



The Bullfrog Bulletin

Weekly Newsletter for Great Seneca Creek Elementary School Families

www.GreatSenecaCreekES.org

Vol. 4 No. 10

Friday, November 6, 2009

**Great Seneca Creek
Elementary School**
13010 Dairymaid Drive
Germantown, Maryland 20874
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School Hours - 8:50 am – 3:05 pm

Gregory S. Edmundson, Principal
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Donna M. Sagona, Assistant Principal
Donna_M_Sagona@mcpsmd.org

Upcoming Important Dates:

November 9

- GSCES Parent Grading and Reporting Mtg. 7-8:00 p.m.

November 11

- Report Cards Distributed
- Early release day- 12:35 p.m.
- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Sally Foster Pick-Up

November 12

- Early release day- 12:35 p.m.
- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Sally Foster Pick-Up

November 13

- PTA Bingo Night, 6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

November 18

- Ident-A-Kid, 9:15 a.m.–11:30 a.m.
- Vocelli Pizza Day

November 23

- Picture Make-up/Retake Day
- GSCES Data Dinner, 6–8:00 p.m.

The GRRREAT Program

We value:

- Goal-setting
- Respect
- Responsibility
- Relationships
- Esteem
- Attitude
- Teamwork



eBULLETIN–What’s on line at the Creek...

- Update for the H1N1 Flu Clinic
- Update for the H1N1 Flu Clinic in Spanish
- Parent Grading Report Video
<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/info/grading/video/>
- Letter from the Principal : Volunteer letter

PRINCIPAL’S PAD

We hope you can join us Monday evening for a parent informational meeting scheduled to share the grading & reporting process being used at Great Seneca Creek ES. Parents will learn about the expectations of standards-based grading, as well as view the new report cards for Grades 1-5. This meeting will help prepare all parents for the upcoming parent conferences. We will meet on Monday, November 9, 2009, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the All-Purpose room. Grades 1-5 parents only.



INDIVIDUAL PICTURE MAKE-UP/RETAKE DAY

Our picture make-up and retake day is scheduled **for November 23**. You may have your child’s picture retaken for any reason. Retakes are free IF there is a photographer or photo lab error. For example, there is no charge for closed eyes, off center or out of focus prints. There is a \$5.00 sitting fee for retake requests due to such as clothing, background, or hairstyle changes. If you are requesting retakes (for any reason) you must return the entire original package.

"LEADER IN ME" CLUB NEWS:

The *Leader in Me* club needs your help! We are currently planning a canned food drive for homeless families in Montgomery County, Maryland. Donations will be made to Manna Food, a county food bank for individuals needing assistance. The girls have worked hard preparing for the drive, which will take place November 9th through 13th at Great Seneca Creek. Please show your support by dropping off non-perishable items such as peanut butter, tuna fish, canned fruits and vegetables, rice, pasta, beans, macaroni and cheese, soup, and canned meats. We would greatly appreciate your support as we grow as leaders and contributing community members.

ANOTHER BLOCKBUSTER BOOK FAIR

Thanks to all the GSCES parents and staff who worked to support our fourth annual Fall Scholastic Book Fair. Because of the expert coordination of our very dedicated co-chairs, Stacie Berman and Debi Fitzwilliam, this year's event was a huge success. We know that running a fundraiser requires support from all our staff and we would like to thank our faculty and staff for ensuring that all our students had the opportunity to visit the fair and purchase a book. A huge thank you to Mrs. Lisa Norris and Mrs. Karen Abraham for hosting the book fair in the Media Center and for all the assistance they provided. Please join us in recognizing the following parent volunteers for taking time out of their busy days to act as cashiers and sales clerks in our book store:

Carol Keller, Janis Brady, Cathy Edmundson, Tammi Ginsberg, Bob and Kerry Murphy, Lisa McDanald, Christina Anthony, Jennifer Keninitz, Sara Dulaney, Silvina Zarate, Cassie Knapp, Mark Brady, Susan Hughes, Miriam Green, Denise Tomlin, Pam Malmgren, Prasanna Parikh, Stephanie Gebhardt, Kathy Allen, Andrea Anders, Ilana Halem, Ann Marie Feldman, Marie Babb, and Judy Gordon

IDENT-A-KID

The IDENT-A-KID Child Safety Program will be at our school on Nov. 18, 2009 to photograph, fingerprint, weigh, and measure children. Participation is completely voluntary and at the individual parents' option. A fee will be charged and parents will be provided with a laminated wallet sized ID Card (similar to a driver's license) with information about their child. Please contact Donna Aversa-Smith, the local Program Director at 443-275-1543 with any questions.

ATTENTION PARENTS OF CURRENT FIFTH GRADERS: MIDDLE SCHOOL MAGNET APPLICATION PROCESS

The Middle School Magnet Programs provide rigorous instruction in Humanities and Communication and in Mathematics, Science, and Computer Science. Students from across the county may apply to programs, by geographic cluster. Grade 5 students from the following high school clusters: Clarksburg, Damascus, Gaithersburg, Magruder, Northwest (GSCES), Poolesville, Quince Orchard, Seneca Valley, and Watkins Mill are eligible to apply for the programs at Roberto Clemente Middle School. Admission to the Center Programs at Clemente is very competitive. Criteria used to evaluate candidates include teacher recommendations, written statements from candidates, previous grades, coursework, and test scores. Please note the following important dates and application deadlines:

- November 9, 2009 All Applications due to: The Division of Consortia Choice and Application Program Services
- November 9, 2009 Recommendation Requests Due to: Elementary Teachers
- December 5, 2009 Testing Day at Clemente Middle School - 8:00 a.m.
- December 11, 2009 Special Needs Testing Day- Location TBD

Application forms will be available on the MCPS website at [www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/specialprograms/admissions/applications after October 2, 2009](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/specialprograms/admissions/applications_after_October_2,2009). For more information please contact Melanie Bachrach, Div. of Consortia Choice and Application Program Services, at (301) 592-2051.

AMERICA RECYCLES DAY

America Recycles Day, which is celebrated annually on November 15, is a time to renew recycling efforts and increase recycling awareness in communities across the country. To celebrate, the Montgomery County Division of Solid Waste Services is hosting four paper shredding/recycling and clothing/household good donation events the weekend of November 14 and 15, 2009. The times and locations are as follows:

Saturday, November 14 (10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.) Upcounty Regional Services Center, Germantown and Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center, Silver Spring

Sunday, November 15 (8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.) John F. Kennedy High School, Silver Spring

Sunday, November 15 (1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.) Walt Whitman High School, Bethesda