

February 5, 2010

Dear Brookhaven Families,

I know many of you were disappointed that Math Night was postponed due to the winter weather and school closing, but don't fret! We have rescheduled Math Night for February 16th. Please join us for pizza dinner at 6:30 P.M. The games and excitement will begin promptly at 7:00 P.M. Don't miss this exciting evening of math exploration with games, prizes and fun for the entire family!

We hope to see you this Monday, February 8th at 2:00 P.M. for our quarterly Awards Assembly. Students in grades 1 – 5 are eligible for the Effort Award and the Ten Plus Award. If your child is receiving an award, it always makes it special if you are in the audience. I hope that you can join us.

In just a few weeks, our students in grades 3 – 5 will be taking the Maryland School Assessment (MSA) tests in reading and math. These grade-level tests indicate whether students can demonstrate their understanding of reading and math. The tests are also used to rate schools' performance under the No Child Left Behind Act. While we are confident that our students will do well, we need your support in reinforcing the importance of the tests and, even more critically, the importance of your child giving his/her best effort every day. You can support your child's preparation in the following ways:

- Talk to your child about the importance of doing his/her best work.
- Be sure that your child is reading a book at his/her level for 20 – 30 minutes every night (including weekends).
- If your child received 2 or lower on the standards-based report card in grades 1 – 3), or was below grade level in reading or math, make an appointment with your child's teacher and enroll your child in Saturday School (call the school office if you need information on how to register for Saturday School or visit our school website).
- Attend our Principal's Coffee on February 24, 2010 at 8:15 A.M. for information on the MSA and how to help your child at home.

It is extremely important that your child is at school and on time every day, but this is particularly true on the test days. Here are the dates for the MSA test:

Grade Level	Subject	Date
Grade 3 & 4	MSA Reading	March 8 & 9
Grade 3 & 4	MSA Math	March 12 & 15
Grade 5	MSA Reading	March 10 & 11
Grade 5	MSA Math	March 16 & 17

Please do not schedule any medical or dental appointments for your child on these mornings.

Here are some additional items for your attention:

- Please join us for Brookhaven Elementary School Night at Jerry's Subs and Pizza, on Wednesday, February 10th from 5 P.M. to 8 P.M. Jerry's is located in the Aspen Hill Shopping Center at 13645 Connecticut Avenue, Wheaton, MD. 10% of your purchases will go to Brookhaven PTA. The class bringing in the most dollar receipts will receive a free pizza party! You can eat in or carry out!
- It is that time of year when household income for many families change, and this is especially true with the economic downturn. Please remember that students may apply for free and reduced-price meal benefits at any time during the school year. If a family or household applied for meal benefits during the first semester and was not approved, they may reapply at any time. The Application for Free and Reduced-Price Meal Benefits is available in a number of languages and may be found on the Montgomery County Public Schools website:
www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/foodserv/farms/application.shtm
- **ATTENTION ALL GRADE 2 PARENTS**
Administration of the InView
Our school will begin gathering information about Grade 2 students to help match students to appropriate instructional placement in Grade 3 and for Gifted and Talented (GT) identification. During the week of February 7, all Grade 2 students in Montgomery County Public Schools will be assessed using the InView. The InView is an assessment of cognitive abilities. Each subtest takes approximately 25 minutes to complete. Over the next few months we will continue gathering information about each student from a variety of sources, including parents.
- It's time to send in your Box Tops for Education! Please send them in to your child's teacher by the deadline on Friday, February 12th.

Thank you for your continued support. Have a wonderful weekend and we hope to see you at the Awards Assembly and Brookhaven Night at Jerry's Subs and Pizza!

Sincerely,

Kelly Morris
Principal Intern

NEXT WEEK AT BROOKHAVEN:

February 8: Awards Assembly at 2:00 P.M.

February 10: Jerry's Night at 5 P.M.

February 11: MSMC counselors visit with 5th grade students/ PEP Pilot Literary Night

February 12: Valentine's Festivities at 2 P.M.

Link of the week: <http://www.storyplace.org>

