



The Lion's Den

Bethesda Elementary School & Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Newsletter

Issue 8

December 16, 2011

Principally Speaking...

Dear Families-

December brought the cooler air and it is finally starting to feel like winter. Please make sure your child is dressed for the temperature when they leave for school in the morning. Also, please remember to put names in coats and other belongings. The *Lost and Found* is located by the cafeteria and all items will be donated after winter break, so make sure to stop by and check for missing items.

Wishing you and yours a wonderful holiday season and a relaxing winter break. We will see you in the new year!

Lisa Seymour

Calling all Volunteers...WE NEED YOU!!!!

New Recess Activities at Bethesda Elementary!

~SIGN UP ONLINE~

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/recess37>

- **Wheels Day**~ Students bring their own bikes or scooters to ride on the blacktop in the bus area. This takes place on Tuesdays at 12:30-1:00(for 2nd grade) and 1:00-1:30 (for 4th grade) and on Fridays at 12:30-1:00 (for 3rd grade) and 1:00-1:30 (for 5th grade).
- **Exploration & Drawing Station**~ Students explore and observe their environment with science and art materials. This takes place on Tuesdays and Fridays at 12:30-1:00 and 1:00-1:30.
- **Field Group Games**~ Students play with the parachute, scarf tag, walk a mile, and other games. This takes place on Tuesdays and Fridays at 12:00-12:30 and 12:30-1:00 and 1:00-1:30.

Come monitor one of these exciting opportunities! If you are interested, contact Kristine Donohue directly by email at

Kristine_L_Donohue@mcpsmd.org



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Important Dates:

December 26– January 2

Winter Break

- January 14th
SKATE NIGHT– Cabin John
- January 16th
NO SCHOOL– MLK Jr. Day
- January 23rd
NO SCHOOL for Students

BETHESDA ELEMENTARY CELEBRATES THE MANY COLORS OF DIVERSITY



We need the parents' help for one of our projects. We have a large flower pot which we want to fill with a multitude of house plants. The diversity of plants will symbolically celebrate the wonderful variations which makes up each class. Do you have houseplants that you could share? We would like cuttings that we could root. Just cut some pieces right before school, slip them into a baggie and send them in with your child. We will put them in water, root them and in a few months plant them in our "Many Colors of Diversity" pot.

Thanks, The BE Inclusion Week Committee

SoMIRAC Young Authors Contest

Bethesda Elementary has wonderful authors! Many of our second through fifth grade students submitted entries to the Young Authors Contest. Entries were read by a committee who had the difficult task of selecting one poem and one short story to advance to the county level of competition. The work of the following students was submitted: Ada Palacios, Alison Trackman, Samantha Mulford, Libby Elman, Natalie Ryan, Anna Horton, Erik Ter-Gabrielyan, and Aidan Smyth. Students who win at the county level will advance to state competition. All students who submitted selection were awarded a *certificate of participation*.

From the PTA...BE SKATE NIGHT!

Be sure to save January 14th on your calendar for the BE Skate Night.

From 6:30 to 8:00 you can enjoy skating with your family, friends, and teachers.



Details about admission and skate rentals will be sent home as the date approaches. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Sarah Sibbald at [Sarah J Sibbald@MCPSMD.org](mailto:Sarah_J_Sibbald@MCPSMD.org).

Happy skating!