

A Message from Principal Brunson...

Congratulations! We've made it to the mid-point of this school year! I am proud that our students continue to show lots of growth, both academically and socially, and are extremely motivated and energized to finish off the school year with success. Report cards will be sent home on Thursday, February 2. Please review your child's report card with him or her, and if there are any questions and/or concerns, contact with your child's teacher.

STEAM "Starry Night" was a huge success, with nearly 140 families, engaging in interactive fundamental activities throughout our school. A special thanks goes to all of the staff and presenters who prepared and facilitated sessions, as well as all of the student volunteers who assisted. Another thanks goes to our PTA for helping to fund this unforgettable event. See STEAM Night pictures on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/CloverlyES Prin>.

Meet the Human Computer!

February marks African American History Month, a time to celebrate the accomplishments of people of African descent throughout American history. One such notable African American is Ms. Katherine Goble Johnson, a physicist, NASA space scientist and mathematician who calculated the path for the first American mission in space. Her life was depicted in the movie *Hidden Figures*. More detailed information about Ms. Johnson can be found at <http://people.com/human-interest/nasa-katherine-johnson-mathematician-advice-interview/>.

Valentine's Day Parties

Valentine's Day parties will be held Tuesday, February 14, 2:00 – 3:15 p.m. **We ask that you arrive early, no sooner than 1:30 p.m., so that you'll have time to take out your ID, sign in at the main office, and spend the remainder of your time enjoying the Valentine's festivities child's classroom. For safety reasons, siblings cannot attend, unless there are extenuating circumstances. Please talk to your child's teacher if this is the case and he or she will accommodate you.** It's important to note that the exchanging of valentines is a fun, but a voluntary activity. However, if your child chooses to send valentines, please make sure there is one for every student in the class. Also, please be aware that many of our students have severe food allergies. Before purchasing store-bought food items that will be consumed by students on Valentine's Day, carefully check food labels for items containing nuts or have been processed by equipment that was exposed to nuts. Be on the lookout for additional communication from classroom teachers or from your room parents about other foods you should not purchase due to food allergies.

Principal Parent Chat and Chew

We will be holding our spring semester Principal-Parent Chat and Chew meeting for parents on **Tuesday, February 14**, shortly after the Valentine's Day parties. The meeting will be held in the media center, 3:30-5:00p.m. Master Method Karate will be providing karate childcare in the gym.

Kindergarten Orientation

This year, Kindergarten Orientation will take place at Cloverly Elementary School on Thursday, May 25, and Friday, May 26. Only those students who will be turning 5 years old by September 1, 2017, will be invited to attend this event. If you have a neighbor or a friend in your area who may have a child eligible for kindergarten, please pass along this information and ask them to call the school at 301-989-5770 to request a registration packet.

Winter 2017 Parent Academy

The MCPS Parent Academy is back with an exciting lineup of free workshops for parents/guardians! Parent Academy workshops provide parents with useful tips and tools to support their children's success in and out of school. A wide array of topics will be covered during the winter session, including college and career planning, recognizing child abuse and neglect, PARCC assessments, internet safety, and much more. All of the workshops are free and are held at schools and locations throughout Montgomery County. Childcare and interpretation services are provided. To see the schedule of workshops and to register, visit www.mcpsparentacademy.org.

MCCPTA

Submit Nominations for MCCPTA Special Education Committee Awards

Do you know a parent/guardian, educator, student, or program that has made outstanding contributions to the success of MCPS students with special needs? The Montgomery County Council of PTAs (MCCPTA) is seeking nominations for its annual awards to honor educators, programs, parents/guardians, and students who foster acceptance and provide outstanding support to students with special needs in MCPS. MCCPTA will present the awards at a special recognition ceremony on May 8, 2017, at Rockville High School. Nomination forms are available online at:

www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/departments/special-education/2016-2017-SpecialEducation-NominationForm.pdf. Nominations must be received by March 20, 2017.

Sign Up for AlertMCPS

Sign up for AlertMCPS to receive text messages or emails from MCPS during weather-related emergencies and other major events that impact school system operations. You can also sign up to receive alerts specific to your child's school. AlertMCPS messages are available in both English and Spanish. Visit <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/emergency/alertmcps.aspx> to subscribe.

"Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend."

Martin Luther King, Jr.



Melissa Brunson

Dr. Melissa Brunson, Principal

(Save the Date! Next year's Fall Festival will take place on Friday, October 20, 2017.)