

Montgomery Knolls Elementary School

"Where Learning Is Magic!"



Principal, Mrs. Deann Collins
Acting Assistant Principal, Mrs. Cheryl Booker

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

PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER, #4

OCTOBER 20, 2011

Calendar of Events

October 2011

Friday, October 21st
MSTA Conference- **NO SCHOOL for Students and Teachers**

Tuesday, October 25th
Curriculum Chat and Chew for parents, 6:45-8:00 p.m. Babysitting and light snacks provided.

Wednesday, October 26th
School Spirit Day-Pajama Day

Friday, October 28th
-End of 1st Marking Period
-Fall Harvest Festival, 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Monday, October 31st
Professional Day for Teachers- **NO SCHOOL for Students**

November 2011

Wednesday, November 2nd
-LifeTouch **Individual Photographs**

November 10th & 11th
Early Release (12:35 p.m.) Parent Conferences

November 24th
Early Release (12:35)

November 25th & 26th
No School, Thanksgiving Holiday

Dear Montgomery Knolls Families,

On next Tuesday, Ms. Booker and I will be hosting a Curriculum Chat and Chew in the Media Center. The purpose of this event is to share information with parents about MCPS's Curriculum 2.0, and clarify any questions about the curriculum. Light snacks, babysitting and translation services will be provided so I hope you can attend. *FYI-For the parents that attended the parent coffees during the day at the end of last school year, the same information will be presented at this meeting.

Second, on Friday, October 28th, 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. The students will participate in a variety of activities for all to enjoy. Volunteers are always welcome to join us so if you are available to provide assistance, please contact your child's teacher!

Third, it is extremely important that your child arrives to school on time by 8:30 a.m. As I reviewed the attendance reports for the first two months of school, I noticed that the list of students who have been marked late to school was longer than usual. Classroom instruction begins promptly at 8:50 a.m. So, having your child arrive on time at 8:30 allows him/her some time to relax and socialize with friends before making a smooth transition into the academic day. This also allows students that choose to eat breakfast at school with enough time to eat so they are feeling good as they begin their work day.

At the end of the month, I will be sending home personal reminders to parents/guardians about their child's attendance report if I notice consistent unexcused lateness or absences. I want you to know that the teachers and I are sensitive and understand that sometimes unexpected circumstances occur in the morning. We just ask that you follow-up with a phone call or note to the school explaining the situation so that your child can be marked excused from school. We appreciate your support☺

Sincerely,

Deann M. Collins
Principal

MKES SPIRIT DAYS!

Our students have decided how they want to celebrate our school spirit days! We will show our school spirit on the last Wednesday of each month. The schedule is as follows:

- October 26th-Pajama Day;
- November 30th-Silly Hair Day;
- December 21st–Hat Day;
- January 25th–Dress Up In Fancy Clothes Day;
- February 29th– Favorite Color Day;
- March 28th–Whacky Clothes Day;
- April 25th–Favorite Sports Day; and
- May 30th– Sneaker Day.

Since next Wednesday, **October 26th** is **Pajama Day**, students can wear their favorite pajamas to school. Students must wear regular shoes to school.

INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS!!!

On Wednesday, November 2nd, LifeTouch will be at our school to take individual school photographs. The photography package with information was sent home with students this week. Please make sure that you enclose the proper amount inside the envelope for the photo package you choose. Money must be included on Picture Day; LifeTouch will not take “late” payments for these photographs. If you have any questions, please call our office at 301-431-7667.

REMINDER!

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parent/teacher conferences are scheduled for Thursday, November 10th, and Friday, November 11th. If you have not scheduled a time to meet with your child’s teacher, please do so as soon as possible. The parent/teacher conferences are extremely important since they allow for an exchange of information on your child’s academic performance, social skills, the school program and expectations, and offer suggestions on how parents can help at home. If you would like further information, please contact your child’s teacher.

FLU CLINIC !!!!!!!

Last week, information was sent home with students about the flu clinic that will take place at MKES on Thursday, November 10th at 1:00 p.m. Parents must sign up for appointments by contacting the school’s health room. The two hour clinics will begin 30 minutes after the students are dismissed for the day. The Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is conducting the clinic for student enrolled at Montgomery Knolls. School Health Services Nurses and Health Room Ai other clinics by des will administer nasal spray flu vaccine (FluMist). To sign up for an appointment, please call the health room at 301-431-7667 and ask to speak with Ms. Henry or Mrs. Schech. You can also find out information about contacting our school.

Dr. Joshua Starr, MCPS Superintendent, Listen & Learn Events

Wednesday, Nov. 16, at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School in Bethesda- **4-5:30 p.m.**
Monday, Nov. 28, at the Carver Educational Services Center Auditorium in Rockville- **5-6:30 p.m.**

These events provide opportunities for staff to meet with the new superintendent and to offer views and perspective on what is working well in MCPS and what the school system can do to improve. The "Listen and Learn" events are among a series of public events Dr. Starr has planned to get to know the community in his first six months. Everyone is welcome to attend and participate!