



Spotlight on Bells Mill Elementary
Week of April 1, 2013
Office of the Principal
April is the Month of the Young Child
www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/bellsmilles

Week Ahead:

- Mon., Apr. 1** **No School, Easter Holiday**
- Tues., Apr. 2** **No School for Students, Professional Day for Teachers**
- Wed., Apr. 3** **Welcome Back!**
Beginning French, 8:00-9:00 am, rm. 218
Intermediate Spanish, 8:00-9:00 am, rm. 223
Beginning Spanish, 3:30-4:30 pm, rm. 223
Power Hour, 3:30-4:30 pm, rm. 164
Chess, 3:30-4:45, Media Center
PTA Meeting, 7:00 pm, Media Center
- Thur., Apr. 4** **Reading Kids Network, 3:30-4:30 pm, Media Center**
- Fri., Apr. 5** **Wear your school colors today**
Have a great weekend!

A Look Ahead

- Apr. 9** **Last day to register for the Science Fair (visit PTA website)**
- Apr. 10** **Mrs. Howard/Ms. Matthews K classes to Kingsley Nature Center, 9:30-1:30**
- Apr. 11** **Ms. Wolfe/Mrs. Ginsburg K classes to Kingsley Nature Center, 9:30-1:30**
- Apr. 16 & 17** **Gr. 5 Maryland State Assessment (Science), all morning**
- Apr. 18 & 19** **Kindergarten Orientation (by appointment)**
- Apr. 19** **Science Fair, 7:00-8:00 pm, APR**
- Apr. 22-26** **Geography Bowl Tryouts for Grades 3-5**

- **We wish all our families a safe and happy spring break!** Enjoy making many memories with your families and friends. We will see you back at school on Wednesday, April 3.
- **The 2013 Bells Mill Science Fair is scheduled for Friday, April 19, 7:00-8:30 pm, APR.** All students in grades K-5 are invited to participate. Participation is voluntary, but you must register your child online by **Tuesday, April 9**. For science fair guidelines, resources and to register, visit the PTA website at <http://bellsmill.org>. Volunteers needed. To volunteer or ask questions, contact Adrian Marques at b304050@yahoo.com.
- **The yearbook committee needs candid photos.** If you have photos from events like the Sock Hop, Spirit Week, Odyssey of the Mind at the state competition and others, you can upload images by visiting www.community.lifetouch.com. The access code is NTZIHV. The minimum requirement is that the image be in JPEG format, 10 mb or less.
- **The leadership of Montgomery County and Montgomery County Public Schools is celebrating** the Month of the Young Child in April 2013. The theme, *Early Years Are Learning Years*, serves as a focal point in the effort to highlight the importance of education for Montgomery County's youngest citizens.

- **Please do what you can to help defray expenses for Odyssey of the Mind families to travel to the World Finals in Michigan. You can make an online contribution by visiting www.gofundme.com/BellsMillOM , or send in a check to the school (made payable to “Odyssey of the Mind Bells Mill Chapter”).**
- **All parents, please check backpacks for a blue form that requests your plans for the next school year.** We are developing our organization plan for next year, and your input will give us an idea of our 2013-2014 enrollment. Please complete the form and return it to your child’s teacher as soon as possible.
- **Read three books and get a free ticket to a Frederick Keys baseball game!** Bells Mill students have been participating in the Keys for Reading Program. Red bookmarks and flyers explaining the rules were sent home with each student. Students who read the three books required w/ parent signature can soon turn in the red bookmark for a free ticket to attend a Frederick Keys game anytime during the **weekend of April 5-7**. Directions for turning in the red bookmark for a free ticket are explained on the back of the bookmark. Additional discounted parent and sibling tickets can be purchased for the game. Bells Mill staff and students hope to have a big crowd for the **Sunday, April 7**, game day. There will be a parade on the field starting at 1:30 for all the kids who participated. The game starts at 2:00. We hope to see many families there rooting for the Keys!
- **Attention Grade 5 Parents, your student will take the Maryland State Assessment for Science on the mornings of Tuesday and Wednesday, April 16 and 17.** Testing will last all morning on both test dates. Students who are absent will have the opportunity to make-up all or part of the test. Please refrain from making appointments on these important dates. Your child should get a good night’s sleep, eat a nourishing breakfast and come to school on time for testing.
- **Enroll your child now for before/after care with Bar-T Kids Club for the 2013-2014 school year.** For online enrollment, please visit registration.bar-t.com , or email Bar-T at help@bar-t.com).
- **Hearing and Vision Screening is scheduled for April 11 and April 12** for all students new to the school system (kindergarten), and students in 1st grade who do not have evidence of hearing and vision testing within the past school year. **If you do not wish to have your child screened, based on religious beliefs, please notify the Bells Mill Health Room in writing.**
- **YMCA Youth & Family Services** offers a workshop called *Anxiety: From Monsters Under the Bed to Preparing for College*, with Steve Stein, LCPC. Learn about childhood anxieties such as separation from parents, imaginary figures, schoolwork, friendship concerns, and preparation for college. Gain strategies for helping your children. Wednesday, April 17, Suburban Hospital Auditorium, 6:30 pm check-in, 7:00-9:00 presentation, \$15/person, \$25/couple (fee waivers available). To register, please visit www.yfsparentsspring2013.eventbrite.com.
- **Order the Bells Mill yearbook** online at ybpay.lifetouch.com . Enter job # 11371913 which will take you to a secure order site for Bells Mills ES. The cost per yearbook is \$22. From March 23 to April 12 the cost is \$27. Please order by April 12.
- **Save the date! Saturday, April 20 is the Celebrity Baseball Game at the Bethesda Big Train!** Bells Mill students, staff and families have been invited to come out and support the Bethesda Big Train. All Bells Mill students will get in free. Families must purchase their tickets. A flyer explaining this special night will be coming out after spring break. I hope you plan on coming out to support our school but also to enjoy a great evening of baseball with local media celebrities, Redskin players and others.

Thank you for being partners in your child’s education.

