

Burnt Mills Elementary School Principal's Newsletter

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 3

NOVEMBER 4, 2009

"OUR SCHOOL...WHERE CHILDREN AND LEARNING COME FIRST"

Parent Conferences November 11 and 12

Important Dates:

- November 11—
*Early Release Day
Parent Conferences
Report Card Distribution*
- November 12—
*Early Release Day
Parent Conferences*
- November 13—
*Awards Assemblies :
Grades 3-5 at 10:00 a.m.
Grades 1-2 at 2:20 p.m.*
- November 17—
*PTA Executive Board
Meeting at 6:30 p.m.*
- November 19—
*The Little Mermaid per-
formance at 6:30 p.m.*
- November 20—
Picture Retake Day
- November 25—
*Early Release
at 1:00 p.m. for Thanks-
giving Holiday*
- November 26 & 27—
*No School for
Thanksgiving Holidays*
- December 1—
*PTA Meeting at
6:30 p.m.
Chorus Performs*

Studies have shown that children whose parents are involved in their education do better in school. Parent-teacher conferences are one good way to get involved. Every time you attend a conference, you learn more about your child's performance and school. Getting to know the teacher and hearing his or her views of your child's progress actually helps your child succeed. So, make the conference a priority and take the following steps to ensure you and your child get the most out of them.

Before the conference:

- Talk with your child:
Find out his or her favorite subjects and activities, and ask if there are any concerns he or she would like you to discuss with the teacher.

Usually, children have to give the answers to math questions. In this fun game, you give them the answers and they come up with the questions (just like on *Jeopardy*).

Divide a paper into 24 boxes (four columns across and six rows down). Put addition, subtraction, multiplication, and

Review Assignments:

Are there some areas where your child really shines and others that might need a little extra work? Discuss both strengths and needs with the teacher.

The day of the conference:

- Be on time:

The conference schedule is tight and teachers need all parents to be on time. If something comes up, notify the teacher as soon as possible.

- Keep an open mind:

Some parents may get upset when teachers discuss trouble spots. Remember that these conferences are meant to help you understand your child's performance. Working together with the teacher will help your child succeed.

Make plans:

Find out what you can do to follow through at home. Decide together what you, your child, and the teacher need to do to help your child perform better.

After The Conference:

- Talk to your child:

Meet with your child and discuss the teacher's comments. Remember to praise the things your child is doing well and pass along the teacher's compliments. If needed, talk about the areas that everyone will work on to help your child improve.

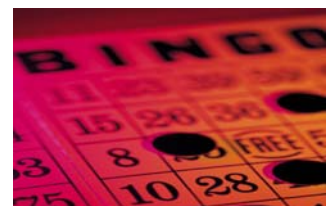
Remember that Burnt Mills Elementary School staff welcome parent involvement all year. Feel free to call and schedule a phone or in-person conference any time.

Have Fun With Mathematics

division across the top (similar to a BINGO card). Then write any number between 0 and 99 in each box.

The first player selects an operation such as addition and plays the first number such as 11. The player has to give an addition problem that equals

11. Remember there can be many right answers—the point is to have fun doing math together!



If you would like to donate gently used clothing items to Burnt Mills Elementary School, please contact Ms. Garcia in the main office at 301.649.8192. Thank you in advance.

Thank You For Visiting And Volunteering



Thank you for taking the time to visit/volunteer at Burnt Mills Elementary School. In order to maintain our instructional program, carry on our daily routine, and preserve our climate for teaching and learning, I ask that you remember to:

- Observe/volunteer silently
- Refrain from speaking to the teacher about your child
- Schedule a private time to

talk with the teacher about your child, if you have concerns or questions

- Value the teachers' daily schedule so that they can plan and prepare for your child's education
- If dropping off your child in the morning, allow the teacher to continue the morning routine without interrupting

Again, thank you for your continued support of teaching and learning at our school where children and learning come first!

Websites For Maryland School Assessments (MSA)

During Reading Night, some parents requested websites to access sample MSA questions. These websites will assist you in helping us prepare your youngsters for the state assessments in the spring. These websites are as follows:

- For sample questions use:

MdK12.org/instruction/curriculum/reading/assessments.html

MdK12.org/instruction/curriculum/mathematics/assessments.html

- For sample questions with sample or actual student responses, scoring information, and links to the portion of the curriculum tested use:

MdK12.org/mspp/k_8/looklike.html

- For school, district, and state scores use:

www.MdReportCard.org

Thank you again for participating in Reading Night and helping support our efforts in the impor-

tant job of educating our children.



Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) has a complaint policy that provides parents and community members with a process to register their concerns. The policy is posted on the Division of Title I Programs (DTP) at <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/titleone/> and the MCPS website at <http://www.mcps.k12.md.us>

MCPS has a procedure and form for parents and community members to follow when registering a complaint. These procedures can also be found on the DTP and the MCPS websites.