

Montgomery Knolls Elementary School

"Where Learning Is Magic!"



Principal, Mrs. Deann Collins
Assistant Principal, Mr. Vincent Fazzalare

807 Daleview Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20901
301-431-7667

PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER, #4

OCTOBER 15, 2009

Calendar of Events October, 2009

Thursday, October 15th

Hands on Science (K/1-Group 2) 3:15-4:15
Community Forum @JFK H.S.- 7-9:30 pm

Friday, October 16th

No School – MSTA Convention

Monday, October 19th

MKES & PCES Guidance Counselor Parent
Group Mtg. (Media Center) 7 – 8:30 p.m.

Linkages Parent Group Mtg. 7 – 8:30 p.m.
(Staff Lounge)

Wednesday, October 21st

Kindergarten field trip-Brookside Nature
Center
Homework & Art Clubs 3:15-4:15 p.m.

Monday, October 26th

Hearing & Vision Screening (K & Gr. 1)
Parent Group Mtg. (Media Ctr) 7:00 p.m.
Spanish Parent Group Mtg.
(Staff Lounge) 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 29th

Hearing & Vision Screening (K & Gr. 1)
Pre-K (a.m. and p.m.) and Head Start to
Homestead Farm 9:30 a.m.

Friday, October 30th

1st Marking Period Ends
Fall Harvest Festival 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Dear Montgomery Knolls Families,

The staff and I would like to thank all of the parents that attended our Open House on Monday. We had 160 visitors! This was a great opportunity to see what your children and other students learn during a typical school day. Hopefully, now that many of you have seen first hand what the reading and/or math program involves, or, what happens in music, art, physical education, media and the computer lab, parents can follow up with questions that give you a little more information about your child's day. We hope you continue to visit the school and volunteer when you are available.

I would like to remind you that the Montgomery County Board of Education is holding its final public forum on Thursday, October 15, 2009 at John F. Kennedy High School from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

On Friday, October 30th, MKES staff and students will celebrate our annual Fall Harvest Festival. Activities will take place in the classrooms from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. Since MKES has moved away from the traditional Halloween Parade and costumes, the students concentrate on activities for all to enjoy - art activities with leaves, weighing and measuring, with pumpkins, acorns, apples, etc. Volunteers to help out in the classrooms are welcome to join us.

Finally, we are delighted to announce that our After School Programs will begin on Wednesday, October 21st, from 3:15 to 4:15 p.m. and will continue every Wednesday through March 24, 2010. This year, we will have a Wise Wizards Club for Second grade; an Art Club for Kindergarten and First Grade; and a Homework Club for Kindergarten through Second grade. Transportation will be available for students who normally ride the bus. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Fazzalare at school.

Sincerely,
Deann M. Collins, Principal

Developing the School Improvement Plan

All schools develop or revise a School Improvement Plan (SIP) each school year. This summer we updated the 2009-2010 SIP by examining data collected from student assessments and parent and staff surveys. This data is used to determine where we will focus our efforts to enhance and improve instruction based on the needs of our students, staff and parents; to allocate resources; and to plan parent and staff training. Parents are an important and vital part of the SIP process. We welcome your participation on our team so that your ideas and suggestions can be incorporated into our school's Plan. To be part of our SIP team, please contact Mrs. Deann Collins, Principal, at 301-431-7667

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS BEGIN

We are delighted to inform you that MKES *After School Clubs* will begin on Wednesday, October 21st. Details have been sent home in the *Red* Thursday folders. If your child attends after school and does not normally ride the bus, please be here promptly at 4:15 p.m. for pick up.

MONTGOMERY COLLEGE

Kids' College Programs

Kids' College has enrichment courses for students from Pre-K through Grade 12. Courses are offered after school and on Saturdays on the Rockville campus and on the Germantown campus. Please contact 240-567-7917 or 240-567-7264 or on line @www.montgomerycollege.edu/youth for further information.

PTA-OFFERED HANDS ON SCIENCE

Hands on Science classes began last Tuesday, November 13th for Grade 2 students. K/1, Group 1 began on Wednesday, November 14th; K/1, Group 2 started today, Thursday, November 15th. The activity bus will be available starting on Wednesdays, beginning Oct. 28th. Please contact Mr. Fazzalare if your child needs to ride the bus.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Mon., Nov. 2 - Professional Day
(No school for students)
Wed., Nov. 4 – LifeTouch Individual
Photographs (Details to follow)
Fri., Nov. 6 - School Assembly
(Grades 1 and 2) *Kids on the Block*
Wed., Nov. 11 – Early Release – 12:35 pm
Thurs., Nov. 12 – Early Release – 12:35 pm
Thurs., Nov. 19 – Family Math Night–7:00 pm

FLU UPDATE

Montgomery County Department of Health suspended the seasonal flu vaccine clinics at all schools on October 6th, as the supply of flu mist was depleted. Parents of students who received the first dose of the seasonal flu mist at school and were identified as needing a second dose should contact their private health care provider or community clinic. A second dose of vaccine is required to assure full immunity. There must be a 28-day wait period between the first and second doses. Parents with questions about the seasonal flu vaccine should contact the health room.

The Department of Health received the first supply of the H1N1 vaccine this week and will be hosting clinics throughout the County in the coming weeks. As the supply of vaccine is limited, individuals with the greatest risk for getting the H1N1 flue will be targeted initially. The CDC has identified the target group as:

- Pregnant women
- People who live with or care for children younger than 6 months of age
- Healthcare and Emergency Medical Service personnel with direct patient contact
- Persons between the ages of 6 months and 24 years old
- People 25-64 who are at higher risk because of chronic health disorders

At this time, school-based clinics will be established for Head Start and Pre-K students only. Additional information regarding clinic dates, times and location for H1N1 vaccines will be sent to parents as soon as it is available. Questions regarding clinics, target population, management of sick children should be directed to the Health Room.

*****IMPORTANT PARENT REMINDERS*****

- Students are late at 8:50 a.m.! All parents must accompany their child to the school office for a tardy slip if you arrive at school 8:50 a.m. or later. If your child's classroom is located in a portable, please obtain a Visitor badge and walk your child to his/her portable.
- There is **NO PARKING** on **Daleview Drive**. We have been informed by the Division of Transportation and Montgomery County Police that cars will be ticketed if you park on Daleview Drive. Parents/Visitors may use the parking lot at the Daleview Pool or drop off students in front of the building, using the drop-off zone in the traffic circle.