



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

**October 2, 2017**

**Office of the Principal**

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

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

### **The week ahead**

- Mon., Oct. 2**                    **Happy Monday!**
- Tue., Oct. 3**                    **4-5 pm – Chess Club (K-5)Media Center**  
**4 -5 pm – Drawing with Young Rembrandts (K-5)Art Room**  
**4-5 pm – MSA Basketball in gym**  
**6:30 pm – Room Parent Meeting in Media Center**  
**7:00 pm – PTA Meeting in Media Center – Guest speakers:**  
**Mr. Romans, Mr. Sheets, Mrs. Park and Mrs. Floyd**
- Wed., Oct. 4**                    **Walk to School Day today – Everyone meet at Cabin John Middle School for morning arrival. We will walk to school together! Be Kind to the Environment!**  
**4-5 pm – Crazy Chemworks (K-5)**  
**4-5 pm- ROBLOX Coding (Grades 3-5)Room 233**  
**4 -5 pm – Drawing with Young Rembrandts (K-5)Art Room**  
**4-5 pm – Bricks for Kids Rm. 149**  
**7:00 pm – Principal Tea for 2/3 Parents in Media Center**
- Thur., Oct. 5**                    **8:15 – 9:15 am – Beginning/Intermediate Spanish (K-5)Room 121**  
**4-5 pm – Lower School Tennis (K-5)Blacktop**  
**4-5 pm – MSA Soccer and Flag Football on fields**  
**4-5 pm – Brownie Troop 1643 meet in room 125**  
**7:00 pm – Principal Tea for 4/5 Parents in Media Center**
- Fri., Oct. 6**                    **Early Release Day – Students will be released at 1:20 pm**  
**Have a nice weekend making memories with your families.**

### **A Look Ahead**

- Oct. 9**                    **Open House 9:30 – 11:30 am Book Fair open Mon.- Thurs.**
- Oct. 10**                    **Book Fair open in evening 6-8 pm**  
**Freed will be here in the evening 5-7pm taking Family Photos**
- Oct. 11**                    **Book Fair open in evening 5-7 pm**
- Oct. 13**                    **Bus Evacuation Drill in morning for students**

- **On Wednesday, October 4, we will participate in the county-wide Walk to School Day. This event is part of Safe Routes to School, a program to create safer walking and biking routes so parents are comfortable allowing their children to walk and bike to school. All students will gather between 9:05 and 9:20 at Cabin John Middle School where their teachers will meet them. Bus riders will be dropped off at Cabin John. If you drive or walk to school, you should drop off your**

student in the Cabin John parent drop off lane which is off of Gainsborough Rd. Bar-T and Georgetown Hill students will be escorted to Cabin John to meet us. We will begin our walk to school at 9:25. The entire school will walk that morning. Once we arrive at school, students will go directly to their classrooms to begin the instructional day. We will walk rain or shine, so please have your child dressed for the weather. Parents are invited to walk with us, but it will be necessary for you to park on the street.

- **If you are the parent of a second or third grade student, please join us on Wednesday evening.** We will be meeting at 7:00 pm in the Media Center. Two topics we will be discussing are the new grading and reporting procedures as well as sharing information on the new MCPS Parent Portal that will soon be operational. Of course we will also respond to questions you may have about the program at Bells Mill. We are looking forward to seeing you on Wednesday evening.
- **Our first PTA meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 3 at 7:00 pm in the Media Center.** The first half hour of the meeting will be a presentation by Mr. Romans, Mrs. Park, Mr. Sheets, and Mrs. Floyd. They will be sharing important information about the PE, Art, Music and Media program offered to your children each week. This will be a very informative presentation and we are hopeful you will come and learn about this part of your child's educational program. The business meeting will follow their presentation. I hope to see you there.
- **Friday, October 6 is our first early release day.** The children will be served lunch prior to dismissal. We will be dismissing all children at 1:20 pm. Please make certain your child knows his or her dismissal plan for the day. If you are making changes in how your child goes home that day, please make sure to notify the classroom teacher.
- **Open House is Monday, October 9. Parents are invited to visit your child's classroom from 9:20 to 11:45 am.** Please enter through the main doors and sign in. **We request that younger siblings not attend. It will be necessary for you to park on the street that day.** We look forward to having you join us for morning instruction.
- **Adopt a School in Texas - Hurricane Harvey Help – update** Our campaign to support Hardin Intermediate School in Liberty, Texas ended on September 22. Our students and community raised \$1,833.59 that has been placed on Amazon gift cards and sent directly to the school to replace damaged instructional materials for students. Thank you for your generosity and kindness to this hard-hit school in Texas.
- **Freed Photography will be here on the evening of October 10** from 5 – 7 pm to offer our families the opportunity to have professional family portraits and photos taken. More information will be coming home in your child's backpack. Photos will be delivered to you in time for gift giving during the holidays.
- **Please watch the US Mail for a letter from MCPS** about the new myMCPS parent portal that will be opening during the month of October. I will also be sharing information on the portal with you in the coming weeks.

## MCPS NEWS

### ***myMCPS* Portal for Parents and Students**

The new *myMCPS* Classroom portal is a 21st century digital learning environment designed to meet the needs of staff, students, and parents of MCPS! The *myMCPS* Parent Portal is replacing Edline as the primary home-to-school communication vehicle for schools to share information regarding grades, attendance, scheduling and more. Letters with information on how to create a *myMCPS* Parent Portal account have been mailed home to parents. The Parent Portal is live for secondary students and families. The Portal for elementary families will be implemented on a staggered schedule. For more information, visit [www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/mymcps-classroom/index.aspx](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/mymcps-classroom/index.aspx).

### **Registration Open for New Parent Academy Workshops**

The MCPS Parent Academy offers parents and community members the opportunity to attend free workshops that provide information, resources, tools, and tips to support their children's success in school. Don't miss the fall season of workshops, which will be offered on a range of topics, including college and career planning, active parenting, and cybersafety and social media. Parent Academy workshops are free. Childcare and interpretation services are provided at all sessions. A full list of courses is available online at [www.mcpsparentacademy.org](http://www.mcpsparentacademy.org).

### **Come to the World of Montgomery Festival!**

The World of Montgomery Festival celebrates and displays the rich cultural heritages of Montgomery County and the Washington, D.C., area. The festival will be held Sunday, October 15, at Montgomery College's Rockville Campus, 51 Mannakee Street in Rockville, from 12 noon to 4:00 p.m. MCPS is proud to be a partner in this year's festival. The free event includes an international village, a global kitchen with chef demonstrations of traditional ethnic food, a craft market, a Parade of Cultures, two performance stages of traditional dance and music, connections through service, traditional arts, and fun interactive activities for the whole family. For more information, visit [www.worldofmontgomery.com](http://www.worldofmontgomery.com).