



Blue Note: Galway Chronicle

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Volume 2, Issue 19 Home of the Galway Lions where Readers are Leaders! January 20, 2012

THE COUNSELOR'S CORNER—MS. CURTIS

In kindergarten, we have begun to focus on the next step of our No Putdowns program, **Stay Cool**. Students will be learning about strategies that will enable them to express anger and other “strong” feelings safely and appropriately. They will be encouraged to express their feelings and understand that anger is not a “bad” or “wrong” emotion; however, there are specific strategies that will help them deal with strong feelings such as anger more effectively.

In first grade, we have begun to work on the 2nd step of the No Putdowns program, “Stay Cool.” In this unit we will focus on strategies to help students express and cope with strong feelings such as anger and frustration, appropriately and safely. Our first lesson centered on the, “Conflict Escalator.” Students learned how easily a small conflict or problem can easily become bigger as a result of not being able to control our emotions, but instead immediately reacting. Future lessons will focus on discussing healthy ways to solve conflicts, practicing “stay cool” strategies and learning about ways they can avoid or get off the “Conflict Escalator.”

NO SCHOOL – Monday, 1/23

Reminder – There is no school for students on **Monday, January 23**. This is a Professional Day for teachers to complete report cards and teacher comments for students (Comments for Kindergarten students only).

SECOND MARKING PERIOD ENDS

The second marking period ends on **Friday, January 20**. Students do not attend school on **Monday, January 23**. This day is designated as a Professional Day for teachers to complete report cards and write teacher comments for their students. **Report card distribution** is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 1**.

ONLINE RESOURCE FOR PARENTS

LD OnLine.org is the world's leading web site on learning disabilities and ADHD, serving more than 220,000 parents, teachers, and other professionals each month. LD OnLine is a national educational service of WETA-TV, the PBS station in Washington, D.C.

Title: [Being an Efficient Homework Helper: Turning a Chore into a Challenge](#)

Link: <http://www.ldonline.org/article/5606>

MATH ROARS AT GALWAY ES - Don't forget about your math calendars and have fun!



Calendar Items

- Mon. Jan. 23 - NO SCHOOL—Professional Day**
- Thurs. Jan. 26 - Kindergarten Field Trip to Baltimore Aquarium**
- Wed. Feb. 1 - Report Cards go home**
- Wed. Feb. 1 - Grade 4 Native American Museum 10:30—11:30 a.m. (New Time)**
- Tues. Feb. 7 - PTA Meeting 7:00 p.m.**
- Fri. Feb. 10 - Progress Reports go home**
- Mon. Feb. 20 - NO SCHOOL—President's Day**

Principal's Comments!

Dear Galway Families,
Thank you to all of the families who joined us at Chick-Fil-A for our Family Night. It was a huge success! Thanks to Ms. Shayla Ward, our Ways & Means Galway PTA Chairperson. I really enjoyed making the milk shakes and ice cream cones. I hope they were tasty!
Follow me on

 @GalwayPrincipal

SPRING TESTING – JUST AROUND THE CORNER!

The following dates are provided to inform parents of the schedules for the state's mandatory spring testing in grades 3-5 (Maryland School Assessment - MSA), and the county's testing in Grade 2 (Terra Nova Second Edition - TN/2). Please mark these dates on your calendar. Parents should refrain from scheduling trips/doctor appointments/etc. on these dates. It is *extremely* important that our children attend school on these days and participate in these assessments.

Terra Nova Second Edition (TN/2)

Grade	Reading/Language Arts and Mathematics
2	April 16–20

Maryland School Assessment (MSA)

Grade	Reading/Language Arts and Mathematics
3-5	March 12-28
Grade	Science
5	April 30–May 4 (paper/pencil)

WINTER 2011 PARENT ACADEMY WORKSHOPS BROCHURES

Registration is now under way for the winter 2012 session of the Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) Parent Academy. Parents can choose from an exciting lineup of workshops that includes financing 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.

Hard copies of the brochure in English are scheduled to go **home in backpacks in the next week or two (see attachment)**. Copies of the brochure in Spanish will be sent to schools for distribution as soon as they are available. Additional information and online registration is available on the Parent Academy website at www.mcpsparentacademy.org. Brochures translated into Chinese, French, Korean, and Vietnamese soon will be available on the website as well. Parent Academy workshops are free of charge. They are led by MCPS staff members and representatives from community organizations. Interpreters and childcare are provided free of charge. To request a specific parent workshop for your school or if you have any questions, please contact Mr. Eric Davis, director, Department of Family and Community Partnerships, at 301-279-3100.

MAD SCIENCE

The PTA will be sponsoring a Mad Science program after school on Tuesdays (from 3:25-4:25 pm), starting on February 7th and ending on April 10th. (There will be no class on March 20th and April 3rd.) This is an 8-week program that will be held at Galway E.S. Mad Science will be presenting classes focusing on the theme of "Secret Agent Lab." The cost is \$112 for the 8 classes (checks may be made out to "Galway PTA"). (Details regarding late fees and refunds are found on the attached registration form.)

Please note that the class time will actually be from 3:25-4:25 pm (and not 3:20-4:20, as listed on the flyer). Also, there WILL be an activity bus available. If your child will be riding the activity bus home, please just write that in on the registration form and indicate which bus your child normally rides. There will be 17-21 students per class. Students in all grades will be combined (unless we have enough students to form multiple classes). The registration deadline is next Wednesday, January 25th (with some leeway as long as there are remaining spots in the class and you contact me to make special arrangements -- we fill spots on a first come (paid), first served basis). Remember, if we don't have the minimum enrollment required by this deadline, the class will be cancelled, so please try to register by the deadline.