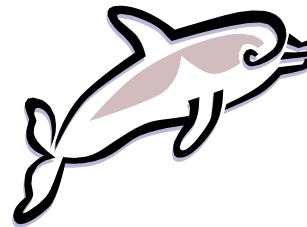


The Dolphin's Tale



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

February 15, 2013

Issue #12

February

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
25		Interims sent
26		Grade 3 Mad Science <i>Harnessing Heat</i>
27		Grade 5 Poet in Residence
28		Dr. Horng, dentist to visit Kindergarten classes

March

1		Grade 2 Mad Science – All About Animals
	7:00 – 8:30pm	Bingo Night
4 & 5		Grades 3 & 4 MSA Reading
5	7:00 – 8:00pm	PTA meeting
6 & 7		Grade 5 MSA Reading
8	7:00 – 9:00pm	PTA Movie Night <i>Brave</i>
8 & 11		Grades 3 & 4 MSA Math
10		Daylight Savings – set clock ahead 1 hour
12 & 13		Grade 5 MSA Math
13		PTA Family Fun Night – Calif. Pizza Kitchen – Rio
15		Grade 5 – <i>Under the Sea</i>
19		Cultural Arts assembly – <i>Joe Romano</i>
20		Grade 5 to Baltimore
22		3rd Marking Period ends
		Last day prior to Spring Break

April

2		Professional Day – No School for Students
		PTA meeting
3		Students return from Spring Break

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**

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PRINCIPAL'S WRITING WALL – Each week students' writing is displayed on the Principal's Writing Wall. All students will be featured at least once during the year. The following students' work was highlighted during the week of February 8, 2012:

Grade 1: Ms. Holland's class – Krish Abbato, Manish Bekkam, Ting Ting-Lian, Divya Subramanian, Zealand Cushing, Angela Li, Johathan Zhou, Omid Motamedi

Mrs. Goldizen's class – Armand Fallah, Natasha Thamungruxsat, Abena Frimpong, Atharva Kshirsagar, Ryan Hilmi, Christopher Blake, Shionnah Ganeshan

Mrs. Newcomer's class – Ashton Sun, Lindsey Lim, Sammy Somwaru, Emily Liu, Sydney Schless, Alexander Wang, Nikolay Bychkov, Julia Lian, Emerson Noble, Gareth Bennett, Luke Bryan

Grade 5: Mrs. Fones's class – Anna Baldwin, Pardiss Kaviani, Kelly Kimbis, Mickey Santomartino, Nimisha Rangachar, Sean White, Alice Bennett

EMERGENCY CLOSINGS AND/OR DELAYS - How to Receive Emergency Information from MCPS. MCPS offers numerous ways for parents to learn about school closures, delayed openings and early dismissals due to inclement, hazardous weather including MCPS QuickNotes, Alert MCPS, Twitter, the MCPS website, MCPS TV, and a recorded telephone information line. If you haven't already done so, establish and discuss your emergency plan with your child should school be dismissed early due to weather or other emergencies. Please make sure the emergency contact information on file at your child's school is up to date. For more information on how to stay in touch with MCPS and to be informed in times of emergencies, visit www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/emergency.

KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION –Our Kindergarten Orientation is scheduled for April 23 and 24, 2013. Children who will be five years old on or before September 1, 2013 will be eligible to enter Kindergarten in August 2013. If you have a child who will be entering Kindergarten next fall, please complete the attached form and return it to the school office. Please pass this information on to your neighbors or friends as well. We will also be having a Parent Orientation meeting on April 16, 2013 from 6:00 – 8:00pm. This meeting is for parents only and will include time for registration, a tour of the school, and an information session. Just a reminder, there will be no Kindergarten classes for currently enrolled Kindergarten students for these two days as the teachers and classrooms will be involved in the orientation. Please see the attached survey.

TRANSFER APPLICATION SEASON – Montgomery County parents who wish to request a change in school assignment for their children from their home school may begin the process during the upcoming transfer season, which will be held from February 1 through April 1, 2013. Assignment changes of students from one school to another are permitted under the following limited circumstances:

- ◆ Older sibling in the requested school
- ◆ Continuation in a feeder pattern from middle school to high school, except when affected by boundary changes
- ◆ A documented hardship situation

The transfer process begins at the home school, where parents may request an assignment change form and an information booklet that describes the process and useful information. You can also find out additional information at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org beginning in February. Please see the attached announcement.

SAVE THE DATES! SPRING STATE TESTING – As you plan ahead for family visits, doctor and dental appointments, etc., please avoid scheduling anticipated events during the scheduled Maryland School Assessment Tests (Grades 3, 4 and 5).

Dates	Grades	Content
March 4 and 5	3 & 4	Reading
March 6 and 7	5	Reading
March 8 and 11	3 & 4	Math
March 12 and 13	5	Math
April 15 & 16	5	Science

THANK YOU PTA! – The PTA had a “drive” to collect voluntary donations to support equipment needs that the teachers have identified. So far, we have been able to order: 15 microscopes to use with scientific investigations, new playground equipment, such as balls, jump ropes, sidewalk chalk, etc., a new Digital Camcorder and two new Digital Cameras. We are excited that we were able to order these new items, and are looking forward to receiving them and using them with the students! Thank you to the PTA (**Sue Potts**, fundraising chairman) for organizing this project and to the many generous parents who donated!

VALENTINE’S DAY PARTIES – Many thanks to our wonderful room parents who provided such terrific Valentine’s Day parties for our children. The children had many wonderful craft activities, exciting games, and yummy treats. They also enjoyed sharing their valentines with each other. I am sure these special activities will be remembered by our children for many years and create fond memories.

JUMP ROPE FOR HEART - Jump Rope for Heart time is here again. The event will be held this year on **Thursday February 21st**. Grades two, three, four and five are invited to participate. Jump Rope for Heart is a national fundraiser for the American Heart Association. Last year we were able to raise over 11,000 dollars. Permission slips will be due on Monday February 4th. We ask for flat donations, and encourage students not to go door-to-door soliciting. The donation packet also explains in detail about Jump Rope for Heart and where your donation goes.

Students will be placed on teams of about six jumpers. Each jump session will last one hour. Two team members jump at a time switching on the whistle every two minutes. This process continues throughout the jump. The third grade will be jumping from 9:35-10:35. The fourth grade will be jumping from 10:45-11:45. The fifth graders will be jumping from 12:40-1:40. The second grade will be jumping from 1:55-2:55.

Last year we had a lot of fun! Please encourage your child to participate.

Important reminders:

- Permission slips are due on Monday February 4th.
- Donation packets go out on Friday February 10th.
- You will receive online donation information with your permission slip
- Donations are due no later than Thursday February 21st. Please send them in with your son or daughter on that day.
- You can collect checks for donations or do it all on line. Just go to: www.americanheart.org/jump
- Make sure to print out your donation history report and bring that in with your donation packet.
- You do not need donations to participate. However, you must to turn in the permission slip.
- The class that raises the most money will win a pizza party!!
- Any student who raises over 50 dollars will have an extra PE class with popsicles!!

PARENTS AS LITERACY PARTNERS – Our *Parents as Literacy Partners* was a huge success. We had over 50 parents participate! The evening was led by our talented staff and parents heard wonderful information about literacy. They were then able to go the classrooms and work in small groups and practice what they learned. I am so impressed with how hard everyone worked! The children will certainly benefit by having their parents and teachers work together. This is just another terrific example of how Travilah staff and parents value our close home /school connection. Thank you for the support you continue to give our staff and our students!

LUNAR NEW YEAR - Thank you to the many parents who helped coordinate and volunteer with the Lunar New Year celebration. This year was extra special. We loved the Lion Dance that came around to all the classes. The crafts and games at recess were wonderful and were enjoyed by everyone. The pencils for the children were an extra treat and the staff all loved the bracelets. ☺ Parents, students, and staff all enjoyed the parade. Many children wore their traditional clothing and students carried many noise makers, crafts, lanterns, fans, dragons, snakes, etc. It was a wonderful way to welcome the Year of the Snake! Many thanks to the following parents: **Shuhong Li, Mao-Fen Yu, Vivian Lam, Wei (Lisa) Lin, Jiaqiang Ren, Lifan Yao, Mei-Fang Zhao, Huiyang Feng, Qi(Dora) Fu, Wayne Pan, Jie Yin, Jessica Cline, Susan Potts, Kris Sellman, Zhen Yuan, Dao Zhou, Daisy Okudo, Dongmei Lu, Ann Hugelier, Tony Guo, Shourong Li, Beth Ann Edell, Victoria Scott, Chunmao Wang, Inchu Pu, Yuhua Xiang, Fang Hua, Qiqi (Hunnah) Li, Charlie Yu, Yide Mi and Weiyu Xie.**

CONGRATULATIONS – We are very proud of our students, **Richard Tan** (Grade 5 – Mrs. Singal) and **Daniel Sofer** (Grade 2 – Mrs. Facine). At a recent Greater Mid-Atlantic Scholastic Chess Championships that was held in Baltimore on February 2nd, Richard and Daniel won 2nd places in Maryland in the K-5 under 800 and K-5 under 1000 categories, respectively. We are very proud of their achievements and are excited for success of the Travilah Chess Club!

REFLECTIONS – This year Travilah students have won three awards at the county level Reflections competition. Congratulations!!! **Pratyusha Mandal** (Grade 2 – Mrs. Donaldson) won the Literature, Award for Excellence for Outstanding Interpretation of Theme. **Feroz Campbell** (Grade 5 – Mrs. Singal), won the Photography, Award of Merit. **Michael Hu** (Grade 3 – Mrs. Perel), won the Visual Arts, Award of Merit. Students who win the Award for Excellence will compete further at state level from our school. Therefore, Pratyusha's entry will move further to state wide competition. Thank you for your support of this wonderful program. I am so proud each year of the talent our children display in diverse art fields that is recognized at county level. A huge thank you goes to **Zenobia Taraporewala-Campbell**, chair, Reflections program who organizes this program for our school each year.

PLAYGROUND SUPERSTARS – Week of January, 2012

Grade 5: Pranav Vijay, Ryan Van Meter, George Burns, Michael Agege

Grade 4: Thomas Vlahos

Grade 3: Koran Lawson, Maya Chelar, Justin DeLeon, Daniel Kwak, Salar Riar, Aria Mohebi, Nikki Faroughi, Liam Miller, Lacey Somwaru

Grade 2: Kevin Sonntag, Ryan Wagner, Lunah Schleret, Liam Graham, Becca Katz, Ryan Lim, Laney Meyer, Hope Safai, Daniel Sofer

Grade 1: Michelle Yu, Krish Abbato, Anna Frankford, Jessica Fu, Rhea Chelar, Gareth Bennett

Kindergarten: AJ Shiflett, Jack Kerns, Teju Vijay, Derrick Doye, Ava Helgeson, Jaden Hou, Matthew DeLeon

P.E. CLASS OF THE WEEK – Week of February 4, 2013 Congratulations to **Mrs. Facine’s class!**

P.E. STUDENT OF THE WEEK – Week of February 4, 2013 Congratulations to in **Chris Sonntag** in Mrs. Ghatti’s class.

P.E. CLASS OF THE WEEK – Week of February 11, 2013 Congratulations to **Mrs.Ghatti’s class!**

P.E. STUDENT OF THE WEEK – Week of February 11, 2013 Congratulations to in **Ella Teichberg** in Mrs. Knoblach’s class.

SPECIAL DOLPHIN TALES THANK YOU TO:

- **Kris Sellman and Kerry Bowman** for keeping our school sign up to date!
- **Bar-T** for offering child care for Parents as Literacy Partners and PTA!
- **Mao-Fen Yu, Shuhong Li, and Lifan Yao** for the lovely decorations for the Lunar New Year Celebration!

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

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