

# "RACHEL CARSON HERON HERALD"



100 Tschiffely Square Road  
Gaithersburg, MD 20878  
(301) 840-5333  
FAX (301) 840-5366



Web Page: [www.mcps.k12.md.us/schools/rachelcarsones/](http://www.mcps.k12.md.us/schools/rachelcarsones/)

Principal: Larry Chep  
Assistant Principal: Cathy Shinn

## CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE!

### Rachel Carson Elementary School's Mission Statement

The staff, students, and families of RCES will share responsibility for ensuring that each child demonstrates consistent, measurable progress on the way to reaching his or her potential as a learner and responsible citizen.



## A CHARACTER COUNTS! SCHOOL! THIS WEEK AT RACHEL CARSON RCES SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Book Fair Hours	
10/5	- 9 AM-3:30 PM
10/6	- 9 AM-4:30 PM
10/7	- 9 AM-3:30 PM
10/8	- 9 AM-3:30 PM - 6 PM-9:00 PM
10/9	- 9 AM-4:30 PM

**MONDAY**  
10/5

*Teachers Send Home Interim Reports*  
12:15-1:15 p.m. Mad Science (King)  
1:30-2:30 p.m. Mad Science (Sherstad)  
**3:10-4:30 p.m. Contemporary Movement K-5 Begins (Gym)**  
**3:15-4:15 p.m. French Level 1 (Room 149)**



**TUESDAY**  
10/6

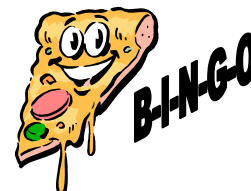
12:15-1:15 p.m. Mad Science (Tamburello)  
1:30-2:30 p.m. Mad Science (Amodeo)  
**3:10-4:10 p.m. HoopEd K-1 (Gym) & Crazy Beads 1-2 Begin (Room 126)**  
**3:15-4:15 p.m. Spanish Level 2/3 (Room 145)**  
**6:15 p.m. Principal's Tea - AP Room (7 Keys to College Readiness)**  
**7:00 p.m. PTA Meeting - AP Room**

**WEDNESDAY**  
10/7

*International Walk to School Day*  
12:15-1:15 p.m. Mad Science (Medina)  
1:30-2:30 p.m. Mad Science (Lubkin)  
**3:10-4:10 p.m. Tae Kwon Do K-5 (Gym) & Chinese K-5 Begin (Room 108)**  
**No Chess Club**

**THURSDAY**  
10/8

*9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Kindergarten to Butler's Orchard*  
**3:10-4:10 p.m. HoopEd 2-5 (Gym) & Crazy Beads 3-5 Begin (Art Room)**  
**3:15-4:15 p.m. Spanish Level 1 (Room 144)**  
**6:30 p.m. Pizza/Bingo Family Night**



**FRIDAY**  
10/9

**3:10-4:10 p.m. Hip Hop 2-5 Begins (Gym)**

## LOOKING AHEAD

- 10/12 **9:00-11:00 a.m. Columbus Day – Open House** **\*\*5:00-9:00 p.m.\*\***  
*3:10-4:30 p.m. Contemporary Movement K-5 (Gym)* **\*\*Noodles and Company\*\***  
*3:15-4:15 p.m. French Level 1 (Room 149)* **\*\*Family Fundraiser\*\***
- 10/13 *3:10-4:10 p.m. HoopEd K-1 (Gym) & Crazy Beads 1-2 (Room 126)*  
*3:15-4:15 p.m. Spanish Level 2/3 (Room 145)*
- 10/14 *Voluntary Student Flu Mist Clinic*  
 Chess Club  
*3:10-4:10 p.m. Tae Kwon Do K-5 (Gym) & Chinese K-5 (Room 108)*  
*6:00-7:00 p.m. Grade 4 Parent Reading Curriculum Night*  
*7:00-8:00 p.m. Grade 3 Parent Reading Curriculum Night*
- 10/15 10:00 a.m. Hands Up for Responsibility Ceremony  
*3:10-4:10 p.m. HoopEd 2-5 (Gym) & Crazy Beads 3-5 (Art Room)*  
*3:15-4:15 p.m. Spanish Level 1 (Room 144)*  
*6:00-9:00 p.m. Parents Night Out – 300 Shady Grove Fundraiser*
- 10/16 **NO SCHOOL** – Maryland State Teachers' Association Conventions
- 10/18 *NASA Federal Credit Union Halloween Young Run*
- 10/19 *3:10-4:30 p.m. Contemporary Movement K-5 (Gym)*  
*3:15-4:15 p.m. French Level 1 (Room 149)*
- 10/20 *3:10-4:10 p.m. HoopEd K-1 (Gym) & Crazy Beads 1-2 (Room 126)* **\*\*6:00-8:00 p.m.\*\***  
*3:15-4:15 p.m. Spanish Level 2/3 (Room 145)* **\*\*RCES Marble**  
**Slab Night\*\***
- 10/21 *7:55-8:40 a.m. Introductory Spanish (Room 150 & 151)*  
*9:00-10:30 a.m. Pre-K Parent Meeting*  
 Chess Club  
*3:10-4:10 p.m. Tae Kwon Do K-5 (Gym) & Chinese K-5 (Room 108)*
- 10/22 *9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Grade 1 to Green Meadows Farm*  
*3:10-4:10 p.m. HoopEd 2-5 (Gym) & Crazy Beads 3-5 (Art Room)*  
*3:15-4:15 p.m. Spanish Level 1 (Room 144)*
- 10/23 *Fall Individual Pictures Taken*  
*7:55-8:40 a.m. Introductory Chinese (Room 146)*  
*3:10-4:10 p.m. Hip Hop 2-5 (Gym)*
- 10/26 **RED RIBBON WEEK**  
*3:10-4:30 p.m. Contemporary Movement K-5 (Gym)*  
*3:15-4:15 p.m. French Level 1 (Room 149)*  
*3:30 p.m. School Improvement Team Meeting*
- 10/27 *9:30 a.m. Bus Evacuation Drill*  
*3:10-4:10 p.m. HoopEd K-1 (Gym) & Crazy Beads 1-2 (Room 126)*  
*3:15-4:15 p.m. Spanish Level 2/3 (Room 145)*  
*7:00 p.m. Grade 3 Highly Gifted Center Parent Meeting at Quince Orchard HS*
- 10/28 *7:55-8:40 a.m. Introductory Spanish (Room 150 & 151)*  
 Chess Club  
*3:10-4:10 p.m. Tae Kwon Do K-5 (Gym) & Chinese K-5 (Room 108)*
- 10/29 *3:10-4:10 p.m. HoopEd 2-5 (Gym) & Crazy Beads 3-5 (Art Room)*  
*3:15-4:15 p.m. Spanish Level 1 (Room 144)*
- 10/30 **First Marking Period Ends**  
*7:55-8:40 a.m. Introductory Chinese (Room 146)*  
 1:30 p.m. Halloween Parade (Walk for the Homeless) and Parties Begin  
*3:10-4:10 p.m. Hip Hop 2-5 (Gym)*



**WELCOME/NEW TO RCES STAFF**

We recently added a new teacher to our RCES staff. Please join me in welcoming **Mrs. Jennifer Brimley**, our new .5 special education HSM teacher (and parent). Welcome to **Ms. Dena Muaket**, as well. Ms. Muaket is our long-term substitute for Mrs. Caplan, who recently delivered Ryan Alan, weighing in at 7 lbs., 15 ozs. and measured 20  $\frac{3}{4}$  inches long. We are also planning to have Ms. Muaket take over Mrs. Robinson's class when she is on child care leave.

And, we inadvertently omitted a welcome to our new school counselor, **Mrs. Michelle Vaca**, from our first Heron Herald. We were lucky enough to have been allocated an additional .5 counselor position, and equally lucky to have found and hired Mrs. Vaca. Together, Mrs. Vaca and Mrs. Seubert make a strong, outstanding team!

**FLU MIST FOR STUDENTS**

As you are aware, Montgomery County Dept. of Health and Human Services is offering free, voluntary seasonal flu vaccinations in all MCPS elementary schools. Rachel Carson's scheduled vaccination (Flu Mist) date is **October 14**. Seasonal flu vaccine is **not** the vaccine for H1N1 (swine flu). Information about the H1N1 (swine flu) vaccine will be available later in the fall. **The deadline for submitting the parent consent form for the flu immunization is Monday, October 5. If you submitted a consent form, but do not want your child immunized, please call the health room, ASAP.**

**INTERIM REPORTS**

Interim reports will be sent home with every child (Grades K-5) on **Monday, October 5** to inform parents of their children's progress so far this marking period. Please check your child's backpack for his/her report. Although Kindergarten is not required to complete and distribute interim reports to parents until mid-semester, our wonderful teachers have created an interim to provide feedback to parents about their children's progress thus far in the school year. The kindergarten interim focuses on behavior and working with others. Academic progress will also be addressed.

Parents should remember, interims are only required for students who are in danger of failing (or later in the year, in danger of dropping two letter grades). However, **the staff at RCES has made a decision to provide feedback to all parents. *Since interims are normally distributed to students who are not successfully meeting standards, don't be disappointed if there is not a lot of information on your child's interim.*** This is most likely an indication that your child is either meeting or exceeding standards. You will be provided more detailed information about your child's progress at your November Parent-Teacher conference.

**INTERNATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL DAY!**

International Walk to School Day is scheduled for **Wednesday, October 7**. Please plan to join participating staff and students on **Wednesday, October 7 at 8:10 a.m.** at the Kentlands' pool/Tschiffely Sq. Road intersection to participate in our sixth annual **Walk To School Day!** Parents are encouraged to join their children, as we walk to school together, to promote Pedestrian Safety Month. This day was designed to promote the benefits of walking to school – showcase importance of pedestrian safety, physical fitness and a strong community. Don't forget to bring your walking shoes!!



**PIZZA DINNER AND BINGO NIGHT**

Mark your calendars for Pizza Dinner and Bingo Family Night! Please join us on **Thursday, October 8, at 6:30 p.m.**—RCES cafeteria. We will be serving pizza, salad, drinks, and dessert, followed by bingo with some guest Bingo callers. Hope you can join us for a fun evening.

**COLUMBUS DAY - OPEN HOUSE**

Mark your calendar! Rachel Carson's Parent Visitation Day/Open House is scheduled on **Columbus Day, Monday, October 12**. Parents/grandparents are invited to visit their children's classrooms starting at 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Parents may also join their children for lunch in our cafeteria. **If you wish to purchase a school lunch, please have your child pay for and order your lunch in the morning.**

**AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS**

After-school Club confirmation letters were sent home today for each child enrolled in a Session I club. Please check your child's backpack for this letter. Clubs begin next week!

**UPCOUNTY CENTER PROGRAM FOR THE HIGHLY GIFTED**

The Upcounty Center Program for the Highly Gifted students will be hosting an informational meeting for interested families at **Roberto Clemente MS on October 14, at 7 p.m.** Below are additional dates of interest regarding the application and testing process.

- October 14** Parent/Student Information Night at Roberto Clemente Middle School (7:00 pm)
- November 9** Application Deadline
- December 5** Testing (8:00 am to 11:00 am)
- December 11** Special Needs Testing (8:00 am to 11:00 am)
- December 14** Teacher Recommendations Due

**INDIVIDUAL STUDENT PICTURES**

Mark your calendars and practice those "smiles"! Our students will have their **individual school pictures** taken on **Friday, October 23**. More information will be distributed a couple of days prior to this date.

**MAGNET PROGRAMS**

A letter was mailed to all Grade 5 students' parents on September 11, 2009, informing them about middle school magnet programs and inviting them to information meetings. The letter also included information about the **Middle School Magnet Consortium (MSMC): Argyle, Loiederman, and Parkland**. Each MSMC middle school will host an open house at their respective building:

- Loiederman: Thurs, Oct. 15, 7:00 p.m.
- Argyle: Wed, Oct. 28, 7:00 p.m.
- Parkland: Thurs, Nov. 5, 7:00 p.m.

The *Choice* form for the MSMC will be available on the MCPS web site beginning **October 16**. The **deadline** for submittal is **Monday, November 9**. Selection for the MSMC schools is done by lottery.

**RACHEL CARSON IS RUNNING FOR FUN...**

The NASA Federal Halloween Young Run is a special, non-competitive running event just for kids 12 and under. It's the largest event of its kind in the region and one of the largest kids runs in the nation. It is designed for every child to be a winner and to discover that Running is Fun! There are three different race distances to choose from - 1 mile, 1/2 mile and the 1/4 mile. The more popular distances are further divided by age group. Set your goal and pick your race.

Because of the large number of runners, you may only register for one event. There will be multiple heats for each event. Each race is non-competitive – the objective is to run the distance and have fun. Starting times for all but the first event are approximate, so be sure you are ready well before these times. The event will be held rain or shine. However, MCRRC reserves the right to cancel the event at anytime it judges the weather to be unsafe.

The entire event takes place on **October 18**, on West Gude Drive at Rt. 355 in Rockville. Warm-up exercises, led by an instructor, are offered to all participants from 8:20 to 8:45 a.m. Each runner will receive an individual race bib in their goody bags. The bibs should be worn in the **front** of their outer most layer of clothing. Post race refreshments are available to all registered runners. Starting times and more information can be found at the following web site: [www.halloweenyoungrun.com](http://www.halloweenyoungrun.com)

**KID'S COLLEGE**

Montgomery College is offering Kid's College enrichment courses for students in grades Pre-K through 12. Fall after school and Saturday classes will be held at the Germantown and Rockville campuses beginning October 7, 2009. These courses provide enrichment and advancement and cover a wide range of topics including science, math, art, drama, game design, music, study skills, and keyboarding. For brochures or registration forms, access the Montgomery County College website at [www.montgomerycollege.edu/youth](http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/youth). For additional information, contact the **YOUTH PROGRAMS** office at 240-567-7264 or 240-567-7917. **Courses fill quickly, so register right away!**

**HIGHLY GIFTED CENTER APPLICATIONS**

Applications for the Elementary Centers for the Highly Gifted (HGC) were recently mailed directly to all parents of **Grade 3 students** in Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS). **This is a reminder that if you are interested in having your child considered for the HGC, you must complete the application and return it by November 9, 2009, to:**

HGC Application  
Division of Consortia Choice and Application Program Services  
11721 Kemp Mill Road, Silver Spring, MD 20902

**If for some reason you did not receive an application in the mail, and are interested in the program, contact the school or access it from the website at**

[www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/specialprograms/](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/specialprograms/). The packet also is available in Chinese, French, Korean, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

There will be a parent information meeting about the HGC on the following date beginning at 7:00 p.m.

**10/27 Parent Information Meeting at Quince Orchard High School  
15800 Quince Orchard Rd., Gaithersburg, MD 20878**

### **RACHEL CARSON HELP THE HOMELESS WALK**

Once again, Rachel Carson Elementary School (RCES) will participate in the Fannie Mae Foundation Walk for the Homeless. The walk will take place on Friday, October 30, in conjunction with our Halloween parade. This is not a separate walk and the children will still wear their Halloween costumes. This is a wonderful opportunity for our students to make a difference for the families-in-need in our community. RCES will walk to raise money for Gaithersburg HELP, an all-volunteer organization that helps area residents in need of food, prescriptions, transportation for medical services, as well as diapers and formula. Last year, RCES had 113 registered walkers who participated, and we raised \$1,705 for Gaithersburg HELP. Look in your child's backpack for a flyer about the walk, which includes the registration form. If you have any questions, please contact Rob Siegel at 301-330-2260 or robsiegel\_2000@yahoo.com.

### **ART ENRICHMENT**

Notice- The PTA-Sponsored Art Enrichment Program still needs some classroom volunteers! Volunteers spend 20 minutes once per month viewing and discussing a work of art with each class. All materials are prepared and available in the media center. No art history background on your part is required. This is a wonderful opportunity to interact with your child's class!

The following classes still need art enrichment volunteers:

Kindergarten: Mrs. Caplan

First: Mrs. Henry, Mrs. Huyck, Ms. Newman, Mrs. Robinson

Second: Mrs. Blumenschein, Mrs. Monroe-Bishop, Mrs. Tempchin, Ms. Dushek, Ms. Wong

Third: Mrs. King, Ms. Lubkin, Mrs. Medina, Mrs. Tamburello

Fourth: Mrs. Silversmith

Fifth: Ms. Pilchtchikov, Mrs. Haddaway, Ms. Troilo

Please e-mail coordinator Sharon Tash, ASAP, at: [sft14@columbia.edu](mailto:sft14@columbia.edu), if you are willing to volunteer. Please note which homeroom you would like to serve. Art Enrichment begins in October. Thank You!

### **STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (SGA) ELECTIONS**

Our Student Government Association sponsors, Ms. Troilo and Mrs. Saidman, will meet with all students (Grades 4-5) who are interested in running for a SGA officer position. These students will receive additional information for parents and important dates and deadlines of upcoming SGA election requirements and events. Our SGA candidate speeches will be conducted during a school-wide (Grades 1-5) assembly on **Monday, October 19, beginning at 1:45 p.m.** Elections will be held after the assembly (time permitting) or the next morning.





City of Gaithersburg and Gazette Newspapers  
19<sup>th</sup> Annual LITERARY ARTS CONTEST  
Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.  
Deadline for Entry: Monday, December 7, 2009 4 PM

## MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. Literary Arts Contest -Instructions

- ◆ Each entry should be 250 words or less
- ◆ Poetry or Essay form

**THEME: "Honoring Heritage; Inspiring Change"**

Entry will be judged on:

- *Understanding and appreciation of the ideals of MLK Jr.*
  - *Clarity and originality of expression.*
  - *Adherence to the theme.*
- ◆ Please send (3) three submissions only per school for contest entry to:  
Community Services, 31 S.Summit Ave., Gaithersburg, Maryland 20877
  - ◆ Please type the student's name, school, grade and teacher on a separate cover sheet
  - ◆ Send the total number of participants for your school. We will provide enough certificates for each participant to receive a certificate
  - ◆ The three top winners will be chosen by the City of Gaithersburg Multicultural Committee and will each receive a check from the Gazette Newspapers. They will read their work at the County Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration on January, 18, 2010