

COLD SPRING ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

February 25, 2010

IMPORTANT DATES

FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS: AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

- 25 Parent Meeting, Cabin John Middle School, 7:00pm
- 26 MCPS Early Release Day, 12:35pm dismissal (Teacher Grading & Reporting/Curr. Planning)

MARCH HIGHLIGHTS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

- 2 PTA Meeting, 7:15, APR, Babysitting Provided
- 4-5 Variety Show, Evening Performances, 6:00pm
- 5 Variety Show, 1:00 – 2:50pm, APR
- 8 Vision and Hearing Screening, Kindergarten and New Students
- 8 – 17 MSA Testing, Grades 3-5
- 11 Book-A-Breakfast, 8:00am in APR, Grades K-5
- 14 Daylight Savings Time begins
- 19 Ladies of Maryland, In-School Field Trip, Grades 4 and 5, 1:15 – 2:30, APR
- 22 Silver Diner Fundraiser, 5:00 – 8:00pm
- 23 Science Expo, 6:00 – 9:00pm in classrooms, SNOW DATE Mar. 24
- 26 Fifth Grade Field Trip: Colonial Williamsburg

SPRING BREAK: March 29 – April 6

APRIL HIGHLIGHTS

- 6 Professional Day for Teachers: No School for Students
- 7 SCHOOL RESUMES FOR STUDENTS
- 14 Report Cards Distributed
- 15 Career Day, AM
- 19 – 23 Administrative Professionals Week
- 21 Administrative Professionals Day
- 22 Take Your Child to Work Day
- 23 "The Ned Show", K-5, 9:15 – 10:00, APR
- 25 Earth Day
- 26 - 30 Terra Nova Testing, Grade 2
- 27 Vision and Hearing Re-screening
- 28 Science Expo, 6:00 – 8:00pm

COLD SPRING HEARTS FOR HAITI UPDATE

The Cold Spring PTA and the SGA are joining forces to assist the people of Haiti. SGA representatives have been selling heart-themed items as pencils, erasers, and stickers to raise money for those unfortunate victims of the recent earthquake. The cost of each item will range from \$25 to one dollar. All proceeds will be sent to American Red Cross. If you and your child(ren) wish to participate in Hearts for Haiti, please note that the items will be available for sale during lunch periods every Tuesday and Thursday from February until the end of March.

The SGA has already raised \$587 for the unfortunate earthquakes victims of Haiti.

Thank you in advance for your participation in this worthwhile fundraiser. Special thanks to Mrs. Allison Peterson and the SGA for sponsoring this event.

VARIETY SHOW DATES

Please note the following Dress Rehearsal and Performance dates for Cold Spring's Variety Show:

Friday	February 26	12:45 – 7:00pm (Early Release Date)	Dress Rehearsal
Wednesday	March 3	3:15 – 5:30pm	Dress Rehearsal
Thursday	March 4	7:00pm	Performance
Friday	March 5	7:00pm	Performance
		1:00 – 2:50pm	All-School Assembly

HEALTH UPDATES FROM MRS. JORDAN

Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services is providing H1N1 vaccinations at clinics throughout the county. The CDC is recommending that everyone get vaccinated, as another wave of the virus is expected. Go to the following website for information and make an on-line appointment.

http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgtmpl.asp?url=/content/exec/swine_flu/index.asp

On another note, stay healthy and don't touch the T Zone!

SCHOOL INFORMATION

TRANSFER SEASON CONTINUES

Feb. 1 – Apr. 1

Montgomery County parents who wish to request a transfer for their children from their regularly assigned school may begin the transfer process during the upcoming transfer season, which will be held from **February 1 through April 1, 2010**. Students in Montgomery County Public Schools are assigned to a school on the basis of their place of residence and are expected to attend their home school. Transfers of students from one school to another are permitted under limited circumstances.

The transfer process begins in the home school, where parents may obtain a transfer request form and an information booklet that describes the process and provides useful information about the process. Transfer forms and information booklets will be available in schools beginning the first week of February.

Every effort will be made to notify parents of the transfer decision by May 15. For more information about the transfer process, parents are asked to contact the principal of their home school.

Non-English speaking parents may receive more information on the transfer process and booklet by calling the Spanish Hotline (301-230-3073), the Asian Hotline (301-230-5436), and the ESOL Parent Center (301-230-0674).

2009-10 TESTING SCHEDULES

The 2009-10 testing schedule continues as follows:

MSA (Maryland School Assessment)	March 8 - 23	Reading/Math	Grades 3, 4, and 5
	May 5 - 11	Science	Grade 5
Terra Nova II	April 26 – April 30		Grade 2

Please put these dates on your family calendar ASAP. More detailed information regarding exact grade level testing dates and times will be forthcoming.

ASBESTOS INSPECTION

Mar. 1

Montgomery County Public Schools is mandated by the Federal Government to conduct an asbestos inspection of facilities that are targeted with asbestos containing building materials. All inspections will be conducted after school hours. **Cold Spring Elementary has been selected to be inspected on March 01, 2010 at 5:30 pm.** The asbestos unit is requesting that your building service manager have keys to areas inaccessible to the inspector.

PTA MEETING SCHEDULED

Mar. 2

The next Cold Spring PTA meeting for the 2009 – 2010 school year will be held on Tuesday, March 2. The meeting will begin at 7:15pm sharp. Babysitting services will be provided.

BOOK-A-BREAKFAST SCHEDULED

Mar. 11

Cold Spring's last Book-A-Breakfast will take place on **March 11th**. **All students in Grades K-5** are invited to attend. Bring along a good book, and enjoy a delicious breakfast provided by the Cold Spring PTA. **Please set your alarm clock so that you arrive at 8:00am sharp, armed with a book and ready to read. See you there!**

COLD SPRING RUNS SILVER DINER

Mar. 22

Here's the chance for you to be waited on by your teachers! All Cold Spring students, their families, and their friends are invited to enjoy the delicious food at the Silver Diner on Rockville Pike on Monday, March 22 from 5:00- 8:00pm. A full 20% of all the proceeds made go to the Cold Spring PTA! To maximize your donation to Cold Spring, pre-purchase a Silver Diner gift card and use it on March 22. To order a Silver Diner gift card, see the attached flyer for details.

The Cold Spring PTA and staff hope to see you at the Silver Diner on March 22!

14TH ANNUAL SCIENCE EXPO POSTPONED

Apr. 28

On account of the extended Snow Holiday, Cold Spring's 14th Annual Science Expo has been postponed. It will be held on Wednesday evening, April 28, from 6:00 – 8:00pm. All students are encouraged to participate in this worthwhile event.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

CAREER DAY

Cold Spring's annual Career Day will be held Thursday, April 15th from 8:30-12:00. Mrs. Whited is looking for Parent Volunteers to assist her in preparing for this day. Planning and preparing begins now, so anyone willing to offer a little time each week will be very much appreciated. Please contact Mrs. Whited at corinne_e_whited@mcpsmd.org or call the school directly if you are interested in participating.

A sign-up link for those interested in speaking during Career Day is available on the Cold Spring web site.

SCHOOL INFORMATION

KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION

On Friday, May 7, 2010, from 9:15 – 2:30pm, Cold Spring will host its annual Kindergarten Orientation. Please note that **kindergarten classes will be cancelled on that day**. Children must be 5 years old on or before September 1, 2010 to be eligible. A form will be attached to the next Principal's Newsletter.

VISION AND HEARING SCREENING

Mar. 8

Vision and Hearing screening at Cold Spring will take place on March 8th. The students who are required to be screened are as follows:

- **All kindergarten students**
- **New students entering MCPS for the first time, unless evidence is presented that the student was tested within the past year.**
- **Students referred by their teacher** with symptoms of possible vision or hearing problems. Teachers have been provided with a list of signs that commonly indicate a potential problem with vision or hearing.

Should you have any questions regarding screening, please feel free to call the school and speak with a member of the health team. Mrs. Soon Lee, RN or Mrs. Cheryl Jordan, Health Aide will gladly respond to your questions or concerns

ABSENCE PROCEDURES

We will be implementing the Connect Ed attendance system at Cold Spring to verify student absences. It is the legal responsibility of each school to accurately report and explain student absences. **Please telephone the office to report any student absence to expedite the process. If we have not heard from you by 9:30 am, you will receive a computer-generated message requesting that you call school to inform us of the reason for your child's absence.**

REMINDERS

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Box Tops for Education is a school fundraising program supported by General Mills that has helped America's schools raise over \$200 million. The Box Tops for Education program offers schools an easy way to earn cash through everyday activities like buying groceries or shopping online. Schools can raise a total of up to \$60,000 each year.

Clip Box Tops from participating Box Tops products and drop them in your class box at Cold Spring so they can be collected and redeemed. Each Box Top is worth 10 cents to Cold Spring! For a complete list of the hundreds of participating products, visit www.boxtops4education.com.

RECYCLE YOUR CARTRIDGES AND CELL PHONES

Your used printer cartridges and cell phones can make a difference. Cold Spring just started a new recycling program through Funding Factory by collecting used inkjet and laser printer cartridges and cell phones. To contribute to the recycling effort, please deliver your items to one of the bins located in the hallway outside of the teachers' lounge.

GIANT BONUS \$\$\$\$

Giant A+ Bonusbucks program is running again this year. The program begins October 9, 2009 and runs through March 25, 2010. Giant customers can help our school earn cash each time they shop using their BonusCard. All you need to do is designate Cold Spring Elementary School as the recipient school. This can be done on-line by visiting the Giant website <http://www.giantfood.com/aplus> or by calling 1-877-366-2668. Our school ID is 00749. Please note that you need to re-designate Cold Spring even if you had designated us last year.

SAFeway ESCRIP PROGRAM

Safeway's "escrip" program is once again up and running. Operating in much the same manner as the Giant Bonus Bucks program, Safeway's program requires you to sign up online at www.escrip.com. Our school ID is 6489882.

TARGET

Use your Target Visa or REDcard when you shop at Target and support Cold Spring. **Cold Spring ID: 58117.** Just visit www.target.com/tcoe, or call 1-800-316-6142 to designate our school.

HARRIS TEETER TOGETHER IN EDUCATION

If you purchase your groceries at Harris Teeter, they will contribute a portion of their earnings to Cold Spring. **The Cold Spring ID is: 7901.** Register at http://www.harristeeter.com/community/together_in_education/link_to_your_school.aspx.

Sincerely,

**Martin J. Barnett,
Principal**

The next Principal's Newsletter will be issued on Thursday, March 11, 2010

Tickets now on sale for...



Thursday, March 4 and Friday, March 5 at 7:00 pm.

Assigned seats will be filled on a first come first served basis. Fill out the order form below and return with payment to the Variety Show mailbox in the school office, beginning February 16th.

Tickets are held at will call or can be picked up Wednesday, March 3rd between 3-6 pm in the school lobby.

Questions? Email:

Abby Gleicher/abbygator@comcast.net or Vicki Klein/vickiklein@comcast.net

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

SHOW	QTY	COST	SUBTOTAL
Thursday, March 4		\$7 ea.	
Friday, March 5		\$7 ea.	
		TOTAL	

Tickets are \$7 each (children age 4 and under are free). Variety Show volunteers need a ticket unless working backstage. Make checks payable to Cold Spring PTA.

A portion of ticket proceeds will be donated to the Chesapeake Bay Foundation.

Cold Spring Runs the Silver Diner is Coming

Mark your calendars for Monday evening

March 22, 2010

5:00pm-8:00pm

Cold Spring Teachers and Staff will again be running the Silver Diner on Rockville Pike
Come and have your teacher wait on you!

20% of Proceeds Go to Cold Spring PTA!!

Make Your Purchase Worth 20% MORE!!!!

If you pre-purchase a Silver Diner gift card, the PTA gets 20% of the gift card purchase price AND 20% of your bill when you use the gift card on March 22!

Please return the form below *IN AN ENVELOPE MARKED SILVER DINER*, along with a check made payable to CSES PTA by March 12th. Gift cards in \$25 increments.

Child's Name: _____

Teacher: _____

Number of Gift Cards: _____

Total Enclosed: \$25 \$50 \$75 \$100