

Montgomery Knolls Elementary School

"Where Learning Is Magic!"



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

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

PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER, #8

DECEMBER 15, 2011

Calendar of Events December, 2011

**Monday, December 26th to Friday,
December 30th, 2011**
Winter Break (School Closed)

****PLEASE NOTE****

**FOUNDATIONS DAYCARE WILL BE
OPEN FROM 7:30 A.M. to 6:30 P.M.
ON DECEMBER 27, 28, 29 & 30, 2011**

January, 2012

Tuesday, January 3rd
School Resumes

Monday, January 16th
Holiday – Martin L. King, Jr. Day

Friday, January 20th
2nd Marking Period Ends

Monday, January 23rd
Professional Day for Teachers
No School for Students

Wednesday, January 25th
Enrichment Night, 7:00-8:00 p.m., parents
and children attend
Dress Up Day (Wear Fancy Clothes)

MKES Pond Project!

The PTA Beautification Committee is sponsoring the "***Pennies for the Pond***" collection to help raise money for a new pond in our courtyard. Starting on January 3rd, send in your loose change for your children to place in the collection container in the school office. The money raised will go toward the cost of materials to build the pond. If you are considering a ***charitable donation***, you can write a check to the MKPC-PTA, marked for "the pond" and send it to the PTA box at school.

Dear Montgomery Knolls Families,

How very exciting to see the face of a child holding a new book purchased from our Scholastic Book Fair! Our sales totaled almost \$5,500.00 and MKES will receive approximately 25% of that figure. A big "thank you" to Mrs. Chimenian, staff members, and volunteers who helped plan and organize our Book Fair. Thank you parents for purchasing books for your children to read at home!

Second, I would like to send a HUGE THANK YOU to Mr. Klinger (an MKES parent), volunteers from his church, the PTA Beautification Committee and other parent volunteers for spending the time this past weekend to make our courtyard look beautiful! Community Rising sponsored by Mr. Klinger donated a variety of materials and plants to help make this area a welcoming retreat for students and staff, and also removed dead trees, plants, etc. with the help of community volunteers. They are also in the process of purchasing patio furniture and it will be delivered soon. The MKES staff truly appreciates the time and effort that our volunteers devoted to enhancing our courtyard.

Third, the installation of the new playground equipment began today. Hopefully the weather will cooperate and the work can be completed! Once the equipment has been installed, it will be inspected by MCPS personnel so that we know that it is safe for the students to use. The area is marked off with cones and yellow tape, so hopefully the students will only have to have indoor recess for two days.

Fourth, we are in the process of gathering cultural items that represent our school community to display in our office and front hallway. If you have any items that represent your culture that you are willing to donate to the school, please send them to school with your child. Your donation(s) should consist of items that can be hung on the wall, or items that can go into a display case.

Finally, on behalf of the entire MKES staff, we would like to wish you and your family a joyous holiday season with best wishes for a happy and healthy New Year.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Collins
Principal

*****BOX TOPS HELP US RAISE MONEY?*****

We will continue to collect Box Tops throughout the school year! Box Tops may be found on products with the following labels: Cottonelle, Huggies, Betty Crocker products, Juicy Juice, General Mills Cereals, Kleenex, Scott Paper Products, Viva paper towers, Old El Paso, Pillsbury, Yoplait, Ziploc and Hefty. The more box tops you send in, the more money our school will receive. Also, if you sign into boxtops4education.com/earn/marketplace, Montgomery Knolls Elementary can earn box tops on sales, i.e. Oriental Trading, 1-800-Flowers.com and Lands End. Many other retailers are listed on the website.

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

Students should not arrive before 8:30 a.m.

Please make sure your child is in school on time! Students **are late at 8:50 a.m.!** All parents must accompany their child to the school office for a **tardy slip** if they arrive at school at 8:50 a.m. or later.

Parents must go to the Walker's door to wait for walkers during dismissal time. For any changes in transportation the student must bring a written note from home and/or parents must call the main office in the morning.

Please remember to dress your child appropriately with coats, hats, gloves, scarves and boots. We would like for the children to have outside recess as much as possible so it is important that they are dressed appropriately. Ice on the blacktop, temperatures below 32 degrees, and the wind chill are information that we use to determine if students should have indoor or outdoor recess. Although we sent home information in November concerning school delays and/or closings, we want to remind you not to telephone the school. MCPS will publicly announce as soon as possible the latest information on local radio and television stations, MCPS TV on Cable Channel 34, Verizon Fios Channel 36, RCN Channel 89, Outlook, on the Internet at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org, and on a recorded telephone message at 301-279-3673. If you would like another copy of our letter regarding winter weather emergencies, such as ice and/or snow, please stop by the school office for your copy.

Elementary Foreign Language Immersion Programs

This year the immersion lottery process application dates are Wednesday, February 1 to Friday, April 13, 2012. Parents may participate in the immersion lottery process using the *Elementary Immersion Form*. The form and directions will be available on the Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) website:

www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/specialprograms/, at elementary schools, and by calling the Division of Consortia Choice and Application Program Services (DCCAPS) at 301-592-2040 beginning February 1, 2012. Completed Immersion interest forms can be returned by U.S. mail to DCCAPS, Spring Mill Field Office, 11721 Kemp Mill Road, Silver Spring, Maryland 20902, hand carried, or faxed to 301-649-8155 by Friday, April 13, 2012.

Would you like to share ideas around parent involvement? If so, please don't hesitate to contact Mrs. Chimenian, our Parent Community Coordinator, by calling the school or send her an email Rossana_C_Chimenian@mcpsmd.org.