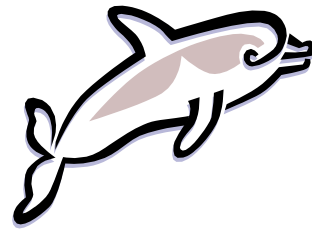


# The Dolphin's Tale



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

May 17, 2013

Issue #18

## May

17	Grade 2 Mad Science – <i>Bugs</i>
20	Vision and Hearing Rescreens Band and Chorus Concerts - gym 2:15 students 7:30 parents
21	Grade 5 Class Picture
22	SERT Field Trip – Recycling Center
23	Kindergarten to Catoctin Zoo
24	Spirit Week begins – <i>Crazy Hat Day</i> Grade 3 Imagination Stage – <i>The Magic Finger</i>
<b>27</b>	<b>Holiday- Memorial Day No school for students or staff</b>
28	Spirit Week - <i>Day of the Decades</i> Field Day Grades 1 and 2 AM Grades 3 and 4 PM
29	Spirit Week – <i>Green Day /Environmental Day</i> – wear green
30	Spirit Week – <i>Sports Day</i> Field Day Grade 5 AM Kdg. PM
31	Spirit Week – <i>School Spirit Day</i> – Wear Travilahwear or the color blue! Grade 1 to Rose Hill Manor Grade 2 to Hanson Farm 5:00 – 8:00pm Travilahfest!

## June

3	3:50 – 5:00pm BLT 4:00 – 8:00pm Carvel Night
4	2:00pm Wootton HS Graduation 7:00pm PTA Board Meeting
5	Mrs. Foley's Splash Day Grade 2 Career Day
6	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Play – <i>Ladies First</i> 2:15pm Students 7:30pm Parents Grade 2 Career Day
7	8:30am Volunteer Breakfast – Staff Lounge Grade 2 Career Day Mrs. Knight's Splash Day Gr 4 Mrs. Ghetti's class to Chesapeake Bay
10	Grade 2 Career Day

11		Grade 3 – Mad Science – <i>Decomposers</i>
		Grade 5 Bowling Party
12	9:45am	Awards Assembly
13	9:45 – 11:15am	Grade 5 Promotion
14	12:55pm	Last day for students – dismiss after lunch
		End of 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter
17		Professional Day for Teachers

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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**STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK** – Many thanks to the PTA and all the students and parents for the wonderful Staff Appreciation Week! We truly feel appreciated! The breakfast and luncheon were delicious and much appreciated. We enjoyed the flowers, soap and cream, candies, and donuts. However, we especially loved the personal notes and cards made by the students. Thank you so very much! It was a wonderful week.

**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 May 10, 2013:

**Grade 2:** Mrs. Donaldson’s class – Lyndsie Lewis, Rory Kerns, Natalia Millard, Selena He, Alec Fleischer, Liam Graham

Mrs. Hart – Brandon Hsu, Lillian Zhao, Henry Zhang, Ishani Tyagi, Humza Sehbai, Jessica Lin

Mrs. Facine – Laney Meyer, Tiffany Ke, Will Greene, Chris Castelli, Saatchi Barochia

**Grade 4:** Mrs. Ghetti – Bailey Miller, Rodney Davenport, James Mina, Ella Peddie, Sammantha Lim, Andrei Davydov, Tyler Denner, Sydney Shrager, Michael Gordon, Yichi Zhang, Christy Yu, Alina Stepanova, Morgan Tinsley, Armon Charkhabi, Emma Helgeson, Andrew Purring, Liam Splittgerber, Varinderpal Singh, Christopher Sonntag, Joshua Hou, Nathan Bowman, George Sellers

**STUDENT INFORMATION PROFILE** – Teachers will soon begin to create tentative class groupings for next year. We spend a considerable amount of time putting together groups of students that are balanced in terms of gender, race, leaders etc. We consider academic skill levels, work/study skills, social mixture, special needs, and parents’ information on the “Student Profile.” Attached to this issue of the *Dolphin’s Tale* is a Student Information Profile. Soon, this form will also be posted on our website. **Please complete the profile and return it to the school.** The result will be classes with varied groups of students who are well matched with each other and the teacher. **It is crucial that you inform us if your child will not be returning to Travilah so that we can make the best possible organization for grade levels. If this is the case, please contact the school office.** \*\*Please remember that the “Student Profile” is not a teacher request form. I am interested in knowing your child’s learning characteristics so that I can best match him/her to a teacher. **I will not be taking specific teacher requests.** Thank you for your support.

**RETIREMENTS** – As many of you may already know, we have **five** staff members who will be retiring at the end of this school year! All of these wonderful professionals will be truly missed. **Mrs. Lynda Tozier**, Kindergarten teacher, has been teaching in MCPS for 30 years, and 17 of those have been at Travilah. **Mrs. Barbara Goldizen**, first grade teacher, has been teaching in MCPS for 40 years and 22 of those have been at Travilah. **Ms. Ann Marie Holland**, also a first grade teacher, has been teaching for 41 years and 26 years at Travilah. **Mrs. Janet Ghetti**, fourth grade teacher, has been working in MCPS for 40 years and 5 years at Travilah. **Mrs. Hannelore Meszaros**, General Music Teacher, has been in MCPS for 23 years and at Travilah for 15 years. We truly appreciate their professionalism, dedication, and knowledge that they have shared with us. We wish them much happiness, good health, and enjoyment in this well-deserved, next exciting phase of their lives. Our interview team has been working hard interviewing and meeting many new prospective applicants. We have met some amazing professionals, and are excited to bring some new staff members to our Travilah family.

**STAFFING** - At this time, we have been allocated for three classes at each grade level. We are also very excited about two new Preschool Education Program (PEP) classes we are getting next school year. These are children with special needs who are three and four years old. These classes were originally scheduled to begin this school year but are now scheduled to begin at Travilah in the fall of 2013.

**PRESCHOOL EDUCATION PROGRAM PILOT (PEP PILOT) COMING TO TRAVILAH** – Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) and the PEP program are looking for three year old and four year old children who live in the Travilah Elementary School's geographical area who can benefit from an early learning preschool experience. Classes will be held at Travilah beginning in September 2013. Children will be provided with a structured learning experience in a classroom program with age-appropriate preschool activities. Students will work on developing the skills needed to address the MCPS Prekindergarten Curriculum and begin to prepare for Kindergarten. The PEP program at Travilah will have classes that meet **two half days** a week, Tuesday/Thursday and Wednesday/Friday. The class will include students with Developmental Delays who require instruction from a PEP Special Education teacher. We would like to include general education preschoolers from the community to also attend. Children will be peers and friends of children with disabilities who will also be served in the classroom. Classes will be taught by a certified teacher and paraeducator.

- Children who will be 3 years old by September 1<sup>st</sup> could attend the morning classes and children that will be 4 years by September 1<sup>st</sup> old could attend the afternoon classes.
- There is a low fee for materials and supplies. (\$150 per semester; \$300 per year)
- Parent provides transportation
- Two mornings per week, 2 ½ hours each morning (Tues. /Thurs. or Wed. /Fri.)

Applications are available in the school office.

**TRAVILAHFEST IS COMING SOON!** –Travilahfest is scheduled for Friday, May 31<sup>st</sup> from 5:00-8:00pm. We still need: adult and student volunteers, and volunteers to bake or donate an item for the cakewalk. Please contact Doris Auth at **Auth.doris.1@gmail.com** or 760-809-5637. In addition used books, CDs and DVDs will be collected for the next 2 weeks. A drop box will be in the front of the entrance for donations.

**TRAVILAH MOVES** – Congratulations to Mrs. Potts and the PTA for a wonderful event! Our second annual *Travilah Moves* day was amazing! The weather was perfect and the students, staff, and parents truly had a wonderful day. It was such a positive way to model for the students the importance of good health and fitness. We had many wonderful sponsors, and the activities were well organized and lots of fun. Thank you to everyone who worked on this event and for your support. What a terrific annual tradition!

**SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT SURVEY COMING SOON!** – Family involvement is a critical component for student success in school. The Office of Special Education and Student Services, Office of Shared Accountability, and the Department of Family and Community Partnerships will be conducting a survey from late May through June 2013. The purpose of the survey is to gather information on the experiences of parents/guardians as a member of their child's Individualized Education Program (IEP) team and to learn about their satisfaction with the services their child receives. The survey results will help improve how Montgomery County Public Schools conducts IEP meetings and serves children with special education needs. The results will be made available to the public via a research brief. No confidential information will be released. If your child attends Kindergarten to Grade 5 and you participated in an IEP meeting between February and mid-May, please look for your mailed survey in late May 2013. If you would like to learn more about the survey, contact the Office of Special Education and Student Services at 301-279-3604.

**LOST AND FOUND** – Our lost and found is overflowing with coats, hats, sweaters, etc.! Please remind your child to look at the items and claim his/her belongings. Make sure to put your child's name in all their coats, etc. so we can find the correct owner! Feel free to stop by the school and take a look to see if an item you are missing is here! Thanks.

**CONGRATULATIONS** - Congratulations to **Salar and Mahsa's dad, Dr. Amjad Riar**, on proposing Palliative Care bill for all Maryland Hospitals. On March 30<sup>th</sup>, the Maryland House of Representative and

Senate voted in favor of the bill to mandate palliative care services in hospitals statewide. This bill will provide access to information and counseling regarding palliative care services appropriate to patients living with serious illness and to improve the quality of life.

Palliative care is specialized medical care for people with serious illnesses. It is focused on providing patients with relief from the symptoms, pain, and stress of a serious illness—whatever the diagnosis. The goal is to improve quality of life for both the patient and the family. Palliative care is provided by a team of doctors, nurses, and other specialists who work together with a patient's other doctors to provide an extra layer of support. It is appropriate at any age and at any stage in a serious illness and can be provided along with curative treatment. Palliative care is a healthcare specialty that is both a philosophy of care and an organized, highly structured system for delivering care.

On May 2, 2013 Salar joined his dad and Governor Martin O'Malley in Annapolis, Maryland for signing this Palliative care bill into the law. This was a very exciting and special day for Salar. He was able to see and experience how impact an individual's efforts like those of his dad can positively impact thousands of patients and their families. Salar was gifted by the governor with the bill signing PEN as a souvenir and reflection of Dr. Riar's hard work for this accomplishment. Salar brought all his classmates pencils with governor's signature.



**P.E. CLASS OF THE WEEK** – Week of May 6, 2013 Congratulations to **Mrs. Ghetti's class!**

**P.E. STUDENT OF THE WEEK** – Week of May 6, 2013 Congratulations to **Tommy Arata** in Mrs. Donaldson's class!

**P.E. CLASS OF THE WEEK** – Week of May 13, 2013 Congratulations to **Mrs. Facine's class!**

**P.E. STUDENT OF THE WEEK** – Week of May 13, 2013 Congratulations to **Morgan Tinsley** in Mrs. Ghetti's class.

**PLAYGROUND SUPERSTARS – Week of April 29 – May 10, 2013**

**Grade 5:** Pranav Vijay, Sammy Haendler, Aakash Dutt, Lainey Morris, Mia Silver

**Grade 4:** Mrs. S., for cleaning the closet and picking up all balls left by 4<sup>th</sup> graders

**Grade 3:** Aria Mohebi, Dylan Safai, Salar Riar, Tommy Mitri, Logan Pratt, Nicholas Qiu, Max Wool, Justin DeLeon, Max Messina, Liza Stepanov, Jay Kannan

**Grade 2:** Liam Graham, Chris Castelli, Tommy Arata, Karen Potts, Ryan Lim

**Grade 1:** Krish Abbato, Ashton Sun

**Kindergarten:** A.J. Shiflett, Jack Kerns, Paige Euler, Ava Helgeson, Saniya Shah, Teju Vijay, Joseph Lee, Ashvari Stanislaus, Mikaela Ngo

**SPECIAL DOLPHIN TALES THANK YOU TO:**

- **Amanda Katz and Kimberly Euler** for the wonderful job organizing and presenting the Talent Show!
- **Barry Parzow** for volunteering his time to come back and help our school with the lights and sound for the Talent Show!

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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: \_\_\_\_\_