

## ***Spotlight on Bells Mill Elementary***

**November 21, 2016**

**Office of the Principal**

[www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/bellsmilles](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/bellsmilles)

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

### **This Is a Mini Spirit Week**

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|-----------------------|--|
| <b>Mon., Nov. 21</b>  | <b>Sports Day (wear your favorite sports team clothing)</b><br><b>Music, 3:50 pm, rm. 129</b><br><b>No Scotland Storm today</b>  |
| <b>Tue., Nov. 22</b>  | <b>Swap Day (teachers dress like students and students dress like teachers)</b><br><b>Art Escapades, 3:50 pm, rm. 159</b><br><b>Chess, 3:50 pm, rm. 209 (last session)</b><br><b>Magic, 3:50 pm, rm. 240 (last session)</b><br><b>Hip Hop, 3:50 pm, rm. 153 (last session)</b><br><b>Legos, 3:50 pm, rm. 163 (1 make up session next week)</b><br><b>No Scotland Storm today</b> |
| <b>Wed., Nov. 23</b>  | <b>Pajama Day (wear your pajamas to school)</b><br><b>Early dismissal, 1:20 pm, No Head Start today</b><br><b>Model UN, 8:10 am, rm. 149</b><br><b>No after school activities; No Scotland Storm</b>   |
| <b>Thur., Nov. 24</b> | <b>Holiday, schools and offices closed</b>   |
| <b>Fri., Nov. 25</b>  | <b>Holiday, schools and offices closed</b>   |

### **A Look Ahead**

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|----------------|---|
| <b>Nov. 29</b> | <b>Restaurant Night at Tally Ho, 4:00-9:00 pm</b>                                   |
| <b>Nov. 30</b> | <b>Gr. 4 to Bethesda</b><br><b>Reflections Art Exhibit, 5:00-7:30 pm, main hall</b> |
| <b>Dec. 5</b>  | <b>Screenagers documentary/PTA Meeting, 7:15 pm, APR</b>                            |

**Please note: Wednesday, November 23, is an early release day. Dismissal is at 1:20 pm. Please be sure that your students know their dismissal plans. There is no Head Start on this day, and there are no after school activities.**

- **Happy Thanksgiving to our families!** We hope that you have a safe and happy holiday with friends and family. We'll see you back at school on Monday, November 28.
- **This is Mini Spirit Week with a different theme for each day.** Monday is Sports Day, and students can wear clothing or colors of their favorite sports team. Student/Teacher Swap Day is Tuesday when students dress like teachers and teachers dress like students. On Wednesday students may wear pajamas for Pajama Day.

- **A friendly reminder about morning drop off:** Our doors open at 9:05. No staff members are on duty before that time to supervise children who are dropped off early. If you drop off your child before 9:05, your child should be in line at the front doors and not on the playgrounds and climbing equipment. With your help we can reduce the number of early morning bumps and bruises.
- **Student portraits are now available to view and purchase online.** Please check backpacks for an informational flyer with website and password information.
- **Grade 4 students will go on a field trip to downtown Bethesda on Wednesday, November 30, 9:40 am-noon.** Students will return in time for their regular lunch and recess periods. Check backpacks for permission forms. The cost is \$4.00 per student.
- **Bells Mill student submissions to the Reflections Art competition are on display in our main hall.** Please stop in to view the exhibit, Tuesday, November 30, 5:00-7:30 pm. Congratulations to the Bells Mill students for their creative work.
- **Thanks to the girl scouts collection drive we have some food donations for the Thanksgiving holiday.** Any families who are in need should contact Mrs. Kanter at 240-740-0484 to arrange pick up.
- **The cold and flu season is upon us, and the Health Room and classroom teachers would greatly appreciate your donations of facial tissues.**
- **Thank you to all who came to Donuts with Dad. We had a spectacular turnout. Mark your calendars for our next event, Muffins with Mom (or a grandma, aunt or special friend), Friday, December 16, 8:30-9:00 am.**
- **Bells Mill has been selected to screen the award-winning documentary, Screenagers, about what it's like to grow up in the digital age. There will be a brief PTA meeting before the screening, Monday, December 5, 7:15 pm, APR.** We encourage parents to bring their children (Grade 5 and up). For more information, [www.screenagersmovie.com/about/](http://www.screenagersmovie.com/about/) . *The PTA meeting originally scheduled for Tuesday, December 6, is canceled.*
- **The Prekindergarten/Head Start Program is seeking donations to provide three- and four-year-old students with new winter coats sizes 5-8 and other winter wear, such as hats, gloves, and scarves.** Send donations to MCPS Prekindergarten/Head Start Program, Rocking Horse Road Center, Room 141, 4910 Macon Road, Rockville, MD 20852, Attention: Lisa Conlon. Monetary contributions are also welcome. For more information, contact [Lisa Conlon](#) at 301-230-0676.
- **The Montgomery County Alliance of Black School Educators will present a winter benefit fundraiser concert, *An Evening of Smooth Jazz with Minus2*, featuring MCPS alumni Dr. Eric Minus and Dr. Daryl Minus, Saturday, December 10, 6:30 pm, Montgomery Blair HS.** Tickets are available at the door and at [www.mcabsemcps.org](http://www.mcabsemcps.org) . Cost is \$20 for adults and \$10 for students (with student ID).

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



## ***Bells Mill Elementary School***

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Potomac, MD 20854  
240-740-0480  
301-469-1060(FAX)

*Office of the Principal*

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November 16, 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians:

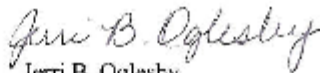
As the principal of Bells Mill Elementary School, I am committed to providing each of our students with a safe and welcoming learning environment.

To help us ensure that our school remains welcoming for all, we are asking for help from students. If your child sees or hears about vandalism, offensive messages, or other forms of harassment, they should immediately report the incident to my office.

Additionally, if your child believes they are a victim of bullying, harassment, or intimidation of any kind, they should report the incident or incidents to a trusted staff member and to you as the parent/guardian. A staff member can help them complete and submit the Bullying, Harassment, or Intimidation Reporting Form. As Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) Superintendent Jack Smith recently stated, MCPS does not and will not tolerate hate-based speech or behavior in our school communities.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at the above number. Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

  
Jerri B. Oglesby  
Principal