

COLD SPRING ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

April 29, 2010

IMPORTANT DATES

APRIL HIGHLIGHTS

- 26 - 30 Terra Nova Testing, Grade 2
- 28 Science Expo, 6:00 – 8:00pm
- 30 Lifetouch: Class and Individual Pictures

MAY HIGHLIGHTS - ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

- 3 – 7 National PTA Teacher Appreciation Week
- 3 + 4 Shakespeare Play, *Cymbeline*, Sellitti/Peterson, 9:45am and 7:00pm, APR
- 4 Kindergarten Field Trip: Recycling, 11:00 – 12:00
PTA meeting @ 7:15pm in APR Babysitting provided
- 5 National PTA Teacher Day
- 7 Kindergarten Visiting Day (Registration)
- 10 Fourth Grade Field Trip: Baltimore Museum of Industry
- 10-11 MSA Science Testing, Grade 5
- 12 Safety Patrol Picnic, Montgomery County Fairgrounds
- 13 Cultural Arts Assembly: A Cappella, 9:15 – 10:15am
- 17 Volunteer Lunch, Media Center, 11:45 – 1:00pm
- 18 Chorus and Advanced Band/Orchestra Concert, 2:00pm and 7:30pm, APR
- 19-21, 25-26 Fifth Grade Family Life, Human Sexuality and Disease Prevention and Control Unit
- 20 Beginner Instrumental Music Concert, 7:30pm, APR
- 26 Kindergarten Circus, Dress Rehearsal
- 27 Kindergarten Circus Performance
- 31 Memorial Day: Schools Closed

JUNE HIGHLIGHTS

- 1 Field Day, Grades 3-5
- 2 Field Day, Grades K-2
PTA meeting, 7:00pm
- 4 Junior Spelling Bee, Grades 1 and 2 Participants, 1st and 2nd Grade Audience
- 7 Field Day RAIN DATE
- 9 Fifth Grade Pool Party, 10:00 – 2:00
- 10 End of Year Picnic
Second Grade Field Trip: Smith Center
- 11 Fifth Grade Field Trip: Mount Vernon
- 14 5th grade Closing Ceremony, 7:00pm Richard Montgomery HS Auditorium
- 15 Awards Assembly, K-3, 9:15am, APR
- 16 Awards Assembly, Grades 4 and 5, APR
Early Release Day, 12:35pm, Last Day of School
- 17 Professional Day for Cold Spring Staff

COLD SPRING INITIAL STAFFING ALLOCATIONS—FY2011

According to FY2011 staffing projections, Cold Spring's staffing allocation will consist of 14 regular education teachers for grades 1-5. In addition, Cold Spring will continue to have **TWO FULL-DAY KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS**. The tentative allocation grid for the 2010 – 2011 school year is as follows:

K K 1 1 2 2 3 3 4 4 4* 4* 5 5 5* 5*
* Center for the Highly Gifted

Please note that enrollment can fluctuate. For the final organizational grid, please refer to the June 2010 Principal's Newsletter.

AUDITION FOR THE CHILDREN'S CHORUS OF WASHINGTON!

CALLING ALL BOYS & GIRLS WHO LOVE TO SING!! Call NOW (202) 237-1005 to schedule an audition!!

Auditions for the Children's Chorus of Washington's 2010-2011 season start soon and are held by appointment only.

First appointment date is May 1st.

Open to boys and girls with unchanged voices, ages 9-16. Auditions are easy - no preparation or experience is necessary to audition, just a love of singing! Tuition scholarships are provided to all students in need. Now in its 14th year, CCW was founded by former Chevy Chase Elementary School music teacher, Joan Gregoryk. CCW choristers have exciting and prestigious performance opportunities, including domestic and international tours, and performances with the NSO and adult professional choruses at venues like the Kennedy Center and Strathmore. Our choristers say it best: "I could never pick one thing that I like best about CCW - the friends, the music, the tours, everything!"

www.childrenschorus.com

SPRING SPRUCE-UP AT COLD SPRING

The Cold Spring community participated in a "Spring Spruce-Up" on the school grounds this past Sunday, April 25th. Cold Spring's exterior needed some work after this year's especially harsh winter. Thanks to the efforts of our volunteers, the grounds look beautiful. A special thank-you to Mrs. Eleni Clark for coordinating this event.

HEAD LICE ALERT

Spring is a popular time for the reemergence of head lice. To minimize spread, please check your child's head if he or she is scratching often. If you are uncertain as to your accuracy in detecting head lice, please feel free to ask Mrs. Jordan for assistance. Please read the attached letter from the Montgomery County Board of Health and Human Services for additional information.

BICYCLE SAFETY

With the warm weather, more and more students are opting to ride bicycles to school. Please remind your child(ren) of the safety rules of the road. **In particular, students should remember to look both ways before crossing and intersection. They should also walk across the intersection with their bicycles and to respect pedestrians sharing the walkway with them.** This common sense advice supports our Cold Spring mantra: **Safety is No Accident at Cold Spring.**

FIFTH GRADE END OF YEAR ACTIVITIES

As the end of the school year approaches, the fifth grade parents and teachers are busily planning a series of exciting events and activities for the school seniors. They are as follows:

- June 9 Fifth Grade Pool Party
- June 11 Fifth Grade Field Trip to Mt. Vernon
- **June 14 Fifth Grade Closing Ceremonies at Richard Montgomery High School**

Parents have been actively collecting money from students in an effort to pay for the many wonderful components of the fifth grade end-of-year celebrations.

We look forward to another sensational fifth grade spring!

PENNIES FOR PATIENTS

The Pennies for Patients fundraiser has been moving successfully through the month of April. So far, the students at Cold Spring have donated over \$1500! Furthermore, three classes have brought in enough money to qualify for a drawing of DC United soccer tickets! Please donate your loose change by the end of this week to help patients with lymphoma and leukemia. The two classes with the most money earned will win a pizza party.

FIFTH GRADE CAR WASH/BAKE SALE SCHEDULED

May 1

Rain Date May 22

The annual fifth grade car wash and bake sale will take place on Saturday, May 1st from 10:00 – 2:00pm. The proceeds will be donated to the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. Fifth graders are needed to help wash cars and to collect money for the bake sale. Parent volunteers are also needed to donate baked goods and to help supervise both the car wash and bake sale. Any amount of time would be appreciated. Please note that the rain date for this event will be Saturday, May 22.

GET INTO GEAR

May 1

Do you have unwanted sports equipment (bats, rackets, gloves, helmets, cleats, sticks, balls - in reasonable condition)? If

so, please consider donating to the less fortunate children in Montgomery County. We will be collecting equipment during the 5th grade Car Wash and Bake Sale on May 1st from 10 - 2. The collected equipment will be distributed to the families that are supported by Manna Food Center. Thank you for your generosity.

PTA MEETING SCHEDULED

May 4

The next Cold Spring PTA meeting for the 2009 – 2010 school year will be held on Tuesday, May 4. The meeting will begin at 7:15pm sharp. Babysitting services will be provided.

KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION

May 7

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 is attached to this Principal's Newsletter.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

May 17

Cold Spring will hold its annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon on Monday, May 17, in the Media Center from 11:45 – 1:00pm. Teachers are currently in the process of preparing this event to honor all the generous and caring Cold Spring volunteers. We hope you will plan to join us as we pay tribute to our Cold Spring Volunteers on this very special day!

SCHOOL INFORMATION

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, May 13, 2010

KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION

Dear Cold Spring Family:

On **Friday, May 7, 2010 from 9:15 – 2:30pm**, Cold Spring will welcome prospective Kindergarten students for the 2010 – 2011 school year. **Children who are five years old on or before September 1, 2010 and who live in our attendance boundaries, should be brought to our Kindergarten Registration on May 7, 2010.**

If you have a prospective Kindergartner for the coming school year, please complete and return the form below. If you do not, would you please pass this letter and form along to a neighbor who does have a child eligible for Kindergarten enrollment. Your help is greatly appreciated in reaching out to our neighbors who do not yet have children in school.

When we receive your completed form, we will contact you to set up your appointment for the May 7 registration. Additional forms and registration information will be given to you prior to May 7. You are asked to complete all forms and bring them with you to your registration appointment.

Sincerely,

Martin J. Barnett,
Principal

COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM

Child's Legal Name

Preferred Nickname

Date of Birth

Child's Social Security Number

Gender

Child's Home Address

Home Telephone

Mother/Legal Guardian Name

Work Telephone

Father/Legal Guardian Name

Work Telephone

**FAMILY INPUT FORM
FOR THE 2010 – 2011 SCHOOL YEAR**

Please complete and return this form to your child(ren)'s current homeroom teacher. You r teachers and principal want to know your special concerns and considerations. This form will be shared with your child(ren)'s homeroom teacher for the next school year. During the summer months, the forms will be reviewed by your principal to help him/her learn more about our student population. Thank you for participating!

CHILD'S NAME:

CIRCLE GRADE NEXT YEAR: 1 2 3 4 5

ACADEMIC AREAS TO NOTICE (concerns/special considerations about strengths, needs, interests)

WORK STUDY SKILLS

BEHAVIORAL STRENGTHS/NEEDS

HANDICAPPING CONDITIONS (conditions and/or suspected speech, language, learning disability, visual, auditory, health, other)

LEARNING STYLE/PREFERENCES (visual, auditory, tactile, kinesthetic, combination of these)

Complete this sentence, please. MY CHILD RESPONDS BEST TO THE TEACHER...

PARENT SIGNATURE _____

***Please attach additional comments firmly and put your child's name on all attachments!**

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO YOUR CHILD(REN)'S TEACHER BY JUNE 1

Dear Parents,

We are already beginning to plan for next year. In order to secure adequate staffing, I am requesting that you complete the form at the bottom of this letter and return it to school with your child as soon as possible.

Your assistance is needed and appreciated.

Sincerely,

Martin J. Barnett
Principal

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

My child, _____, who is in _____ 's

class _____ will attend Cold Spring next year.

_____ will not attend Cold Spring and will go to school in/at
_____.

Date

Parent Signature

MONTGOMERY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

HOW TO CHECK YOUR CHILD’S HEAD FOR LICE

A lice infestation exists when **live lice or nits less than ½ inch from the scalp** can be observed. Nits farther away from the scalp have already hatched. An adult louse is the size of a sesame seed; younger lice are smaller. Nits (lice eggs) are about size of knot in thread, hard to see and often confused with dandruff. They are yellowish or grayish white, oval shaped and attached to the hair shaft with a glue-like substance. Unlike nits, dandruff is easy to flick away with your finger.

Here are 4 steps to help you check your child’s hair.

STEP 1: Gather your tools including your glasses, a magnifying glass, and a pointed stick for separating the hair. A toothpick, paint brush handle, chop sticks or any pointed object that will not scratch the scalp will do. Hair clips to separate the hair are very helpful.

STEP 2: Find a good spot to examine your child’s head. It should be comfortable, have natural daylight or a very bright light. Explain to your child that you will be examining his/her head for five to fifteen minutes. Use this time to talk to your child, listen to your child read, or watch a movie.

STEP 3: Start at the nape of the neck and cover the entire head. Part the hair in a straight line and examine the exposed scalp. Proceed to cover the entire scalp making parts every 1/4 inch from the previous one and examine the scalp.

STEP 4: Look for live lice and nits less than ½ inch from the scalp. Live lice will hide at the bottom and *behind* the hair shaft near the scalp. Look long enough for your eyes to focus and to spot any speck or any slight movement. Live lice are tiny and they shy away from light however their quick movement may catch your attention.

For further information on how to identify health lice infestation and treat go to CDC websites

http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dpd/parasites/lice/factsht_head_lice.htm

http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dpd/parasites/lice/factsht_head_lice_treating.htm