



Cresthaven Star Chronicle

Sherri Gorden, Principal

Sookhee Plotkin, Assistant Principal

Believe...Achieve...Succeed

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/cresthavenes/newsletter/>

Issue: 12

February 3, 2012

Gearing Up for MSA—Saturday Academy for Parents and Students !

Cresthaven Elementary School invites all families to the MSA Parent and Student Saturday Academy on February 25, 2012 from 8:30—11:00 am. By participating in the academy, students will be equipped with test taking strategies and tools and practice answering to MSA questions. Parents will receive information about MSA, assessment accommodations, and George B. Thomas Sr. Learning Academy. A continental breakfast will be served at 8:30 am. Please R.S.V.P by February 10th using the flyer (see Attachment).

Pennies for Patients Campaign Kicks Off on Feb. 6

Cresthaven is excited to participate in The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's School & Youth Programs to raise funds to fight blood cancers like leukemia and provide services for patients and their families. Last year, students in the National Capital area raised \$705,000. This year, our school is committed to help raise even more, so we ask you to please assist our cause by bringing pennies to school or making an online donation to help reach our school's fundraising goal. Our school's fundraising webpage is <http://nca.sy.illsevent.org/CresthavenElementarySchool>

Resources and Educational Support for Military Families

The United States Department of Defense provides educational supports to military families in our area through two liaisons, Mr. Daniel Dunham at 301-295-7849 or Daniel.dunham2@med.navy.mil and Mrs. Patricia Harris at 240-581-0004 or patricia.harris3@us.army.mil. Some of the resources and support include a homework help program and 24/7, free online tutoring (<http://www.tutor.com/military>). See the attachment for a list of resources and supports.

Student Change of School Assignment Process

The process for requesting a Change of School Assignment (COSA) for the 2012-2013 school year begins February 1 through April 1, 2012. The *Change of School Assignment information Booklet 2012-2013* is available in the school office and online at <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/info/transfers/>. Please call the office at 301-431-7622 if you have questions. (see Attachment).

Got Talent to Represent Your Culture?

We are hosting International Night on April 20 from 6:30-8:30. We are looking for students who are interested in sharing a skill or talent that represents their culture. Has your child learned a special dance, song, martial art, etc. that they would be willing to perform that evening? If so, please contact Mrs. Vigna at anita_1_vigna@mcpsmd.org. You will receive a letter with additional information as we get closer to the event.

Calendar Items

Mon. Feb 6 -	WIDA—ESOL Testing Begins
Thu. Feb. 7	PTA Meeting @ CES, 6:30 PM
Fri. Feb. 16 -	Mock-MSA Reading
Thu. Feb. 17-	Progress Reports Go Home
Mon. Feb. 20-	No School—Presidents' Day
Sat. Feb. 25-	Saturday Parent Academy
Fri. Mar. 2-	Early Release Day
Tue. Mar. 6-	PTA meeting @ CES, 6:30 PM
Mon. Mar. 12-19	MSA Testing

Principal's Corner

Dear Parents,

Report cards were distributed this week for the second marking period. The grading rubric will inform you of how your child performed on measurement topics taught in all subject areas during this grading period. During the 3rd quarter students will receive instruction that challenges them to further apply the skills and knowledge learned in the first semester. Now is a good time to review or re-establish those study habits & routines to ensure that your child continues their successful learning experience. We still have much more to do! If you have any questions about your child's report card please contact the teacher.

Ms. Gorden



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Parent Resources & Community Events

The Winter 2012 MCPS Parent Academy Workshops are well underway. Some of the upcoming workshop offerings are: Feb. 9th, 7:30-9:00 pm at Richard Montgomery HS (Summer Opportunities Fair), Feb. 13th, 6:30-8:30 pm at Earle Wood MS (Computer Smart), Feb. 15th, 7:00-8:30 pm at Eastern MS (An Innovative Approach to Anti-Bullying Presented by Rockin' the Rage, Inc.), Feb. 15th, 7:00-8:30 pm at Cannon Road ES (Parenting Without Threats and Bribes), and Feb. 23rd, 7:00-8:30 pm at Benjamin Banneker MS (Understanding the Maryland School Assessment). For more information and a schedule of all workshops visit www.mcpsparentacademy.org.

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Joshua Starr will be holding spring forums on four specific areas from 7:00 to 8:30 pm; March 12 at John F. Kenny HS (English Language Learners), March 22 at Magruder HS (Gifted Education), April 16 at Seneca Valley HS (Special Education), and May 10 at Walt Whitman HS (Social and Emotional Learning). These forums will provide an opportunity for MCPS families to hear about latest trends and research, find out what's happening in our schools, and share their thoughts with Dr. Starr.

PTA News

The Cresthaven-Nix PTA is in need of parent volunteers for two projects. Please consider volunteering a couple hours of your time to give back to the school and help provide your child, our students, with wonderful opportunities.

Project 1-Committee Leaders For Spring Biathlon

In the Spring, the PTA will provide a health and fitness program for our students. We will have a variety of activities, which means we need lots of volunteers. We would like to place a few parent leaders in each committee to ensure that we cover all activities scheduled to take place. Duties may vary. Details to come. Sign up now!

Project 2-Delivery of Business Sponsorship Letters

We have drafted letters to be distributed to local businesses in the area (White Oak, Hillandale, Downtown Silver Spring, Four Corners, etc). We would like to ask local businesses for their financial support to sponsor upcoming events provided by our PTA. Most businesses look for opportunities to give back to the community so we simply need to approach them and ask. We need you to help do this at your convenience. Letters are ready to be delivered! Simply volunteer your time to do so. If you need transportation to help deliver, just let us know.

If you are interested in one or both of these volunteer opportunities, please contact, Nubia Jones, Volunteer Coordinator, PTA at holisticchildren@yahoo.com or 202.427.3791.

**Cresthaven Parenting Workshops Every Monday at
2:00 –3:30 PM.
Just drop in!**



Student Transfer Application Season Scheduled from February 1 through April 1, 2012

ROCKVILLE, MD—Montgomery County parents/guardians who wish to request a Change of School Assignment (COSA) for their children from their home school may begin the process during the upcoming transfer season—February 1 through April 1, 2012.

Except for students in the Northeast Consortium (NEC), Downcounty Consortium (DCC), and Middle School Magnet Consortium (MSMC) areas, students in Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) are assigned to a school on the basis of their place of residence or their Individualized Education Program (IEP) and are expected to attend their home school. Assignment changes for students from one school to another are permitted under the following limited circumstances:

- An older sibling attends the requested school in the regular program, absent a boundary change
- A continuation in a feeder pattern from middle to high school, except when affected by boundary changes
- A documented, unique hardship situation
- A student selected for an exempt program

The transfer process begins in the home school, where parents/guardians may request the *Change of School Assignment Information Booklet* that contains the COSA form, describes the process, and provides useful information. Beginning the first week of February, the COSA booklet will be available in schools and online at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/info/transfers. The booklet will be available in both English and Spanish. Exempt programs that do not fall under the transfer guidelines are listed in the information booklet.

There is a different process to access the elementary language immersion programs. Full information and Immersion Interest Forms are available at all elementary schools and online at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/specialprograms.

For information about assignments for students residing in the NEC, DCC, or MSMC areas, please contact the Division of Consortia Choice and Application Program Services at 301-592-2040 or visit the website at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/schoolchoice.

For more information about the transfer process, parents/guardians are encouraged to contact the principal at their home school. Non-English speaking students and parents/guardians who may require assistance may contact ASK MCPS to get the information they need by telephone at 301-309-MCPS (6277). Telephone operators who speak English and Spanish are available from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Parents who speak languages other than English or Spanish who call the ASK MCPS telephone line and identify their language will have their questions answered through a telephone interpreter.

Resources and Educational Supports for Military Families

Educational Opportunities for Military Children

www.militaryK12partners.dodea.edu

Naval Support Activity Bethesda (NSA) Fleet and Family Support Center

http://www.cnic.navy.mil/Bethesda/FleetAndFamilyReadiness/SupportServices/index.htm

NSA Bethesda School Liaison Officer

http://www.cnic.navy.mil/Bethesda/FleetAndFamilyReadiness/SupportServices/SchoolLiaison/index.htm

Request Navy Before and After School Care

www.cnic.navy.mil/cyp

Transitioning Information

Military One Source:
www.militaryonesource.com

School Quest:
www.schoolquest.com

Military Teens On the Move:
www.defenselink.mil/mtom/

Department of Defense Education Agency:
www.dodea.edu

Student Online Educational Resources

http://www.tutor.com/military
www.soarathome.org

Special Needs/Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP)

MilitaryHOMEFRONT:
http://www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil/tf/efmp

Post-Secondary Preparation

Free Scholastic Achievement Test (SAT)/American College Testing (ACT) Power Prep:
www.eknowledge.com/military

For College Scholarship info:
www.militaryscholar.org/

Government Benefits:
www.govbenefits.gov

Student Aid:
www.studentaid.ed.gov

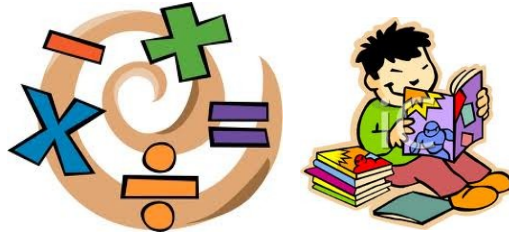
Military Child Education Coalition
www.militarychild.org

Military Families and Student Resources
http://www.detrick.army.mil/cyss/forestglen/cleos.cfm



Cresthaven Elementary School

Maryland School Assessment (MSA) Parent and Student Saturday Academy



**Join us as we prepare our students for
the Maryland School Assessment (MSA)**

Saturday, February 25, 2012

8:30 am—11:00 am

- Students will be equipped with testing strategies and tools.
- Students will practice responding to MSA questions in Reading and Mathematics.
- Parents will receive information about MSA and assessment accommodations.
- Parents will hear information about George B. Thomas Sr. Learning Academy.

SPACE IS LIMITED!! R. S. V. P. BY February 10, 2012

A continental breakfast will be served at 8:30 am.

Please complete the bottom of this form and return it to school by February 10, 2012.

We will attend the Parent and Student Saturday Academy.

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____

Homeroom Teacher: _____

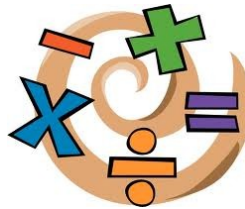
We will not attend the Parent and Student Saturday Academy.



Cresthaven Elementary School

Asesoría del Estado de Maryland (MSA)

Academia de Padres y Estudiantes los sábados



Por favor acompáñenos ya que estamos preparando a los estudiantes para el Asesoría del estado de Maryland (MSA)

Sábado, 25 de febrero del 2012

8:30 am—11:00 am

- Los estudiantes aprenderán estrategias y útiles para los exámenes.
- Los estudiantes practicarán contestando preguntas de la asesoría del estado de Maryland en lectura y matemáticas.
- Los padres recibirán información sobre la asesoría y las acomodaciones especiales.
- Los padres escucharán sobre la Academia de Aprendizaje de George B. Thomas Sr.

¡El cupo es LIMITADO! Por favor corresponda antes del 10 de febrero del 2012

Un desayuno estilo continental será servido a las 8:30 am.

Por favor llene la forma abajo y regrésela antes del 10 de febrero del 2012.

Si participare con la Academia de Padres y Estudiantes los sábados.

Nombre del Estudiante: _____ Grado: _____

Profesor del Estudiante: _____

No participare en la academia.