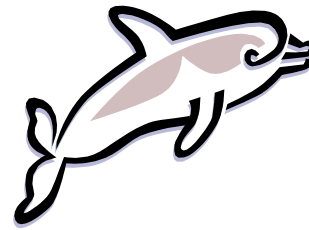


# The Dolphin's Tale



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

November 30, 2012

Issue #7

## November

30 Grade 2 to Strathmore Music Center

## December

7 Grades 1 and 2 Imagination Stage – *Seussical*  
 10 Interims sent  
 12 Family Fun Night – *Green Cactus*  
 14 Grade 2 Mad Science – *Matter of Fact*  
 17 2:15 and 7:30pm Band and Chorus concerts  
 18 Grade 3 Mad Science – *Dry Ice Capades*  
 21 Last day prior to Winter Break  
 24 and 25 **Holiday – Christmas Schools and Offices closed**  
 26 – 31 **Winter Break**

## January

1 **Holiday – New Year's Day Schools and Offices closes**  
 2 School Resumes

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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**NEW VISITORS SIGN IN SYSTEM** – Travilah now has a new network-based electronic Visitor Management System (VMS) to help identify and verify the business of visitors to our school. This new system is part of a system wide Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) initiative that eventually will be implemented in all schools. This new system replaces our current sign-in system. **Starting Monday all visitors' driver's licenses will be scanned. Visitors will receive a badge to wear while in the school building and are expected to return the badge before leaving the building and be checked out.** Thank you for your support and patience while we implement our new procedures. The safety and security of our students and staff are an MCPS priority, and this new system will help ensure a safe and secure learning and working environment. If you have any further questions, please contact the staff in the Department of School Safety and Security at 301-279-3066.

**CAR POOL PICK UP SAFETY** – During dismissal, we have a very busy parking lot, and we want to make sure our pedestrians and vehicles are safe. **PLEASE do not park on DuFief Mill Road at dismissal.** This is a no parking zone, and you could possibly receive a ticket! If you want to walk up to meet your child, please park in the parking lot and walk on the sidewalk to the car pool waiting area outside the cafeteria. Walking through the car pool lane and/or across DuFief Mill Road is very dangerous!

**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 November 11 – 29, 2012:

**KDG:** Mrs. Foley's class – Michelle Pan, Dhruva Arun, Naomi Negussie, Jericho Wondeye, Diya Khetan, Alisha Tomashevsky

Mrs. Knight's class – Derek Hsu, Page Euler, Joseph Lee, Lucas Kim, Prabhsimran Kaur, Shreya Mahawar

Mrs. Tozier's class – Darren Chen, Mahsa Riar, Saniya Shah, Jaden Hou, Jason Yin, Ava Helgeson

**Grade 1:** Ms. Newcomer's class – Daniel Li, Sammy Somwaru, Emily Liu, Lindsey Lim, Ashton Sun, Maya Halpern, Mandy Guo

Mrs. Goldizen's class – Jessica Chen, Jessica Fu, Natalie Min, William Jong, Monica Cheng, Rhea Chelar

Ms. Holland's class – Jacob Reiser, Ann Sellers, Carolyn Conner, Alex Bergen, Jeremy Stasiuk, Andy Cui, Jasmin Wu, Madison Kenealey

**Grade 3:** Mrs. Kolze's class – Benjamin Christovich, Ryan Parent, Brett Halpern, Ariana Shariati, Daniel Kwak, Neha Dheenadhay, Nikki Faroughi, Maya Chelar, Nadia Meyerovich

Mrs. Perel's class – Mick Shiflett, Emily Wang, Lily Zweig, Angelina Guhl, Ellie Lee, Max Messina, Riley Batkin, Maricel Araneda, Sung Jun Noh, Jamie Morris

Mrs. Shrager's class – Ethan Kim, Yolanda Li, Amanda Slud, AJ Grainger, Victoria Tong, Boris Rizberg, Manaal Malik, Katie Kerns, Charlotte Christovich

**Grade 5:** Mrs. Egan's class – Meera Barochia, Grace Bennett, Natalie Crowder, Jonathan Lee, Tina Liu, Erich Mayne, Kavya Mishra, Evan Morris, Kent Ngo, Nicole Parent, Matt Price, Tate Yuen

Mrs. Fones's class – Nadia Lee, Sean White, Anna Baldwin, Alice Bennett, Mason Miller, Kelly Kimbis, Hari Kannan

Mrs. Singal's class – Shiteng Wang, Richard Tan, Samantha Haendler, Heather Chen, Charbel Hachem, Ryan VanMeter, Shawdi Keshavarz, Sae Ra Jang, Danielle Tauber, Sabrina Shah, Lyndie Troxell, Konstantin Tomashevsky, Jessie Lian

**DOLLARS FOR TURKEYS** – Our community service project, "Dollars for Turkeys" was a huge success! We collected \$840.00 – enough to purchase forty-two (42) \$20 Giant gift cards for the families of Summit Hall Elementary School. Thank you for your wonderful support of this worthwhile project. Your generosity helped many families enjoy a delicious Thanksgiving dinner. I am so proud of the entire Travilah community for your support!

**FOOD SERVICES FOCUS GROUP** – Travilah has been selected as a Focus Group for the Division of Food Services. A group of 7 third graders have been asked to serve on this group and taste various new food items and give their feedback. They will be able to talk about what foods they like and what foods they do not like, what they would like to see on the school lunch menus, and give opinions about various food options. I will also participate with the students. I am excited for our school and students to be part of this fun opportunity!

**MEDIA CENTER** - Our new Media Center Circulation program is called **Destiny**. It is web-based and can be reached from home by going to <https://destiny.mcpsmd.org/>. You can use the Basic Catalog Search or the option for Destiny Quest in the left hand menu. As a guest, you can search our catalog, make a list of books, and print it out. Students or staff can log in with their computer login and password to see what they have checked out, make lists of what they want to read, and rate the books they have read. This information is saved in the student's account to use whenever they log in again. Now you can easily keep track of what is checked out to your student and when it is due back to the media center. They can search for information for reports and good books to read for fun. All students are now able to access Destiny Library Manager 24/7. From home students have access to the features that are accessible once they login, i.e., creating resource lists, receive recommendations (from library staff or teachers), create book reviews, and view their account (see items checked out and due dates).

### **BOOK FAIR -All Star Bookfair 2012 Summary**

**Read A Thon** - The first Travilah Read A Thon was a huge success with 130 students participating and reading over 78,000 minutes! How did they do that, you ask? Well, there were three Saturdays, two Sundays, two Hurricane Sandy days off, two scheduled days off and the students certainly took advantage of the time. A big congratulations and \$25 gift certificates to the fair were given to Emma Helgeson who read the most minutes in the school, Mrs. Ghetti's class who had the most minutes in the school, and Carlena Kravitz whose name was drawn at random for the participation prize. The next top 24 readers (listed in order) selected one of the posters that were displayed at the fair to take home as a prize: Ellie Helgeson, Salar Riar, Adela Sheng, Calvin Hanway, Shawdi Keshavarz, Hannah Shapiro, Liam Splittgerber, David Chen, Mahsa Riar, Clark Zhang, Pranav Vijay, Jessica Fu, Joshua Hou, Timothy Dai, Alexander Wang, Yichi Zhang, George Sellers, Ariana Shariati, Brandon Hsu, Dylan Safai, Ryan Wagner, Maya Chelar, Andy Cui, Nina Dorfman.

**All Star Bookfair** - The All Star Bookfair was a huge success raising almost \$3200 for the Travilah PTA and providing about \$700 of new books from the fair for the Media Center. The money donated to the All For Books box at the register helped provide 14 new books to students in need. The online fair will continue through 11/30 at <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/travilahalementaryschool>

Thank you to the following volunteers for helping above and beyond at the bookfair: Jill Prater for hosting the teacher breakfast, Keri Christovich for helping with daily closing, Kerry Bowman, Sue Potts and Kris Sellman for living at the bookfair. Venus Shahamat for helping daily with the cash registers. Janice Frankford, Lynn Grainger, Jamie Hilmi, Karen Shariati, Jessica Cline, Lauri Noble, Christine Zmuda with setup and breakdown of the fair. Jen Meyer, Amy Yang, Julie Krieger, Renju Nair, Gule Emran, Susan Winson with the family fun night. Vidya Thirumalai, Toni Hawley, Alka Sharma, Teri Troxell, Carolyn Briskman, Nabeela Yaqub, Maggie Meyer, Soo Im, Michelle Kang, Renee Halpern, Neerja Tripathi, Jessica Somwaru, Lisa Fox, Amy Bennett, Erin Rosenfeldt, and Lisa Lin for helping with children make wishlists and staffing the bookfair!!! And congrats to Sue Potts who deservedly won the \$25 gift certificate to the fair for the volunteer random raffle.

Thank you to Mrs. Rubenstein and Mrs. Fones for organizing the following Travilah Ambassadors to help each morning at the bookfair: Stephanie Geng, Allison Arner, Tony Krieger, Erich Mayne, Amrit Singh, Ivan Vakotov, Aakash Dutt Konstantin Tomashesky, Evan Morris, Keely Sellman, Kelly Kimbis and Veronica Hua.

Thank you to Mrs. Shenk, Mrs. Tozier, Mrs. Koval and Mrs. Knoblach who were guest readers at the family fun night. The students love to see their teachers! Congratulations to Ms. Carlton for winning the \$25 teacher raffle gift certificate.

#### **All Star Scholastic Online Book Fair Is still going on through Friday 11/30!**

Click this link to go to the site directly: <http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/travilahalementaryschool>

If you didn't get a chance to stop by our fair or if your favorite book was sold out, check out the online fair. You can shop for yourself or buy gifts. You can make a wish list and send to family members. Books will be shipped for free to your child's classroom about a week after the online fair ends. Thanks for your support of the library and the PTA.

**COMMUNITY DAYS** - Dr. Starr will hold six Community Days during which he will visit each one of the district's community school clusters. The Community Days are an opportunity for Dr. Starr to spend a day meeting with staff, visiting schools, and hearing from parents. Each Community Day will culminate with a Town Hall event at 7:30p.m., where the public can ask questions and share thoughts and ideas. Free childcare and interpretation services will be available at the Town Hall meetings. More information will be sent to parents as the date for each Community Day approaches. The dates and Town Hall locations for the six Community Days are:

- Thursday, December 13: Down county Consortium (Blair, Einstein, Kennedy, Northwood, Wheaton clusters); Town Hall at Albert Einstein High School
- Monday, January 14: Clarksburg, Northwest, Quince Orchard, Seneca Valley clusters; Town Hall at Seneca Valley High School
- **Monday, January 28: Churchill, Richard Montgomery, Poolesville, Rockville, Wootton clusters; Town Hall at Richard Montgomery High School**
- Monday, March 11: Northeast Consortium (Blake, Paint Branch and Springbrook clusters) and Sherwood cluster; Town Hall at James Hubert Blake High School

#### **ACADEMIC AWARDS -**

At the end of each quarter, at report card time, students in grades 4 and 5 will be awarded awards for academic achievement. The list of names of students receiving these awards for the first quarter is attached to this newsletter.

#### **Grades 4, and 5:**

- Students will have the opportunity to receive the Principal's Award for earning all A's, O's, and I's on their report card.
- Students will have the opportunity to receive the Honor Roll Award for earning all A's and B's in the following academic areas: Reading Comprehension, Listening Comprehension, Writing Process, Usage/Grammar, Math, Social Studies, and Science. Students need to earn O's and S's in Art, Music, Physical Education, and Instrumental Music (if appropriate). They also need to earn at least 6 out of 7 I's on the Learning Skills side of their report card. .
- Students will have the opportunity to receive the Academic Progress Award if they show improvement in two academic areas or consistently strive for success.

**CONGRATULATIONS GIRL SCOUTS** – Girl Scout troops #4391, #6576, and #5101 collected DVDs and books for the Pediatric Unit at Shady Grove Hospital. The donation drive was a huge success. The three troops participated and together they collected 125 DVDs and 325 books! A big thank you goes to **Marla Hendriksson and Morgan** (Grade 3 – Mrs. Kolze’s class) for organizing this wonderful project.

**PLAYGROUND SUPERSTARS – Week of October 31 – November 16, 2012**

**Grade 5:** Richard Tan, Alec Wroblewski

**Grade 4:** Areti Hydras, Harrang Khalsa

**Grade 3:** Daniel Kwak, Tommy Mitri, Liam Miller, Aria Mohebi, Alain Bilounga, Koran Lawson, Ayla Khorsand, John Kibat, Nikki Faroughi, Dylan Safai, Salar Riar

**Grade 2:** Kevin Sonntag, Ashley Denner, Liam Graham, Nathanael Ma, Tommy Arata, Ryan Lim, Kai Parker, Charles Makobongo, Julianne Yao

**Grade 1:** Madison King, Mandy Guo, Michelle Yu, Maya Halpern

**Kindergarten:** Mahsa Riar, Derrick Doye, Jecon Kebreab, Ava Helgeson, Jaden Hou, Alan Liu, Daniel Im, AJ Shiflett, Jack Kerns, Keon Faroughi, Matthew DeLeon, Alex Foster, Naomi Negussie, Luke Pratt

**P.E. CLASS OF THE WEEK** – Week of November 26, 2012 Congratulations to **Mrs. Facine’s class!**

**P.E. STUDENT OF THE WEEK** – Week of November 26, 2012 Congratulations to **Mohammed Khan** in Mrs.Kolze’s class.

**SPECIAL DOLPHIN TALES THANK YOU TO:**

- **Rebecca Sanchack, Erinn Foster, Azita Kaovasia, George Sellers Sr., Matthew Winson, Florina Lam, Aya Labban, Maddie Sanchack, Anush Kaovasia, George Sellers Jr., Ann Sellers, Nadia Emran, Zenia Kaovasia, Daniella Sanchack, Sam Foster, Alex Foster** and the PTA Beautification Committee for the wonderful job cleaning up the school grounds!
- **Amy Bryan** for organizing and running the Book Fair!

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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: \_\_\_\_\_