *Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act* and the *Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment*. **You may direct MCPS to withhold directory information by signing and returning the form that was sent home with students.** This form must be received by the school no later than **September 9**. **Forms received after September 9 will be returned to parents/guardians.**
- **The media center is seeking 5 volunteers who are each willing to commit to working 1 afternoon a week. Please contact Mrs. Floyd ([Joann H Floyd@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Joann.H.Floyd@mcpsmd.org)) in the Media Center if you are interested.**
- **Attention Gr. 1-5 Parents: There will be a Parent Information Meeting for those interested in learning about the BMES Odyssey of the Mind program Tuesday evening, September 20 from 7:00-8:00 in the APR.** Odyssey of the Mind demonstrates that creativity can be taught, stimulated and improved with practice. Students use their artistic, theatrical and engineering skills to create new solutions to intriguing problems; they learn to "think outside the box" and develop valuable skills that will be essential for success in the 21st Century.

Bells Mill has a robust Odyssey of the Mind (OotM) program: last year we sent eight teams to the Maryland State Finals and four of these were invited to the World Finals Iowa. Two teams attended Workds last year. Teams of students from grades 1-5 meet weekly from fall to mid-spring under the supervision of trained parent coaches. Cost is minimal, but parent assistance is required given that OotM is an en rely volunteer program. We need coaches to lead teams and volunteers to help support the teams, with ample guidance from the OotM program. Most meetings will be held on Friday afternoons at BMES. The BMES OotM program will be coordinated this year by Geeta Daniel with support from Summer Rosenstock and Gunay Dogan, all Bells Mill parents. We are lucky to have Dominic and Trudi Benford, who led OotM for six years and successfully coached a team two years in a row to world finals, mentoring the new coordinators every step of the way as we transition to leading the amazing program they built.

- **The George B. Thomas Learning Academy offers Saturday School at 12 locations throughout the county.** Opening day is September 24, 8:30-11:30 a.m. Cost is \$70 for the year, or \$40 for those who qualify for free and reduced price meals. Visit <http://www.saturdayschool.org/> for locations and online registration.
- **In compliance with Maryland laws and regulations pertaining to Integrated Pest Management (IPM), attached is a list of pesticides which may be applied in the school or on school grounds.** Without exception, notices will be sent to all parents/guardians each time a product from this list is used at Bells Mill.
- **In compliance with the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), attached is the asbestos management plan for this school.** Since our school was built after October 12, 1988, our management plan consists of documentation that states “to our knowledge no asbestos-containing building materials were used or specified for use in this building.”
- **A Day of Writing with Authors** is an opportunity for 5th graders who love to write, offered by Montgomery College Youth Programs, Saturday, October 22, 2016, 8:30 am-3:30 pm, Rockville campus. Cost is \$150, but partial scholarships may be available for students who demonstrate financial need. Information/registration, www.montgomerycollege.edu/youth .
- The State of Maryland requires MCPS to inform parents and students that they should report suspected gang activity. *Gang-Related Incident Reporting Form 230-37* is available in the school office and online at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/forms/pdf/230-37.pdf . To read MCPS Regulation JHG-RA visit www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/policy/pdf/jghra.pdf .

Thank you for being partners in your child's education

Division of Maintenance

16651 Crabbs Branch Way
Rockville, Maryland 20855-2201

(301)840-8100



Attachment A

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT NOTICE 2016-2017 School Year

FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS: Maryland Law requires that school staff and parents/guardians of all students be notified prior to planned pesticide applications in the school or on school grounds, or within 24 hours of an emergency application. Without exception, notices will be sent to all parents/guardians and circulated among school staff members.

FOR MIDDLE SCHOOLS, HIGH SCHOOLS, AND ADMINISTRATIVE CENTERS: Maryland Law requires that school-based staff and parents/guardians of middle or high school students and staff at administrative centers who wish to be notified prior to pesticide applications in the building or on the grounds must request that they be placed on the school's pesticide notification list. To do so, please fill out the enrollment form attached to this notice and return it to your school or administrative center.

FOR ALL: The Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Program implemented in Montgomery County Public Schools is a proactive approach to insect and rodent control in school facilities and on school grounds. The IPM Program includes frequent inspections of all school facilities to look for pests and conditions that favor pest invasions. As a first step in pest control, the IPM approach employs a number of preventive strategies and alternatives to pesticide application such as employee education, source reduction, inspection, identification of potential problem areas, and improved sanitation. Each strategy is monitored and evaluated, and modifications are made if necessary. Pesticides will be used only as a last resort or in an emergency situation.

Pesticides and bait stations, by product name and common name, which may be used in buildings or on grounds during the school year include, **but are not limited to:**

<u>Product Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>
4-the-birds II	Polybutene
Advion cockroach bait arena	Indoxacarb
Advion cockroach gel bait	Indoxacarb
Altosid	Methoprene
Arilon	Indoxacarb
Avert cockroach bait station	Abamectin
Avert cockroach crack and crevice bait 310	Abamectin
Avert dry flowable roach bait	Abamectin
Avitrol	Aminopyridine
Cynoff insecticide	Cypermethrin
Deltadust	Deltamethrin
Demon WP	Cypermethrin
Drione insecticide	Pyrethrins
Dylox 6.2 grams	Trichlorfon
Firstline termite bait stations	Sulfluramid
First Strike	Difethialone

Gentrol IGR concentrate
Gentrol point source roach control
Golden malrin fly bait
Maxforce roach bait stations
Maxforce roach killer bait gel
Niban granular bait
Premise 75
Premise foam insecticide
PT 240 Perma Dust
PT wasp freeze II
PT565 plus XLO
Ratsorb
Round up Pro Max
Rozol tracking powder
Shatter termite bait cartridge
Suspend SC
Talon G
Talstar Professional multi-insecticide
Termidor SC termiticide
Terro PCO ant bait
Timbor
ULD BP100
Uncle Albert's ant bait
Weatherblok bait
ZP rodent bait oat AG
ZP tracking powder

Hydroprene
Hydropene
Methomyl thioacetimidate
Hydramethylnon
Hydramethylnon
Orthoboric acid
Imidacloprid
Imidacloprid
Methyl Chloroform
Prallethrin
Pyrethrins
Camphoraceous
Glyphosate
Chlorophacinone
Hexaflumuron
Deltamethrin
Brodifacoum
Bifenthrin
Fipronil
Sodium borate
Disodium octaborate tetrahydrate
Pyrethrins
Disodium octaborate tetrahydrate
Brodifacoum
Zinc phosphide
Zinc phosphide

Mrs. Teresa M. Baumanis, environmental design assistant, Environmental Services/Indoor Air Quality, maintains copies of Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) and product labels for all pesticides and bait stations used in buildings or on grounds. If you would like to review this information, please contact her at 301-670-8238 or Terry_M_Baumanis@mcpsmd.org.

Public comments regarding the Integrated Pest Management program may be addressed at scheduled Board of Education meetings.

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Attachment A

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS AVAILABILITY OF ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT PLAN

In October 1986, the U.S. Congress enacted the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA). Under this law, comprehensive regulations were developed to address asbestos problems in public and private elementary and secondary schools. These regulations require most schools to inspect for friable and non-friable asbestos, develop asbestos management plans that address asbestos hazards in school buildings and implement response actions in a timely manner.

These regulations assign schools many new responsibilities. Our program for fulfilling these responsibilities is outlined in our asbestos management plan. This plan contains information on the designated person, architect's or engineer's letter, notification process, assurances, and dated copies of the annual notification.

For new buildings, those completed after October 12, 1988; our "management plan" consists of the exclusion documentation including this notification. This documentation means that to our knowledge no asbestos-containing building materials were used or specified for use in this building.

You can review this plan during normal business hours without cost or restriction.

If you have questions, please contact Mr. Nathaniel Brown Jr. Environmental Services/Indoor Air Quality Unit, Division of Maintenance, at 301-670-8238 or Nathaniel_Brown@mcpsmd.org.