

Clearspring Weekly

Principal's Newsletter
January 13, 2012

"We must come to see that peace is not merely a distant goal we seek, but it is a means by which we arrive at that goal. We must pursue peaceful ends through peaceful means."

~ Martin Luther King, Jr.

Mission

Clearspring Elementary School is dedicated to working with parents and the community to promote the overall growth and development of the students so they become responsible, respectful, and productive members of society.

Principal's Note

Schools are closed on **Monday to honor Martin Luther King, Jr.**

Mark your calendars! **January 31st** the **Clearspring staff** will present a reading and math night! This is a great opportunity to bring the family out and engage in activities that reinforce reading and math skills. Some activities will be going home with students. We also have a great incentive in place to encourage your child to attend. **Want to know more? See the flyer attached! We hope you can make it!**

Worth Repeating:

Registration is now under way for the winter 2012 Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) **Parent Academy**. Parents can choose from an exciting lineup of sessions that include preparing for a college education, bullying, and helping students

develop good organizational skills. A series of workshops for beginning computer users and another series on special education also are being offered. Parent Academy workshops are free of charge, and voluntarily taught by MCPS staff members and representatives from community organizations. Interpretation and childcare services are free. Attached is the winter 2012 schedule of workshops. **One of these workshops, Curriculum 2.0**, will be held **here at Clearspring on January 24, 2012, from 7:00-8:30 p.m.**

The **Damascus Cluster NAACP** will host a study circle in the months of January and February. This is an opportunity for **NAACP leaders, PTA, and administration** to come together to talk about how we can continue to **grow so that all students are successful and every family feels welcome in our schools.**

Enjoy the three day weekend!

Mrs. Steel

Celebrations

Husky News

From the Health Room

Many of our students have severe allergies to peanut and nut products. For birthdays and parties, please remember to send only peanut free **and** nut free snacks and treats to school. Snacks and treats must be in their original container with the ingredient label attached.

Thank you!



The media center is looking for **donations of gently used books**. The class donating the most books will be given a party in the media center in February. The books will be sold to students for 50 cents per piece the last week in January. The funds from the sale will be used to buy new books for the media center.

2012 Clearspring Science Fair, February 24th, 6:30-8:00pm

Ever wonder if a plant would grow better if you gave it Coke or orange juice instead of water? Want to figure out which brand of popcorn leaves the least unpopped kernels and try to determine why? Thinking about how batteries or magnets or electricity works? If you are curious about these or similar questions, you will definitely want to participate in the 2012 Clearspring Science Fair! Registration forms for this year's Science Fair went home with students this week. They are due **January 18th**. If your registration form has been misplaced, another one can be printed out from a link on the

Clearspring website at <http://montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/clearsprings/>.
Parents: If your son/daughter is interested in participating in the Science Fair, please review the Participation Packet, which is also available on the Clearspring website. This packet provides a wealth of information and tips regarding the Science Fair, including a description of the types of projects that students may complete, an overview of the scientific method, and the criteria for judging.

Once again this year, students will be awarded ribbons based on their level of satisfying the science fair objectives. All students have the opportunity to be awarded a blue ribbon. One "Best of Show" ribbon will be given to a project in grades K-2, and another "Best of Show" ribbon will be awarded to one project in grades 3-5.

Questions can be directed to the Science Fair Coordinators (Kay Mangan, Mike Mangan, and Karen Mitch) at ces_sciencefair-owner@yahogroups.com.

***Middle School Parent Info for
parents of current 5th graders***

Forest Oak MS Parent Meeting
– Jan. 26, 7:00 p.m.
Forest Oak MS Cafeteria

Gaithersburg MS Parent Mtg.
– Jan. 26, 7:00 p.m.
Gaithersburg MS Cafeteria
Snow Date: Feb. 2

Baker MS Parent Mtg. –Jan. 30,
7:00 p.m.
Snow Date: Feb. 6

Clearspring Elementary School's

Math and Reading Night



Date: Tuesday, January 31

Time: 6:30 – 8:00

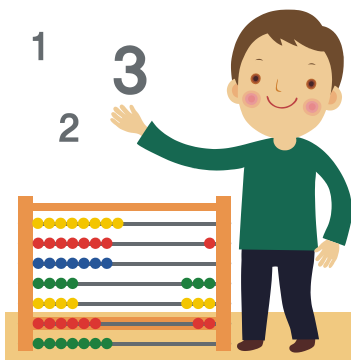
Math and Reading Activities and Games

Students and parents will learn and play different math and reading games and activities. Students will be able to take home activities. Grade level rooms are below.

- Kindergarten and First Grade: Reading in room K3; Math in the Art room
- Second and Third Grade: Reading in room 17; Math in room 16
- Fourth Grade: Reading in the Media Center; Math in room 9
- Fifth Grade: Reading in room 5 (Husky Den); Math in room 10

Other Activities for All Grades

- Computer lab – Students can visit the computer lab to explore and play different math and reading games.
- Music room – Students can visit Mr. Amberg in the music room to participate in music activities that support math and reading.
- Read-aloud – Students will hear staff read different children's books. Read-alouds will take place in rooms 6 and 7. A schedule with times and guest readers will be given out when students and parents arrive.



Students will receive a passport when they arrive, and they will get a stamp at each location they attend. Students will turn in their passports in the box by the front office as they leave in order to be entered in a raffle for different children's books and school supplies. Raffle winners will be declared the following morning on the announcements.

We hope to see you at our Math and Reading Night on Tuesday, January 31st!!!