

# THE LION'S DEN

Bethesda Elementary / Bethesda Elementary PTA Newsletter

June 7, 2019

## Seymour's Shout Out...

Dear Bethesda Families,

It is hard to believe that the year is almost over and that next week we will be celebrating our 5th graders and sending them on to middle school. Thank you all for a great year, we are lucky to have such a wonderful community to support our students.

While the school year is coming to a close, we want to make sure we have your updated contact information for summer correspondence. If your contact information has changed, please be sure to update it with Ms. Paz in the front office: [Maria P Velasco-galey@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Maria_P_Velasco-galey@mcpsmd.org)

Just a reminder report cards will be mailed home in June to the address we have on file. Please email Ms. Paz in the front office, if you need to update your address.

Keep an eye out for the updated parent handbook to be available online in mid-July. You will also receive a post card when the handbook is ready with the new school year information.

If you will be returning to BE in the fall, please be sure to add the following dates to your calendar for the 2019-2020 school year.

Date	Time	Event
Thursday, August 29, 2019	6:30 PM – 7:30 PM	Kindergarten Parent Information Night
Friday, August 30, 2019	9:30 AM – 10:00 AM	New Parent Orientation – Families of 1 <sup>st</sup> - 5 <sup>th</sup> grade students
	10:00 AM – 11:00 AM	<b>Open House, Meet the Teacher</b> The following information tables will be setup for your convenience: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- PTA</li> <li>- Transportation</li> <li>- Before and after school child care program</li> </ul>
Tuesday, September 3, 2019	Daily Schedule	<b>First Day of School</b>
	Doors Open at 8:45 a.m.	
	Instruction begins at 9:00 a.m.	
	Dismissal 3:25 p.m.	

Just a reminder, Friday is our last day of school and it is an early release day. We will dismiss at 12:55..

Lisa Seymour

### Mark your calendar...

June 10th—9:25 am Awards Assembly

June 10th—6:30 pm—5th grade recognition

June 14th—Last Day of School—Early Release

June 24th—Report Cards Mailed Home

### [Sign up for ALERTMCPS](#)

Alert MCPS is a way that you can receive text messages or e-mail from Montgomery County Public Schools during weather-related emergencies and other major events that impact school system operations. Alert MCPS is administered by Montgomery County Public Schools and is part of the Montgomery County Alert System. <https://member.everbridge.net/index/1332612387832009#/signup>

Check out MCPS Quick Notes Issue:



<http://news.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/current-issue-quicknotes/>

# BETHESDA ELEMENTARY



## 2019 Awards Assembly

June 10, 2019

9:25 AM

\*Please note, students will come up in front of the stage to be recognized and for a photo opportunity.  
Certificates will be given out in the classroom after the assembly.

AWARD/RECOGNITION	PRESENTED BY	GRADE LEVEL
PTA Recognition	Lisa Seymour	n/a
Cultural Arts Recognition	Lisa Seymour	n/a
Literary Magazine Recognition	Karen Sanchez	n/a
My On "100" Award	Karen Sanchez	1-5
Bethesda Buddy	Beth Levine, Christopher Zukoski	K-5
Student Council	Chris Zukoski, Beth Levine	1-5
ESOL Awards	Alison Pluznik, Julie Petrossian, Vivian Hu	K-5
Welcome Buddies	Marissa Fried	K-5
Kindergarten and 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade Students Leave Assembly		
Green Team	Claire Li, Jessica Coyle	5
Patrol Certificates	Cathleen Piemme, Stephen Boyd	5
Chorus	Megan Lagrave	5
Math Olympiad	Christopher Zukoski	4-5
Instrumental Music	Jamin Morden	4-5
Bethesda Fitness Recognition	Stephen Boyd Jill Cahill	3-5

# **The Bethesda Elementary Literary Magazine**

Congratulations to all of our young authors who will be published in our Literary Magazine! Sixty-six students submitted their best work for publication! Thank you to our wonderful parent volunteers, Karen Trackman and Wendy Borrelli for managing the publication of our annual magazine! The magazine will be posted on the BE website at the end of next week.

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## **Contact Information**

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You can double check what information we have on file, by logging into your MCPS Parent Portal account. Did you know, you can also view grades and other student information in the portal? Contact the front office, if you need information about accessing your account.

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## **GT/SIPPI Screenings**

Decision letters are in today's Friday Folders of all second grade students and students in grades 3, 4, and 5 who were new to MCPS and/or rescreened in December.

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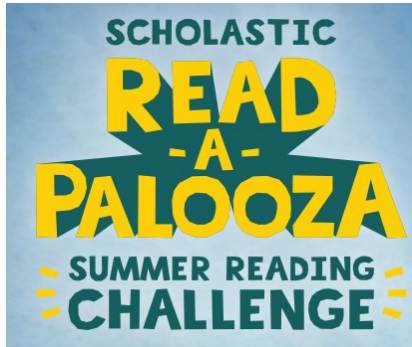
## **Summer Reading**

Over the summer our students should, read, read, read! We will be participating in Scholastic's Read-A-Palooza. <https://www.scholastic.com/summer/home/> Check your student's Friday Folder for information regarding the program and log on information. Every minute a student reads or is read to counts.

Bethesda Elementary school students have read 15,818 books on MyOn this year! Your child may continue to read on MyOn throughout the summer. MyOn currently contains over 6,000 digital books, which are be accessible on-line or may be downloaded for offline reading using free mobile apps. <https://www.myon.com/> Kindergarten teachers will send home passwords for their students.

Our local libraries and bookstores have many wonderful reading incentive programs. Please encourage your child to read all summer long!

# Summer Reading



## Summer Reading Challenge

This year Bethesda Elementary is participating in the Scholastic Read-a-Palooza Summer Reading Challenge. Your child will simply read a book of choice, digital book on My-on, the newspaper, or magazine articles and record their minutes on Scholastic's website.

### **1. First of all, what exactly is the Scholastic Read-a-Palooza Summer Reading Challenge?**

It's a free (and fun!) reading program that helps kids avoid the summer slide — the learning loss that can occur over summer break — by reading for enjoyment. Log minutes to unlock exclusive digital rewards and help donate books to kids in need across the country. The minutes you spend reading out loud to them counts, too! After you have completed the log complete this google form by September 6th. [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfc1Ueh-nnSsO8ZpL4nuKY3ZdvpSnHbzipD5-kyD0UF3\\_3jIGw/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfc1Ueh-nnSsO8ZpL4nuKY3ZdvpSnHbzipD5-kyD0UF3_3jIGw/viewform)

### **2. How exactly will this program help prevent the summer slide?**

The Scholastic Kids & Family Reading Report, 7th Edition shows the majority of kids (77%) and parents (94%) believe that summer reading can help kids during the school year. However, 20% percent of kids report reading zero books during the summer, and many may need a little guidance finding great books to read for fun (rather than ones that make reading seem like a chore). Studies show that when kids don't read over the summer, they lose core reading skills and fall behind when they return to school in the fall. Keeping kids reading over the summer helps them maintain and even enhance their skills in a variety of subjects.

### **3. What makes this year different from previous challenges?**

This year, participants will have the opportunity to help kids around the country — just by reading! As kids enter their minutes online, a minute counter will keep track of their collective progress. When the total number of minutes read reaches 25 million, 50 million, and then 100 million minutes, Scholastic will donate books to kids in need across the country, and has pledged to give away at least 200,000 books by the end of summer.

### **4. How do I sign my child up?**

Each child has already been registered through the school and has been assigned a user name and password. See attached slip of paper.

### **5. What's the benefit of having my child do the Challenge through school?**

This year, the [Scholastic Read-a-Palooza Summer Reading Challenge](#) will recognize one school in each state, territory (Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Northern Mariana Islands), and the District of Columbia, as well as the top 10 libraries and community partners with the most reading minutes. At the end of the summer, Scholastic will present each winning location with a "party-in-a-box" that will feature items for a school-wide Read-a-Palooza celebration: a personalized plaque, banner, and student certificates.

### **6. Is the website safe for kids?**

Yes! Scholastic adheres to COPPA (Children's Online Privacy Protection Act) laws. Our website is completely safe for kids.

### **7. I need help finding books for my kids. Any suggestions?**

Head over to the [Scholastic Read-a-Palooza Summer Reading Challenge](#) page to get started!

# Summer Math Packets

June 2019

Dear Parents:

We are pleased to provide you with a variety of suggested summer math activities, designed to help strengthen your child's math abilities. On the Bethesda ES website, you will find a math packet with a variety of problems depending on your child's grade for next year. These activities are not a school requirement, but they are offered to you in response to the many parent requests we have had to provide such activities. Your child can solve these problems throughout the month of July and/or August.

In addition to these activities, it is essential that children continue to master basic mathematic facts so they are better prepared to solve multiple step mathematical problems that they will encounter as they move into higher grade levels. We encourage you to work with your child often on learning math facts so that he/she retains and increases mathematical proficiency.

If your child completes the expectation for his or her grade level, he or she will receive a special math pencil for participating. Please complete the form verifying your child's participation (link is found on the front of each packet) by **Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup>**. If you have any questions, please contact Elizabeth McGuire at 240-204-5300 or by email as provided below. Thank you, and have a wonderful summer!

Sincerely,

*Elizabeth McGuire*

Staff Development Teacher

[Elizabeth\\_vonSchwarz@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Elizabeth_vonSchwarz@mcpsmd.org)

