

# COLD SPRING ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

November 25, 2009

## IMPORTANT DATES

**NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE MONTH**  
**26 – 27 SCHOOLS CLOSED: Thanksgiving Holiday**

## **DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS**

- 1 PTA Meeting, @6:30pm, APR, Babysitting Provided. NOTE EARLY MEETING. NEW GYM WILL BE DISCUSSED at 7:00pm**
- 3 PTA Reflections Breakfast, APR**  
**Assembly: Kids on the Block, 11:00 – 11:35, Grades 3 and 4**
- 4 Assembly: Kids on the Block, 11:00 – 11:30, Grades 1 and 2**
- 11 First night of Hanukkah**  
**Fifth Grade Chorus Performance: Kenyan Embassy**
- 15 Fourth Grade Field Trip: Smith Center, Cohen/Cashman**
- 16 Fourth Grade Field Trip: Smith Center, Sydnor/Galusha**
- 18 Latin Dance, 1:30, K-5**
- 25 Christmas Day**
- 26 Kwanzaa begins**
- Jan. 1 New Year's Day**
- Dec. 24 – Jan. 3 WINTER BREAK: ALL SCHOOLS CLOSED**

## **JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS**

- 4 School resumes for all students in MCPS Grades K-12**
- 8 School Level National Geographic Bee, Grades 4 &5, Grade 3 Audience, APR, 1: 20 – 3:00pm**
- 18 Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday Observed, All Schools Closed**
- 21 Chorus and Instrumental Music Concert, 2:00 and 7:30pm , APR**
- 22 Cold Spring Readathon: 1:00pm –3:00pm all students, K-5; 3:00-5:30pm, gr. 3,4,5**  
**Pizza served @ 5:30pm compliments of Cold Spring PTA**  
**Second Grading Period Ends**
- 25 Professional Day for Teachers: No School for Students**  
**Second Grading Period Ends**
- 29 Spelling Bee, Grades 3-5, 1:20, APR**

*The Cold Spring Staff would like to extend to you our best wishes for a happy, safe Thanksgiving holiday. May you enjoy the bounteous feast and the company of your loved ones.*

## SWINE FLU UPDATE

The incidence of flu symptoms among Cold Spring students has increased over the past few weeks and will probably continue for many weeks to come. To keep accurate records, it is important for parents to notify the school by 9:30am each day if your child is ill. You can do this by calling 301-279-8480 or by emailing Mrs. Camardese at [Beverly\\_A\\_Camardese@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Beverly_A_Camardese@mcpsmd.org). Please note the spelling—CAMARDESE. Students should be kept home until they're fever free for 24 hours without use of a fever reducer. Thank you for your cooperation.

## HELPING HANDS HOLIDAY CHILDREN

The Cold Spring community, in conjunction with the Salvation Army, will once again participate in the Helping Hands Holiday Children program. This program provides assistance to children in need living in Montgomery County. Each class will be assigned a child in need with a wish list; this will soon be sent home with your child(ren). Please place a new, unwrapped item from the list in the large collection bag in your child's class. The collection bags will be placed in each classroom on **November 16** and collected on **December 10**. Then items will be delivered to the Salvation Army for distribution. If at all possible, please include your child(ren) in this gift giving experience. If you have any questions, please contact Terri de Raet at 301-762-4762 or [tderaet@comcast.net](mailto:tderaet@comcast.net) or Kasia Coulter at 301-610-6390 or [mandkcoulter@verizon.net](mailto:mandkcoulter@verizon.net).

# **STUDENT SPOTLIGHT**

## **FINAL FRONTIERS RESULTS**

In an effort to nurture the scientific curiosity of our fifth grade Cold Spring students, Mrs. McPhaul and Mrs. Peterson, the two fifth grade science teachers, encourage students to participate in a county-wide science problem solving competition—Final Frontiers. Many Cold Spring students designed creatively engineered projects in a variety of categories.

### **SCHOOL LEVEL WINNERS:**

#### **Aero-Car Activity**

<b>1<sup>st</sup> place</b>	<b>Will Sherman and Phil Zhang</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> place</b>	<b>Aaron Green and Colin Hendrie</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> place</b>	<b>Minie Zhang and Melissa Klein</b>

#### **Golf Ball Barrage:**

<b>1<sup>st</sup> place</b>	<b>Regan Westwood and Katie Fairhurst</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> place</b>	<b>Bethany Hsiao and Hannah Zhang</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> place</b>	<b>Alex Gleicher and Sam Hershey</b>

#### **Lunar Bridge:**

#### **ONLY ONE GRAM SEPARATED 1<sup>ST</sup> AND 2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE**

<b>1<sup>st</sup> place</b>	<b>Jason Rispler and Patrick Case</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> place</b>	<b>Yeama Ho and Sheila Gaur</b>

#### **Micro-Mass Tower**

<b>1<sup>st</sup> place</b>	<b>Kellie Zhang and Jennifer Chen</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> place</b>	<b>Calvin Liu and Joshua Yuan</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> place</b>	<b>Nathan Huang and Forest Yang</b>

#### **Newton's Nightmare**

**Chinguun Erdenesuren, Alex Miao, and Lawrence Zhao**

The first place entries in each category met with other student scientists at Wootton High School last Saturday to determine the county winners. The final results are:

### **COUNTY RESULTS**

#### **Aero Car:**

<b>3<sup>rd</sup> place</b>	<b>Will Sherman and Phil Zhang</b>
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#### **Golf Ball Barrage:**

<b>3<sup>rd</sup> place</b>	<b>Regan Westwood and Katie Fairhurst</b>
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#### **Lunar Bridge:**

<b>3<sup>rd</sup> place</b>	<b>Jason Rispler and Patrick Case</b>
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#### **Micro-Mass Tower:**

<b>1<sup>st</sup> place</b>	<b>Kellie Zhang and Jennifer Chen</b>
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#### **Newton's Nightmare Team:**

<b>2<sup>nd</sup> place</b>	<b>Chinguun Erdenesuren, Alex Miao, and Lawrence Zhao</b>
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**Cold Spring is very proud of all the enthusiastic participants!**

## **SGA ELECTION RESULTS**

Congratulations to the following students in their SGA victories:

<b>President</b>	<b>Regan Westwood</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Lee-or Gorev</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Faith Kean</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Lucy Lee</b>

**Special thanks to all student participants, their campaign managers and to Mrs. Peterson for so fairly and smoothly coordinating this event.**

## **HONORS CHORUS PARTICIPANTS ANNOUNCED**

Congratulations to the fifth grade students who successfully auditioned for this year's North County Honors Chorus. Rehearsals for the Honors Chorus begin in February and culminate in a concert at Wootton High School on May 12, 2010. **Cold Spring's Honors Chorus participants for 2010 are:**

- **Penny Hough**
- **Calvin Liu**
- **Vanessa Ntungwanayo**
- **Nina Thomson**
- **Minie Zhang**

## **HONORS CHORUS ACCOMPANISTS REQUESTED**

The Honors Chorus presents opportunities for qualified students to participate as student accompanists. Students must be in Grade 5, should be exceptionally musical, and should be very advanced pianists who are able to accompany standard octavo music for treble chorus.

Auditions will be held ON January 7, 2010; the deadline to schedule an appointment for an audition is December 2, 2009. Interested and qualified students should request additional information from Mrs. Minier.

## **WEATHER ALERT**

As the summer temperatures finally fade to fall, we are reminding all parents to encourage their child(ren) to dress appropriately. Since all students will be participating in recess, it is recommended that students wear jackets or sweatshirts to school. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter!

## **SIDEWALK SAFETY**

The beautiful September weather has resulted in a large number of students walking or riding bicycles to and from school. Therefore Officer Terese Guilday and her safety enforcers at Cold Spring would like to remind all students and their families to avoid the car entrance crosswalk. **For optimal safety, all students approaching the school from Orchard Brook must make use of the sidewalk circling the parking lot to get to the school building.** This rule applies to walkers and bicyclists alike. Student patrols will be stationed at regular intervals along the walkway to monitor safe behaviors as students proceed toward the various grade-level entrances. With the cooperation of all stakeholders in this matter, Cold Spring's slogan—"Safety Is No Accident at Cold Spring"—will continue to be the order of the day. Thanks for your understanding.

**Please remember to always walk nearest to the grassy side of the walkway. In this way, students will be safe from cars pulling into parking spaces.**

## **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.**

## **DESTINATION IMAGINATION**

Ms. Hanley, our staff coordinator for Destination Imagination, spoke with the children earlier this week at lunch time about the program. She hopes to be able to field several teams to participate in this creative problem-solving program this year. Each team is made up of 3-7 students guided by a team manager. Each team also needs an adult to serve as an appraiser to help out during the tournament days. Please talk this over with your child as soon as possible. The information packets should be coming home today. Please note the sign-up deadline of Oct. 30.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Hanley at school or Mrs. Christina Kyong our DI parent support, at 301-770-4026.

## **CHILDREN'S CHORUS OF WASHINGTON AUDITIONS**

The Children's Chorus of Washington (CCW) is currently holding auditions for young singers. The chorus is open to girls and to boys with unchanged voices, who are between the ages of 9 and 16.

The Children's Chorus of Washington (CCW) is now in its 12<sup>th</sup> year of providing children from the greater Washington area with an excellent music education program. Under the direction of Joan Gregoryk, this outstanding choral ensemble is recognized nationally and internationally for its program and artistic excellence. The chorus has performed with the National Symphony at the Kennedy Center and Carnegie Hall, with the Baltimore Symphony, and with many adult

choral organizations in the area. The chorus has toured overseas, visiting Italy, Austria, the Czech Republic, London, Wales, and South America.

This is a wonderful opportunity available to interested and talented students. Furthermore, many Cold Spring students—both present and past—are members of the chorus. If you are interested in more information about the CCW program and the auditions, please ask your child to pick up a brochure from Mrs. Minier.

## **SCHOOL INFORMATION**

### **MIDDLE SCHOOL MAGNET PROGRAMS**

Mrs. Whited, school counselor, has reviewed all middle school options with all 5<sup>th</sup> grade students.

**Middle School Magnet Testing Date: December 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Special Needs and Make-up Test: Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> (snow date Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>)**

**NOTE THAT ALL TESTING WILL BE HELD AT TAKOMA PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL**

### **PTA MEETING SCHEDULE CHANGE**

**Dec. 1**

Cold Spring's next PTA meeting for the 2009–2010 school year will be held on Tuesday, December 1. The meeting will begin at **6:30pm sharp rather than 7:15.**

**This earlier meeting time has been made to accommodate a public meeting regarding the Cold Spring Elementary Gymnasium project! An architect has been selected and design has begun on the project with construction scheduled for spring 2011. MCPS construction representatives and the architect will be at the school at 7:00pm to present their thoughts on the gym and to take comments and feedback from the community.**

**Please come out and provide your input. Mr. Thomson has already met with the architect and the folks running the project and they really do want to hear from you.**

### **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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.harristeeter.com/community/together_in_education/link_to_your-school.aspx).

Sincerely,

*Martin J. Barnett*

Martin J. Barnett,

Principal

**The next Principal's Newsletter will be issued on Thursday, December 3, 2009.**