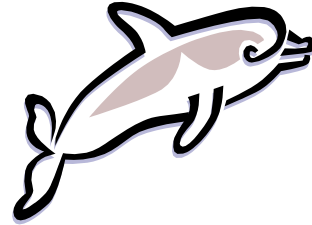


The Dolphin's Tale



The bi-weekly principal's newsletter of Travilah Elementary School
Susan J. Shenk, Principal

JANUARY 18, 2013

Issue #10

January

18		Second Marking Period ends
21		Holiday – No School M.L. King's birthday
22		Professional Day – No School for students
24		Wootton HS second semester Back to School Night
25	7:00 – 8:30pm	Bingo Night
28		Grade 5 – Meet with Frost MS Dr. Starr Community Day
29		School-wide Spelling Bee
30		Club Photos
31		Report Cards distributed

February

1		Grade 5 to Frost MS for Band Concert
4		School Wide Assembly – History Alive
5	6:00 -7:30pm	Parents as Literacy Partners
	7:30 – 8:30pm	PTA Meeting
6		Lunar New Year PTA Family Fun Night – Chick-fil-A
8		Grade 5 – Poet in Residence
11		Grade 5 – Baltimore Symphony Orchestra
13		Grade 1 – Mad Science – <i>Earthworks</i> Grade 5 – Poet in Residence
14	2:00pm	Valentine's Day parties
18		Holiday – No School President's Day
20		Grade 5 – Poet in Residence
21		Jump Rope for Heart
	7:00pm	Board of Education to Visit Wootton Cluster at WHS
22	12:55pm	Early Release Day – Grading and Planning
26		Grade 3 – Mad Science <i>Harnessing Heat</i>
27		Grade 5 – Poet in Residence
28		Dr. Horng, dentist to visit Kindergarten classes

Visit our website! <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/travilahes/>

School Phone: 301-840-7153

School Attendance Line: 301-670-8223

School Fax: 301-670-8230

Visit the PTA website! <http://www.travilahpta.org>

Follow us on Twitter! **PrincipalTES**

PARENTS AS LITERACY PARTNERS – Mark your calendar! Our annual parent training meeting, *Parents as Literacy Partners* is scheduled for February 5th from 6:00 – 7:30, prior to the PTA meeting. All parents are welcome to attend. Please complete the attached RSVP so we can prepare for you! Babysitting will be provided.

COMMUNITY DAY - On Monday, January 28, 2013, Superintendent Joshua P. Starr will be visiting our community. Dr. Starr will spend the day meeting with staff and students as he visits schools throughout the Churchill, Poolesville, Richard Montgomery, Rockville, and Wootton school clusters. **He will end this Community Day with a Town Hall meeting for parents, where you can ask questions and share your thoughts and ideas. The Town Hall meeting will be held from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. at Richard Montgomery High School, 250 Richard Montgomery Drive in Rockville.** Free childcare and interpretation services will be provided. For more information, visit the MCPS website at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org and search "Community Days" or call 301-279-3100. I hope you will be able to join Dr. Starr at the Town Hall meeting on January 28.

COINS FOR SANDY – Travilah Cares! Beginning on Monday, January 29 through Friday, February 8, Travilah will be collecting coin donations to contribute to Habitat for Humanity to assist those victims of Hurricane Sandy. Students will be encouraged to bring their coin (and dollar) donations to school to add to the grade level containers. The total of Travilah's *Coins for Sandy* contribution will be announced after we count all our coins! We are excited for our students to participate in this worthwhile and important charitable campaign. This is an SGA sponsored event.

FLU PREVENTION - The 2013 flu season has arrived and Maryland, like many states, is experiencing a widespread outbreak of the virus. We are asking students, staff, and parents to take some simple steps to keep themselves healthy, and help prevent the spread of the flu and other seasonal illnesses:

1. The Centers for Disease Control recommends that everyone 6 months and older gets a flu vaccine.
2. Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze, or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
3. When coughing or sneezing, cover your nose and mouth with your sleeve or a tissue and throw the tissue in the trash.
4. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth to minimize the chance for infection.
5. Stay home from work or school if symptoms develop such as fever, coughing, sneezing, runny nose, headache, and body aches. **Keep sick children home for at least 24 hours after they no longer have a fever without the benefit of fever-reducing medications, such as Tylenol. Keeping children with a fever at home will reduce the number of people who may get infected.**
6. If you have concerns about the health of your child, please contact your physician immediately or, in an emergency, dial 911.

The Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services will hold two additional flu vaccination clinics for residents who have not yet been vaccinated. The clinics will offer free injectable (shots) vaccinations on Friday, January 18, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Germantown Health Center, 12900 Middlebrook Road, Germantown, and on Tuesday, January 22, from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Dennis Avenue Health Center, 2000 Dennis Avenue, Silver Spring. Vaccinations will be given by appointment only. Visit montgomerycountymd.gov/resident/flu.html or call 3-1-1 to make an appointment.

Additional flu prevention information can be found at the following websites:

MCPS: montgomeryschoolsmd.org/emergency/flu/index.aspx/

Centers for Disease Control: cdc.gov/flu/protect/preventing.htm

Montgomery County: montgomerycountymd.gov/resident/flu.html

MATH UPDATES – Upgrades to the mathematics program in Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) are being made based on the findings and recommendations in the K–12 Mathematics Work Group Report (2010) including the alignment of the curriculum with the internationally driven Common Core State Standards (CCSS). Additional factors influencing changes to the mathematics program include—

- evolving definition of college/career readiness driven by the demands of the 21st century work force;
- University System of Maryland's new expectation that students complete Algebra 2 and a "non-trivial" mathematics course in their senior year; and
- anticipated Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) Algebra 2 test mandated by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) scheduled to begin in the 2014–2015 school year.

We believe the deeper mathematical understanding and higher expectations of the grade-level CCSS in elementary and middle school will prepare **most** students for Algebra 1 in Grade 8 and college level courses in high school. There will be **many** students who will need enhanced instruction; for these students, MCPS has developed additional enrichment and acceleration options to ensure that students who demonstrate understanding of a topic will be able to deepen and extend their learning within the grade-level curriculum. For the **few** students who consistently demonstrate deep understanding of all of the mathematical concepts at their grade level, they may need to be advanced. Beginning in Grade 4, access to a compacted curriculum will be available to students who consistently demonstrate this deep understanding of grade-level content across all mathematics strands.

Some students may require more time to complete the trajectory to Algebra 1. Supports will be included throughout the curriculum to provide options for accessing rigorous mathematics content. These supports may include alternate activities that address different learning needs, additional instructional time when needed, or courses designed to provide remediation and a slower pace to master the curriculum. The goal will be for all students to reach deep understanding across all mathematical topics.

MCPS began making upgrades to the 2001 mathematics program for elementary schools in 2007. **The upgraded program is called Curriculum 2.0 and is currently in place in kindergarten–Grade 3 in all elementary schools throughout the district. Rollout of Grades 4 and 5 and Algebra 1 is planned for next year.**

School-based staff members will require professional development opportunities to implement the CCSS, and the Fiscal Year 2014 Superintendent’s Recommended Operating Budget includes resources and support for implementation of Curriculum 2.0.

To find more information about changes to the MCPS mathematics programs, please visit the MCPS website at—www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/2.0/ or www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/math/.

Updated Mathematics Website -The MCPS mathematics website was recently updated and provides important information on changes to mathematics instruction, why the changes are needed, and how MCPS is improving math instruction to meet the needs of all students and ensure their success. This information can be accessed at montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/math/.

Math Booklet – Each student will be bringing home today a new Math Program Guide which contains updated information about the MCPS Math Curriculum.

PLAYGROUND SUPERSTARS – Week of January 2, 2013

Grade 5: Aakash Dutt

Grade 4: Samiyah Hester, Daniella Sanchack

Grade 3: Nikki Faroughi, Max Messina, Koran Lawson, Daniel Kwak

Grade 2: Tiffany Ke, Kevin Sonntag, Chris Castelli, Charles Makobongo, Leah Pratt, Nathanael Ma, Liam Graham

Grade 1: Michelle Yu

Kdg.: AJ Shiflett, Jack Kerns, Kent Zhang, Garrett Valentine

P.E. CLASS OF THE WEEK – Week of January 7, 2013 Congratulations to **Mrs. Emr’s class!**

P.E. STUDENT OF THE WEEK – Week of January 7, 2013 Congratulations to **Morgan Tinsley** in Mrs. Ghetti’s class.

SPECIAL DOLPHIN TALES THANK YOU TO:

- **Brenda and Peter Yuen, Lana Labban, Amanda Katz, and Beth Ann Edell** for meeting with the principal and several staff members to discuss PTA issues and the BOE testimony!

I have read the newsletter and would like to make the following comments or ask the question stated below:

Name: _____ Student’s name: _____
Phone: _____