

# SPOTLIGHT ON CASHELL



Volume IV, Issue 2

October 21, 2009

## Important Upcoming Events

- 10/22 Sally Foster Pick-up
- 10/23 Bus Evacuation Drill
- 10/24 Community Service Day
- 10/27 Kindergarten Field Trip to Larriland Farm
- 10/27 H1N1 Flu Vaccination Clinic for Pre-K Students
- 10/27 Cashell Eats Out at CA Tortilla & Coldstone Creamery
- 10/30 1st Marking Period Ends
- 10/30 Halloween Parade & Parties
- 10/31 Halloween
- 11/1 Daylight Saving Time Ends
- 11/2 Professional Day for Teachers—no school for students
- 11/2 5th Gr. Sugarloaf Mountain Hike
- 11/3 PTA Meeting
- 11/4 Market Day Pick-up
- 11/9-13 Canned Food Drive
- 11/10 Individual Picture Make-ups
- 11/10 Family Portrait Night
- 11/11 & 12 Early Release Day/Parent Conferences/Report Cards Distributed
- 11/11 School Spirit Blue & White Day

Dear Parents,

Both OPEN HOUSE events were very exciting. On October 4th over 200 community members came to see our beautiful new school. On Monday, October 12th, more than 150 parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles came to visit.

The first Hoedown in our new gym was fantastic. The audience was treated to step dances, line dances, and square dances and got to see beautiful murals created by fourth and fifth grade students as a backdrop for the evening's festivities. The evening ended with everyone participating in a line dance. Thanks go to Mrs. Boice, Mrs. Haden, and Mrs. Leber for their hard work creating such a memorable evening for all.

This week is RED RIBBON WEEK and Mrs. Yates has planned some wonderful events with a focus on personal safety. Please check out her flyer in this week's Wednesday weekly.

The staff and I want to thank: **Nancy Chill and her volunteers** for a successful Sally Foster sale. (Remember to pick up your goodies tomorrow, October 22.) and **Pam Neidhart** for organizing, her volunteers for helping, and all the families who participate in Market Day!

Please check our web site: <http://www.mcps.k12.md.us/schools/cashelles> or the PTA website: <http://www.cashellpta.net/> for the most up-to-date information about school and PTA events and activities. Thanks go to **Damon Riley** for all the hard work he puts into keeping the web sites current!

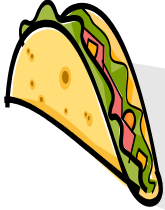
Finally, we know the students (and you too) are looking forward to the Halloween festivities. Our parade will start shortly before 2:00, so we have enough time to walk around our much bigger school and enjoy some treats in the classroom. As in years past, we request - in light of everything that's happening in the world - that all students wear non-violent costumes (i.e.- no scream masks, bloody costumes, swords or other weapons). We're encouraging students to dress up as sports figures, book characters, career persons, or famous people from history. Any student wearing a violent costume will be asked to remove it and will not participate in the parade. If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact me.

*~Maureen Ahern-Stamoulis*

**Visitors:** Recently we have had a number of parents who have stopped by school and wanted to visit their child's classroom. We enjoy having visitors, but we do request that you call the teacher first to set up a good time to come. We try very hard NOT to interrupt instruction for any reason, because it affects the attention of all the students. Of course, we would love to have you volunteer as well. Please let your child's teacher know when you could be available to help in the classroom!

*HEALTH & SAFETY NEWS*

It seems that the swine flu is beginning to spread. Please read the attached information carefully and make sure to keep your children home if they are ill.



Our first Cashell Eats Out event takes place **next Tuesday, October 27**. It will be a joint effort with California Tortilla and Coldstone Creamery in downtown Olney. Enjoy dinner and dessert in one convenient stop:-) Dinner at **California Tortilla** runs from 5-8 p.m. The secret password is: "Cashell Cougars" (This must be said when ordering so the cashier can mark the receipt and it will be counted toward the fundraiser total.)

**A whopping 25% of all "Cashell Cougar" sales--both eat in and take out--will go toward the Cashell PTA!**

**Coldstone Creamery** runs their fundraiser from 6-10 p.m. No password is required. **A full 15% of ALL sales during that time period will be donated to the Cashell PTA! Plan to enjoy a night out of the kitchen and support the PTA!**

**WANTED: Musical Instrument Donations!** We have a number of students in fourth and fifth grade who would love to play a musical instrument gathering dust in the basement or attic and contact Mrs. Stamoulis. Your donation will be tax



deductible!

**Homework Hotline Live!** is back for its 24th season on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 5:00 to 6:00pm, starting October 6, 2009. The ITV flagship program provides K-12 students one-on-one homework help when they call the hotline number at 301-279-3234 (Voice/TTY). During the program, MCPS teachers take calls from students live on-the-air and assist them with homework problems, while additional teachers answer calls in the phone room.

By calling, a student will be connected to a teacher who can provide assistance in most academic subjects from kindergarten through 12th grade. Mathematics questions are the most frequent, and there will typically be a certified math instructor on staff during each show. Cable TV viewers will be able to watch the program live as they work with on-air teachers who help them formulate answers. Students and families can use this service even if they do not subscribe to cable television.

In addition to direct instruction, each program includes various learning experiences such as current events summaries and video clips. The show also features fun trivia and prizes for answering challenging "brainteaser" questions given by MCPS students.

So join the fun, and get homework done with Homework Hotline Live!

## Welcome to the MCPS Parent Academy!

How can I help my child succeed in middle school? What are the most effective ways to discipline my children? What do I need to know about internet safety? The answers to these questions will be among the topics addressed in an array of workshops for parents offered through the new MCPS Parent Academy. The workshops, which begin in October, are free of charge and will be held at schools and locations throughout the county. Interpreters and childcare will be provided. For additional information about the schedule of workshops and to register, visit [www.mcsparentacademy.org](http://www.mcsparentacademy.org) or call the Division of Family and Community Partnerships at 301-517-5940.