



**Celeste King,**  
Principal

**Orinda Nelson,**  
Assistant  
Principal

# DOLPHIN PRIDE

## SOUTH LAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

### *Principally Speaking*

Dear South Lake Families,

November is a busy month at South Lake! We have completed first quarter report cards and are preparing for parent conferences. On November 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, students will be dismissed at 12:35 in order to conduct parent conferences. Many parents had an opportunity to sign up for teacher/parent conference when they attended Back to School Night. If you have not arranged for a conference time but are still interested, please contact your child's teacher. Even though teachers are available throughout the year to schedule a meeting with parents, November conferences are specifically built into the school calendar. Please take this opportunity to meet with your child's teacher to hear about how your child is performing in his/her academic classes and learn about how you can support his/her efforts at home. Here are some suggestions to help you make the most of this meeting.

- Come prepared. Talk to your child to find out what he/she thinks is his/her best subjects and the ones that he/she likes the least. Review your child's recent work to help identify strengths and areas of need.
- Ask questions. The questions you ask can assist you and the teacher in helping your child succeed. A few sample questions are: What skills and knowledge is my child expected to master this year? How will my child be evaluated? How do you accommodate differences in learning? What additional supports are available, if needed? What can I do at home to help my child succeed?
- Share information. You know your child best. Your input can help the teacher to better understand your child as a learner. This collaboration is key to facilitating your child's success in school.
- Make the most of this time. Come on time for your conference. Try to arrange childcare, particularly for small children, instead of bringing them along. This will enable you to focus completely on the discussion about your child. And don't forget to take notes!

Congratulations to the reading committee for a spectacular reading night! Parents and students enjoyed a variety of activities hosted by our South Lake staff such as *sight word games*, *reading strategies wheel*, *computer fun*, *reading and writing at home* and *I text!* To encourage reading at home, the reading committee also sponsored a free book give-away.

The South Lake PTA will be hosting the Scholastic Book Fair on November 7<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> in the Media Center. The action-packed theme for the book fair is "Reading Is Out Of This World!" Come and join the PTA for this exciting event!

Watkins Mill High School is hosting a cluster-wide PTSA meeting on November 15<sup>th</sup>. This meeting will feature a panel of WMHS students who will share their experience in the AP classes, the IB program, athletics, the arts, and much more. The meeting will be held in the media center at 7pm. Use this opportunity to learn about the exciting programs our high school has to offer.

The South Lake staff is fortunate to have parents who give their time to support our school. To date, we have over forty parents who volunteer their services in classrooms, at lunch, and at recess. Thank you for all you do to support our staff and students. We appreciate you!

Sincerely,  
Celeste King

### NOVEMBER 3, 2011

#### Important Dates:

11/1 PTA Meeting at 5:30 pm in the  
Media Center  
11/7 - 11/11 Book Fair  
11/10 Joe Corbi pick-up

### VOLUME I

11/10 - 11/11 12:35 Dismissal  
Parent-Teacher  
Conferences  
11/23 12:35 Dismissal for  
Thanksgiving

## SOUTH LAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

18201 Contour Rd  
Gaithersburg, MD 20788  
Tel. 301-840-7141  
Fax. 301-840-7549  
[www.montgomeryschoolsmd.edu](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.edu)



*Nurturing a  
Community of  
Thinkers*

### Flu Mist

Students may receive the Flu Mist (instead of a flu shot) at South Lake on Thursday, November 10. The nurse will be giving the flu mist to students between 12:45 - 2:45 p.m. If you would like your child to receive the flu mist you must make an appointment by calling the Health Room during school hours at 301-840-7141. Parents must bring the consent form and be present when your child receives the mist.



### MCPS Supports Our Military Families

The Department of Family and Community Partnerships is coordinating an event to honor and support our military families, both active and retired. The event is on Thursday, November 3 from 7 - 8:30 pm at Richard Montgomery High School. Military families can meet other families in the community, receive resources and information. To register call 301- 279-3100.

### Attend to Achieve

Our students need to come to school so that they can learn. Each day a student is absent is a lost day of instruction. Please be sure that your child arrives to school on time, every day! Remember, students are marked late if they arrive after the 8:55 a.m. bell.

### Raising Money for St. Jude's

Students can help patients at St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital through the Math-a-thon Program by solving math problems in a booklet and collecting donations for their participation. Your child must have your permission to participate. All donations should be placed in the collection envelope and returned to school by November 23, 2011, the last day of the Math-a-thon. Thank you for your support of this worthy cause.

### Lunch Accounts

If your child buys a school lunch, each week your child needs to have \$12.50 in his/her lunch account in order to receive a hot lunch. The cost of a school lunch is \$2.50. Students with negative balances will NOT receive a hot lunch. At this time, students owe approximately \$500 to the cafeteria. This debt needs to be paid immediately.

If you're not here, we can't teach you.  
Attend to Achieve!

## PTA

Ms. Smith, PTA member, has planned several **restaurant fundraisers** for the school year. Our next fundraisers are:

- ◆ November 3 Vocelli Pizza  
Tell them you are supporting South Lake. If you tell them the teacher's name, the classroom with the most points wins a free pizza party!
- ◆ November 11 Dominos Pizza  
Tell them you are supporting SLES
- ◆ November 16 Chuck E. Cheese  
Tell them you are supporting South Lake. Wear your reminder sticker and receive 10 free tokens

Our restaurant fundraisers provide needed funds for extra curricular activities and technology for South Lake students. The fundraisers only apply to the location that has been arranged. The next three fundraisers in November are at the

following locations:

- \* **Vocelli Pizza**  
115 E. Diamond Ave.  
301-990-8866  
and 12311 Middlebrook Rd.  
301-528-8866
- \* **Dominos Pizza**  
274 N. Frederick
- \* **Chuck E. Cheese**  
516 N. Frederick Rd.  
301-869-9723



The fall **Book Fair** will be in the Media Center from Monday, November 7 - Friday, November 11. The Book Fair will be open from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm daily with the exception of Thursday, November 10th when it will stay open until 6:00 pm. If you are available to assist with the Book Fair please call Ms. Breton Helsel at 301-519-0560. Volunteers are needed throughout the day to keep the Book Fair open.