



News from the Administration

February 2013

Beverly Farms Elementary School, 8501 Postoak Road, Potomac, MD 20854
301.469.1050

Settling into our New Home

It is difficult to believe that we have been in our new school for over a month. It has certainly been a whirlwind of packing and unpacking. With each passing day, we are amazed how our students have so easily adapted to their beautiful new environment. It is just another reminder of how resilient our children can be when given the opportunity to show their flexibility to change. We are very proud of each and every one of them.

Our thanks go out to our parents. You were instrumental in making everything come together from the packing and unpacking to watching children so others could come to school to volunteer. Your cooperation with our arrival and dismissal procedures also contributes to keeping our students safe. Thank you for modeling appropriate and safe behaviors for all of our children.

With the many changes we have been experiencing this year, it is important to remember to be patient as the MCPS process for opening a new building continues. Please remember there are several more steps in the process that must occur before the building is accepted by the Board of Education.

February is here which means we will be celebrating Valentine's Day in the classrooms. The times for classroom celebrations are listed under "Important Dates." We will also have an alternative activity in the Media Center and welcome all students who choose not to participate in classroom parties. There will be a sign-in table for all visitors when you arrive at school. If you choose to take your child home before our 3:05 p.m. dismissal, you are required to sign them out in your child's classroom. Teachers will have a sign-out sheet for your convenience. We appreciate your cooperation in following sign-in and sign-out procedures to keep our students safe.

March will soon be here, which means Maryland State Assessments (MSA) will be administered to Grades 3 – 5. Please be sure to check the dates under "Important Dates." There is no preparation needed for the assessments, however students should come to school well rested with a good breakfast. The majority of testing will occur in the morning, so getting to school on time is very important. Please try to avoid scheduling doctor or other appointments for your child during our testing days.

At this time of year the weather is always a little unpredictable and can change throughout the day. Please be sure to dress your child appropriately. If your child has lost a coat or a mitten or two, please check our lost and found. It is temporarily located in the front office until we can find a more central home in our new building. It is always a good idea to label your child's belongings with their name.

IMPORTANT DATES

February 14 - Valentine's Day

Classroom Celebrations

- Party Set up: 1:55 - 2:10
- Classroom Parties: 2:10 – 2:40 p.m.

Alternative Activity

- 2:10 – 2:40 p.m. in the Media Center

February 18

Presidents' Day schools and offices closed

MSA

March 4 and 5

MSA Reading Grades 3 & 4

March 6 & 7

MSA Reading Grade 5

March 8 and 11

MSA Math Grades 3 & 4

March 12 and 13

MSA Math Grade 5

BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION

"PARENT ENGAGEMENT"

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

Cabin John MS 6:45 p.m.

Please join us for a great evening filled with memorable conversation and entertainment. Our guest speaker will be Mr. Timothy Warner, MCPS Chief Engagement & Partnership Officer. There will be a question and answer segment. Refreshments will be served.

RSVP by February 21st to Tamara Bishop at (301)469-1160 or Tamara.A.Bishop@mcpsmd.org

WINTER IS HERE – KNOW WHAT TO DO

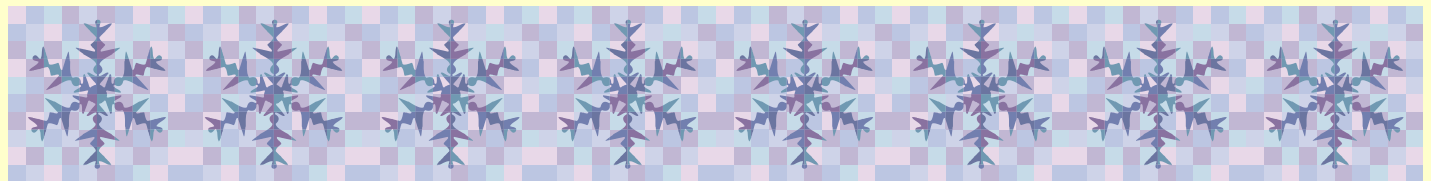
Delayed Opening

If schools are closed or delayed, the announcement is made no later than 5:00 a.m. (or the night before if possible). Schools may open two hours late, and all operations, including bus transportation, are delayed by two hours from the regular schedule.

Please be sure your child knows what they are to do if there is an early release.

Early Release

If schools are closing early, the announcements are made by 11:00 a.m. Schools may be closed 2.5 hours early, and all operations affecting dismissal of students, including bus transportation, will be activated 2.5 hours earlier than the regular school closing time.



MCPS Homework Hotline



Homework Hotline is ready to help and our very own Ms. Gould, 2nd grade teacher is on hand to solve all sorts of homework questions. Her regular time slot is Thursday afternoons. HHL offers students in Grades K-12 free homework assistance from MCPS teachers. Students can call, send text messages, or email questions on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 4 to 9 p.m. Questions received by phone are answered between 4 and 6 p.m.; all other questions are answered up until 9 p.m.

Students can ask questions by:

- Making a phone call to 301-279-3234
- Visiting the HHL website <http://askhhl.org>
- Sending a text message to 724-427-5445
- Sending an email to question@AskHHL.org
- Posting a message to Facebook (Like *Homework Hotline Live*)
- Posting a “tweet” to Twitter (@askHHL)

Homework Hotline Live! can be viewed on MCPS-TV (Comcast 34, Verizon 36, RCN 89) and on the Web at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/itv/hhl/

How to Receive Emergency Information from MCPS

MCPS parents can receive emergency information from the school system in a variety of ways including *MCPS QuickNotes*, Alert MCPS, Twitter, the MCPS website, MCPS TV, and a recorded telephone information line. Please visit www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/emergency for more information on how to keep in touch with Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) and stay informed in times of emergencies.

Help Improve the MCPS Website

MCPS is gathering feedback to improve the content and structure of the school system’s website. Please take a few moments and tell us about your experiences using the website. Your input is important as we work to improve the website. Please complete the survey here: <https://mcpsweb.wufoo.com/forms/website-survey/>