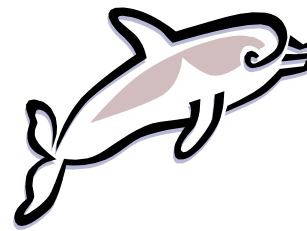


The Dolphin's Tale



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

September 28, 2012

Issue #3

September

**National Hispanic Heritage Month
School Safety Month**

28

Early Release Day – Students Dismissed at 12:55pm

October

1

Interims sent

2

7:00pm

PTA Meeting – Media Center

8

9:30 – 11:00

Presentation on the new Report Cards for Kdg. – Grade 3

12

Columbus Day – Parent Visitation Day

15

Grade 2 to visit Giant Foods and Il Porto Restaurant

16

7:00 – 9:00pm

Miss Maryland, former Travilah student, to visit at lunch

18

7:00 – 9:00pm

NAACP Parent ‘Kick Off’ meeting – Richard Montgomery HS

19

Grade 3 Mad Science – *Moving Motion*

22

Grade 5 to Strathmore Music Center

23

7:00 – 9:00pm

PTA Movie Night

24

No School – Maryland State Teachers Convention

25

PTA Family Fun Night *Ledo's Pizza*

26

Grade 5 to Mt. Vernon

30

Grade 1 Mad Science – *Living Things*

31

Grade 4 to St. Mary's City

Individual Student Pictures

Grade 4 to Agricultural Center – *Close Encounters*

Grade 3 to be visited by Rotary Club to present dictionaries

Halloween Parade and Parties

November

2

First Marking Period ends

5

No School for students – Professional Day for staff

6

Holiday – No School Election Day

7

7:00 – 8:00pm

PTA General Meeting

9

Grade 2 Mad Science – *Earthworks*

9 – 16

Book Fair

12

9:30am

Veteran's Day Celebration

12 & 13

12:55pm

Early Release Day – Parent Conferences

14

Report Cards Distributed

Flyer Distribution Day

6:30 – 8:30pm

Evening Bookfair Event

21

12:55pm

Early Release – Thanksgiving

22 and 23

Holiday – No School Thanksgiving

30

Grade 2 to Strathmore Music Center

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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THANK YOU PARENTS – It was wonderful to see so many parents at our Back to School picnic! The weather was beautiful and everyone seemed to truly enjoy the evening. Many thanks to the PTA for planning the event, with a special thank you to **Mrs. Christine Zmuda** for organizing everything. The games, food, music, moon bounce, face painting, etc. were all big hits.

NEW REPORT CARDS / STANDARDS BASED GRADING INFORMATION MEETING - Mark your calendars! We will be having a presentation on the new report cards for Kindergarten – Grade 3 parents. This informational session will be held on **October 2nd at 7:30pm**, following the PTA meeting prior to the room parent meeting. We hope to see many of you there! The Wootton cluster elementary principals are also planning a joint meeting on **October 17th at Lakewood Elementary School at 7:00pm**. I will be sending home more information about this meeting soon.

MATH QUESTIONS ABOUT CURRICULUM 2.0 – Here is a link for parents to the curriculum overviews for Math in grades Kdg. – 3. Check it out!

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/math/elementary/>

EPI-PEN USE FOR SEVERE ALLERGIC REACTIONS – A new Maryland law (Epinephrine Availability and Use) requires all school districts in Maryland to establish a policy that authorizes school personnel to administer auto-injectable (EpiPen) epinephrine to a student who is determined to be, or perceived to be, in anaphylaxis, a sudden, severe life-threatening allergic reaction. Under this policy, EpiPens must be administered regardless of whether the student has a known severe allergy that causes anaphylaxis, or has a prescription for epinephrine. As part of the mandated requirements, training has been provided to all staff members on the signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis, and special training has been provided to selected staff members in every school on the procedures for administering EpiPen auto-injectors to students suffering from anaphylaxis. We now have EpiPens in our health room available for emergency use. Please contact the Department of Student Services at 301-279-3192 for more information.

BUS ASSIGNMENTS – Students are to ride their assigned bus daily. If there is a need for a child to ride a different bus because of an **unusual day care situation**, please send a note to Mrs. Sherk for approval. Once approved, the note will also be given to the bus driver. Many of the buses are filled to capacity. Therefore, please make these requests only as an emergency. Requests for riding a bus because of a “play date” will not be approved. If a child is going home with a friend in car pool, a note is needed from the parent. Thank you for helping us make sure our children get home safely.

GRADE 3 APPLICATION PROCESS FOR HIGHLY GIFTED CENTER AT COLD SPRING – Applications for the Elementary Centers for the Highly Gifted (HGC) were recently mailed directly to all parents of Grade 3 students in Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS). This is a reminder that if you are interested in having your child considered for the HGC, you must complete the application and return it by November 2, 2012, to:

HGC Application
Division of Consortia Choice and Application Program Services
11721 Kemp Mill Road
Silver Spring, Maryland 20902

There will be two parent information meetings about the HGC on the following dates beginning at 7:00 p.m. The same information will be presented at each meeting. Feel free to go to the one most convenient for you.

October 3, 2012 Parent/Guardian Information Meeting at Wheaton High School
12601 Dalewood Drive, Silver Spring, Maryland 20906

October 10, 2012 Parent/Guardian Information Meeting at Quince Orchard High School
15800 Quince Orchard Road, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878

BE A PART OF THE BEE! - Trivilah is participating in the 2013 Scripps National Spelling Bee. Our school champion will compete at the area spelling bee in March. Winners of area spelling bees can progress to the final national spelling bee held in late May in Washington D.C. To prepare your child to compete in the school spelling bee, your PTA is offering an after school Spelling Club. Any student grades 3, 4 or 5 can practice spelling, learn new words, play word games, and have fun! Spelling Club will meet on Mondays after school from 3:30 – 4:30. Please register your speller for Spelling Club by emailing Jill prater at jill.prater@comcast.net no later than September 30th. Class size limited to 20. Students do not have to participate in spelling club to participate in the school-wide spelling bee (but they'll be better spellers and have more fun if they do!)

HELP KEEP OUR TREES BEAUTIFUL – We have two beautiful chestnut trees on our front lawn. They are very old and lovely. Unfortunately, some community neighbors have been coming and hitting, shaking, and cutting these trees in order to get the chestnuts. Although I realize that many people love collecting these chestnuts, we do not want to have our trees destroyed. We also cannot have unauthorized people on school property, especially during the student day. Please help us keep our trees and our students safe.

GRADE 5 MAGNET SCHOOL APPLICATIONS PROCESS – Parent information meetings for Middle Schools Programs for the Highly Gifted are as follows:

- Roberto Clemente Middle School – October 11, 2012 7:00pm
 - Humanities and Communications Magnet
 - Math, Science, Computer Science Magnet
- Eastern Middle School – October 23, 2012 7:00pm
 - Humanities and Communications Magnet
- Takoma Park Middle School – October 11, 2012 7:00pm
 - Math, Science and Computer Science Magnet

Testing date is December 1, 2012 at 8:00am. Deadline for submission of applications is November 2, 2012. For questions or additional information, please contact Mrs. Heyn at the school.

STATE OF THE SCHOOLS - Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) will hold its inaugural State of the Schools presentation on the morning of Monday, November 12, 2012, at the Music Center at Strathmore. The event—“2012 State of the Schools: Building the Future Together”—will provide Dr. Starr an opportunity to share his vision for MCPS’ future with the county’s educational leaders and business, nonprofit, and community partners. Additional information about the event and an online registration form can be found on the new State of the Schools website www.mcpsstateoftheschools.org.

MCPS MOMENTS - *MCPS Moments* are two-minute videos that highlight recent events, school programs, and more. The videos are featured online and on MCPS TV. Following is a list of some recent *MCPS Moments*:

- Class of 2012 Sets SAT Record

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/mainstory/story.aspx?id=262915>

- Achieving Collegiate Excellence and Success

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/mainstory/story.aspx?id=260770>

- Newly Modernized Paint Branch HS is a big hit

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/mainstory/story.aspx?id=259977>

EDUCATION MATTERS - Hosted by the Board of Education President, *Education Matters* is a 30-minute talk show where guests discuss education news, curriculum programs and initiatives, as well as challenges that schools, teachers and students face. On the newest episode of *Education Matters*, Board President Shirley Brandman discusses the importance of social emotional learning, highlighting its benefits that include stronger life skills, higher academic achievement and an overall positive school environment. The program can be viewed on MCPS TV (Comcast Ch. 34 and Verizon Ch. 36), and online at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/boe/edmatters/2012-08.aspx

STUDENT TOWN HALL MEETING - Superintendent Starr will hold his first Student Town Hall of the 2012–2013 school year on Monday, October 15, 2012, at Northwest High School in Germantown. The town hall meetings are an opportunity for Dr. Starr to hear directly from students. Dr. Starr will answer questions from students in the studio audience as well as questions submitted by email and Twitter. Students are encouraged to submit their questions in advance by email, to pio@mcpsmd.org, or to the @MCPS Twitter, using the hashtag #studenttownhall. More information about the town hall meetings will be sent to secondary principals and will be available on the Student Town Hall website.

2012 SCHOOL BASED SEASONAL FLU MIST VACCINE CLINICS - The Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) will conduct free nasal spray flu vaccine clinics (FluMist) in November for children 18 and under. On Monday, November 5, flu clinics will be held at John F. Kennedy, Richard Montgomery, and Seneca Valley high schools. No classes will be held on that day because it is a professional day for teachers. These clinics will be open to any school-aged child. All MCPS elementary schools will host a flu clinic on either Monday, November 12, or Tuesday, November 13, following early dismissal of students on those days. More information will be sent home with your child in October. All clinics are free, but registration is required due to limited vaccine supplies. For more information, visit the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services website at <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/hhs> or call 311.

PLAYGROUND SUPERSTARS – Weeks of September 10 - 14, 2012

Grade 5: Aakash Dutt, Aishlin Kivlighn*, Allison Arner*, Jonathan Lee, Allyson Nalibotsky*, Sean White, Jonathan Wang, Kelly Kimbis, Richard Tan, Kent Ngo, Alice Bennett, Evan Morris, Toby Kleinman, Aniyah Hester*, Anmol Singh

*These Fifth Graders have helped with entertaining and taking care of Kindergardeners!

Grade 4: Samiyah Hester

Grade 3: Liam Miller, Emily Wang, Brett Halpern, Angelina Guhl, Max Messina, Dylan Safai, Max Gracyalny, Max Wool, Aria Mohebi, Morgan Hendriksson

Grade 2: Leah Pratt, Tiffany Ke, Tommy Arata, Ryan Wagner

Grade 1: Maya Halpern, Ann Sellers, Jessica Fu, Atharva Kshirsagar, Michelle Yu

Kindergarten: Garrett Valentine, Alex Doan, Jaden Hou

P.E. CLASS OF THE WEEK – Week of September 24, 2012 Congratulations to **Mrs. Facine’s class!**

P.E. STUDENT OF THE WEEK – Week of September 24, 2012 Congratulations to **Laney Meyer** in Mrs. Facine’s class.

SPECIAL DOLPHIN TALES THANK YOU TO:

- **Christine Zmuda** for planning the wonderful Back to School picnic!
- **Laurie Noble and Renee Kravitz** for the delicious snacks for the Staff Meeting!

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

Name: _____

Student’s name: _____

Phone: _____