



THE GREENCASTLE Gazette



Volume 1 Issue #2

The bi-weekly newsletter from Greencastle Elementary School

September 23, 2011

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Visit our website! <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/greencastles/>

Our Mission: The students, staff and families of Greencastle Elementary School will work together as a community of learners to provide high expectations and successful learning experiences for ALL!

Important

Upcoming Events



9/23 Back-to-School PTA Picnic
4:00-8:00 p.m. (Playground Area)

9/27 PEP Parent Meeting 6:00-7:30
in Rm K2

9/28 PEP Students do not have
school

9/28 Early Release Day, Dismissal at
12:35

9/29 Holiday: Rosh Hashanah, No
School for students and teachers



10/4 PTA Meeting 7:00—8:00 p.m.
(Media Center)

10/5 1st Grade Program—Back to
First Grade: 5:30-7:15

10/14 PTA Dollar Decades Dance
7:00-9:00 p.m. (Gym)

10/19 PTA Family Night at Chick-
Fil-A; 5:00-9:00 p.m.

10/24 Hearing and Vision Screening
9:00-9:30 a.m. (Health Room)

10/26-27Blanton Pictures grades
(tentative)



Dear Greencastle Families:

WE ARE PAPERLESS! – Since we will have your emails, rather than photocopying this newsletter and other flyers, we will be sending them to your email address. If for some reason you do not want the information electronically, please contact our main office.

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH (Sept. 15th—Oct. 15th). This is the month in which Mexico, Central and South American countries celebrate their independence. Over the next few days, students will hear a bit of Salsa, Mariachi, and traditional folklore music over the morning announcements. They will also hear interesting facts about famous people from Hispanic descent. If you would like to know more, please visit: www.montgomerycountymd.gov/latino

Finally, we had a tremendous turnout for Back-to-School Night! I hope you enjoyed the opportunity to meet your children's teachers and learn more about the academic program at each grade level. Greencastle students are so successful because of your interest in and commitment to education. Parent feedback from the evening was very positive and we will implement some of the suggestions provided for next year's program.

R. Kevin Payne

Counselor Corner

How To Work With Your Child's Teacher

Kids learn best when parents and teachers work as a team. Parents know their child better than anyone else. Teachers are trained in ways to help all children learn. When teachers and parents work together, the results can be powerful. Here are some ways you can work with your child's teacher throughout the year:

Get to know your child's teacher, and the earlier the better. Write a note or make an appointment to talk to the teachers early in the year. Attend parent conferences. It helps teachers to know your child better.

Share important information that can make it easier for teachers to understand your child. Sometimes things that happen at home can

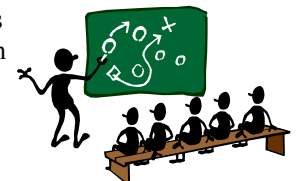
affect how children learn.

Find out what is expected. Ask about homework and other special assignments.

Join the Parent Teachers Association (PTA). Be sure to volunteer for at least one thing during the year. That way you'll be making things better for your child and all children in the school.

Make sure your child comes to school on time each day. Attendance is important. Learning builds day by day. Even the best teachers can't do the job if your child is absent.

Together, we will provide a world class instructional program for your child.



Montgomery County Public Schools Parent Academy

Looking for ways to help your child succeed in school? Do you want tips for helping your child get the most out of their homework? Are you concerned about keeping your child safe on the internet? **Parent Academy workshops give parents tips and tools to help their children be successful in school. The Parent Academy invites you to attend these additional special events:**

Elementary Integrated Curriculum Information Nights :The Elementary Integrated Curriculum (EIC) has been developed to create a more exciting learning experience for our students in Grades K-5. Built upon the existing Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) curriculum, the EIC blends reading/language arts and mathematics instruction with lessons in science, social studies, music, art, and physical education in a way that spurs creativity and critical thinking skills. Come learn about the new curriculum at one of the following sessions:

- 📖 Thursday, October 6—7:00-8:30 p.m. Bells Mill ES, 8225 Bells Mill Rd., Potomac 20854
- 📖 Thursday, October 13—7:00-8:30 p.m. William B. Gibbs, Jr. ES, 12615 Royal Crown Dr., Germantown 20876
- 📖 Thursday, October 20—7:00-8:30 p.m. Sherwood ES, 1401 Olney-Sandy Spring Rd., Sandy Spring 20860
- 📖 Thursday, October 27—7:00-8:30 p.m. College Gardens ES, 1700 Yale Pl., Rockville 20850
- 📖 Thursday, November 17—7:00-8:30 p.m. Arcola ES, 1820 Franwall Ave., Silver Spring 20902
- 📖 Thursday, December 1—7:00-8:30 p.m. Sligo Creek ES, 500 Schuyler Rd., Silver Spring 20910
- 📖 Thursday, December 15—7:00-8:30 p.m. Roscoe R. Nix ES, 1100 Corliss St., Silver Spring 20903

Community Listen and Learn

Come join us for one of the ten *Community Listen and Learn* events hosted by the new Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) Superintendent Joshua P. Starr. These events will provide Dr. Starr an opportunity to introduce himself to parents, students, staff, and community members and answer questions.

Date	Time	Location
Tuesday, Sept. 6	7:00–8:30 p.m.	Northwest HS
Thursday, Sept. 8	7:00–8:30 p.m.	Thomas S. Wootton HS
Monday, Sept. 12	7:00–8:30 p.m.	Springbrook HS
Monday, Sept. 19	7:00–8:30 p.m.	Albert Einstein HS
Monday, Oct. 3	7:00–8:30 p.m.	Watkins Mill HS
Monday, Oct. 10	7:30–9:00 p.m.	Bethesda-Chevy Chase HS
Tuesday, Oct. 18	7:00–8:30 p.m.	Long Branch Community Center
Tuesday, Nov. 1	7:00–8:30 p.m.	Damascus HS
Monday, Nov. 7	7:00–8:30 p.m.	Wheaton HS
Monday, Nov. 21	7:00–8:30 p.m.	Sherwood HS

PORTABLE COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Just a reminder, for elementary school children, the MCPS policy on cell phones, BlackBerrys, etc., requires prior permission from the principal. If your child will be carrying a cell phone, please make sure you send a letter to the office. All cell phones must be turned off (not on vibrate) at all times and are not allowed to be used on school grounds. Should a student violate the rules, he/she will no longer be allowed to carry a cell phone.



George B. Thomas, Sr. Learning Academy

Saturday School

What is Saturday School?

- 📖 Low cost tutoring program for MCPS students
- 📖 Small group instruction from certified teachers
- 📖 Curriculum aligned with that of MCPS

Saturday School offers tutoring and mentoring in reading/language arts, mathematics, and test-taking skills for students in grades 1-12. It takes place Saturday mornings from 8:30 to 11 a.m. at 12 high school centers.

Enrollment starts September 10. Orientation is September 24. For more information, please call the office of the director at 301-320-6545 or visit www.GBTLearningAcademy.org

PEANUT/NUT FREE TABLE

We have a table in the cafeteria that is available for children who are allergic to peanuts/nuts. Friends who have lunches free of these items are allowed to sit there as well.

If your child wishes to sit at this table, please be sure that his/her lunch is free of peanuts/tree nuts and labeled: PEANUT/NUT FREE on the lunch bag or box. A piece of labeled masking tape works well and makes it easy for the lunch monitors to see that it is okay for that child to sit at this table. If the lunch is not labeled, the child will be asked to sit elsewhere.

