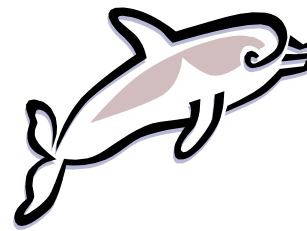


# The Dolphin's Tale



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

October 12, 2012

Issue #4

## October – Breast Cancer Awareness Month

12		Grade 2 to visit Giant Foods and Il Porto Restaurant
15		Miss Maryland, a former Travilah student, Joanna Guy, to visit students at lunch
	7:00 – 9:00pm	NAACP Parent “Kick Off” meeting – Richard Montgomery HS
16		Grade 3 Mad Science – <i>Moving Motion</i> Grade 5 to Strathmore Music Center
18	7:00 – 9:00pm	PTA Movie Night
<b>19</b>		<b>No School – Maryland State Teachers Convention</b>
22		PTA Family Fun Night <i>Ledo's Pizza</i>
23		Grade 5 to Mt. Vernon
24		Grade 1 Mad Science – <i>Living Things</i>
25		Grade 4 to St. Mary's City
26		Individual Student Pictures
30		Grade 4 to Agricultural Center – <i>Close Encounters</i> Grade 3 to be visited by Rotary Club to present dictionaries
31		Halloween Parade and Parties

## November

2		First Marking Period ends
<b>5</b>		<b>No School for students – Professional Day for staff</b>
<b>6</b>		<b>Holiday – No School Election Day</b>
7	7:00 – 8:00pm	PTA General Meeting
9		Grade 2 Mad Science – <i>Earthworks</i>
9 – 16		Book Fair
12	7:30am	Dr. Starr, Superintendent <i>State of the Schools</i> at Strathmore Music Center – “Building the Future Together”
	9:30am	Veteran's Day Celebration
	1:30 – 3:30pm	FluMist Clinic at Travilah
12 & 13	12:55pm	Early Release Days – Parent Conferences
14		Report Cards Distributed Flyer Distribution Day
	6:30 – 8:30pm	Evening Book Fair Event
21	12:55pm	Early Release – Thanksgiving
<b>22 and 23</b>		<b>Holiday – No School Thanksgiving</b>
29		Kdg. to Puppet Company at Glen Echo – <i>The Nutcracker</i>
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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**OPEN HOUSE - PARENT VISITATION DAY** – Many thanks to all the families and friends that attended our Open House. We had a wonderful turnout with 70% of our students, or approximately 300 students, represented by at least one visitor. The students loved demonstrating how hard they work, were excited to share their classrooms with you and enjoyed demonstrating our technology. It was wonderful to see so many of you here. We appreciate your support of the children and our school.

**NEW REPORT CARDS / STANDARDS BASED GRADING INFORMATION MEETING** - Mark your calendars! The Wootton cluster elementary principals are planning a joint meeting on **October 17<sup>th</sup> in the gym at Lakewood Elementary School at 7:00pm.** Please join us if you would like to learn about the changes to grading and reporting which go into effect this year for students in grades K, 1, 2, and 3. The first quarter will end on November 2<sup>nd</sup> and students in grades K—3 will receive standards-based grades on a new report card format. We will be explaining the format of the new report cards and standards based grading. If you were unable to attend the meeting we had at Travilah, if you are interested in hearing the information again, or if you have additional questions, please plan to attend. If you are unable to attend, a wonderful resource is the MCPS website.

**BOOK FAIR** - *The Scholastic All Star Book Fair* is heading our way! It will be at our school November 9 – 16, 2012 from 9am-3:30pm. Visit the Media Center for all the fun! There are so many books for every kind of kid. We have adventure, sci-fi, best-selling, and even “laugh-out-loud” stories. We cannot wait to see you there! We will even have the new *Wimpy Kid* book!

**HALLOWEEN** - We will host our traditional Halloween parade and classroom parties on Wednesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>. The annual parade will begin at 2:00 p.m. outside (weather permitting) and the classroom parties will be held after the parade. We want to thank the parents who are organizing the classroom parties for our children. As your child thinks about his/her school costume for our annual Halloween parade and party, please help him/her select an appropriate outfit that does not reflect violence or include any toy weapons. Our youngest Travilah Elementary School students are five years old, and we want to insure that the parade is enjoyable and not frightening for any of the children. Some of the older children look forward to wearing scary costumes for Halloween. Please save these costumes for trick-or treating in the neighborhood and wear a less frightening costume for the school parade (should they choose to wear a costume). Students should bring their costumes in a bag to school with their name on it. Children are NOT allowed to wear make-up or costumes to school. They will be given time to change before the parade. If you choose for your child not to participate in the Halloween activities due to personal or family beliefs, please send a note or call Mrs. Hairston or Mrs. Heyn by Monday, Oct. 29th, so we can make alternate arrangements for your child. We will have a Fall Celebration with Mrs. Heyn. We are looking forward to a festive afternoon!

Here are a few quick reminders about Halloween at Travilah:

- Children who choose to wear costumes for the parties and parade should bring their costumes, not wear them to school. They will have time to change prior to the parade.
- No weapons pretend weapons, or super scary costumes are permitted.
- Children who do not celebrate Halloween due to personal or family beliefs are welcome to join the non-Halloween celebration with Mrs. Heyn. Please send a note or call the office or Mrs. Heyn so we can plan for these children.

**BE A PART OF THE BEE!** - Travilah 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 3:30pm – 4:30pm. Please register your speller for Spelling Club by emailing Jill prater at [jill.prater@comcast.net](mailto:jill.prater@comcast.net). 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!)

**SCHOOL BASED SEASONAL FLU VACCINE CLINICS COMING SOON** - The Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) will conduct free, nasal spray flu vaccine (FluMist) clinics in November for children 18 and under. On Monday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, flu clinics will be held at John F. Kennedy, Richard Montgomery, and Seneca Valley high schools from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon. 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. **The clinic at Travilah Elementary will take place on November 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm – 3:30pm.** See the attached notification letters for more information. All clinics are free, but registration is required due to limited vaccine supplies. For more information about the upcoming clinics and the FluMist, visit the following websites:

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/emergency/flu/> <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/flu>

The injectable seasonal flu vaccine will be available, at no charge, at other DHHS flu clinics at various locations in the county, October through December. Visit <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/flu> or call 311 for county locations. The Flu vaccine may also be available from your health care provider.

**FIRE SAFETY** – We had a small situation the other day where it was reported that there was smoke in the girls’ restroom. It was first thing in the morning when students were first entering the building. With quick action by staff, the situation was brought under control, and no one was ever in danger. Unfortunately, we still do not know exactly how it happened. School security and Office of School Support and Instruction (OSSI) were notified. We have now put additional practices in place and have new maps indicating the locations of all fire pull stations and fire extinguishers. These maps have been distributed to all staff and are in all emergency binders and in the office. We had an additional staff meeting to discuss the situation and put our additional procedures in place. I feel confident that we are well prepared for all emergencies.

**CANDY IN THE CLASSROOMS** – As we continue to promote healthy lifestyles, we are no longer rewarding students with candy in the classrooms this year. We can reward students in other healthier ways. Of course, this rule does not impact Halloween, etc. Thank you for supporting our school decision.

**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.

**GRADE 3 APPLICATIONS FOR CENTER FOR THE HIGHLY GIFTED** - The application process for 3rd grade students to apply to the Center for the Highly Gifted at Cold Spring Elementary School is beginning now for the 2013-14 school year. Parents should have received an application package in the mail. Please adhere to the deadlines, as late applications are not accepted. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Rubenstein. Thank you!

**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](http://www.mcpsstateoftheschools.org).

**PLAYGROUND SUPERSTARS – Weeks of September 17 – October 5, 2012**

**Grade 5:** Danny Caputo, Pardiss Kaviani, Kent Ngo, Mickey Santomartino, Matt Price, Mason Miller, Anmol Singh, Jonathan Lee, Konstantine Tomashevsky, Ritik Singh, Alice Bennett

**Grade 4:** Thomas Jezek, Harrang Khalsa

**Grade 3:** Brett Halpern, Clarence Lam, Max Wool, Katie Kerns, Mohammed Khan, Logan Pratt, Max Messina, Daniel Kwak, Ayla Khorsand, Liam Miller, Nikki Faroughi, Elvin Mun, Morgan Hendriksson, Nicholas Qiu

**Grade 2:** Leah Pratt, Allison Yu, Tommy Arata, Karen Potts, Dhanya Philipose, Dennis Chunikhin, Liam Graham, Tiffany Ke

**Grade 1:** Yousef Yaqub, Atharva Kshirsagar, Abena Frimpong, Michelle Yu

**Kindergarten:** Derrick Doye, Jai Mohale, Carson Peddie, Jecon Kebreab, Lucas Kim, Naomi Negussie, Isaac Pipes, Keon Faroughi, Jack Kerns, Kent Zhang, Jasmine Geeng

**P.E. CLASS OF THE WEEK** – Week of October 1, 2012 Congratulations to **Ms. Holland’s class!**

**P.E. STUDENT OF THE WEEK** – Week of October 1, 2012 Congratulations to **Alex Bergen** in Ms. Holland’s class.

**P.E. CLASS OF THE WEEK** – Week of October 8, 2012 Congratulations to **Mrs. Fones’s class!**

**P.E. STUDENT OF THE WEEK** – Week of October 8, 2012 Congratulations to **Alice Bennett** in Mrs. Fones’s class.

**SPECIAL DOLPHIN TALES THANK YOU TO:**

- **Laurie Noble and Renee Kravitz** for organizing the delicious luncheon for the Staff and the **PTA** for sponsoring it!

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

# *Please Join Us*

## 2012 State of the Schools

### Building the Future Together

Superintendent Joshua P. Starr will deliver his first State of the Schools address at The Music Center at Strathmore on November 12, 2012. Please join Dr. Starr as he shares his vision for the future and we gather to celebrate the outstanding students of Montgomery County Public Schools.

#### **Monday, November 12, 2012**

The Music Center at Strathmore  
5301 Tuckerman Lane  
North Bethesda, MD 20852

**7:30 a.m.** Enjoy a light breakfast and student performances and artwork throughout the Music Center

**8:30 a.m.** Dr. Starr presents his State of the Schools address

*Foreign language and sign language interpretation will be available.*

Let us know you're planning to join us on November 12. **Please RSVP by November 1, 2012, at [www.mcpsstateoftheschools.org](http://www.mcpsstateoftheschools.org)**. The event should conclude by 9:30 a.m.

**Help spread the word—please share this invitation with others in the Montgomery County community.**

On occasion, we send special invitations and notices to MCPS community members that have either received previous communications from us or left us a contact email while attending one of our recent community events (Parent Academy, Listen & Learn, Book Club, or Spring Forums). If you wish to be removed from this list, [please unsubscribe](#).