

# COLD SPRING ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

October 15, 2009

## IMPORTANT DATES

### OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS

- 16 **SCHOOLS CLOSED: MSTA /Statewide Teachers Conference**
- 19 – 23 **Book Fair Week**  
**School Bus Safety Week**
- 23 **Teacher Raffle/Bingo Night, 6:30pm, APR**  
**Pumpkin Day – Kindergarten**  
**Artist in Residence Music Performance, K-2, 9:15am ; 3-5, 10:05am**
- 26-30 **Red Ribbon Week**  
**Artist in Residence, Grades 3 and 4**
- 30 **Halloween Parade/Party, 1:15 Parade; 1:45 – 2:45 Party in Classroom**  
**End of First Grading Period**

### NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE MONTH

- 1 **Daylight Savings Time Ends**
- 2 **SCHOOLS CLOSED: Professional Day for Teachers, Report Card Preparation**
- 4 **Cultural Arts Assembly, Native American Dance, K-2, 9:15am; 3-5, 10:15am**
- 5 **Book-A-Breakfast, K-2, 8:00am, APR**  
**Fourth Grade Field Trip: Living Classroom, Willis/Sydnor**
- 6 **Fourth Grade Field Trip: Living Classroom, Cashman/Cohen**  
**Fifth Grade Field Trip: Beall-Dawson, Sindall/McPhaul, 9:30 – 12:00**  
**Final Frontiers, Fifth Grade Students, 1:20 – 3:00pm, APR**
- 10 **SGA Assembly, Grades K-5, 1:30 – End of Day**
- 11 **Veterans' Day**  
**Early Release Day, Parent Conferences, 12:35pm Dismissal**  
**Report Card Distribution**
- 12 **Early Release Day, Parent Conferences, 12:35pm Dismissal**
- 12 **Book-A-Breakfast, Grades 3-5, 8:00am, APR**
- 13 **Deadline, Center for the Highly Gifted application**
- 14 **Blood Drive, 8:00 – 2:00pm**
- 24 **Fifth Grade Field Trip: Politics and Prose, Peterson/Sellitti, 9:30am – 12:30pm**
- 25 **Early Release Day, Thanksgiving Holiday, 12:35pm Dismissal**
- 26 – 27 **SCHOOLS CLOSED: Thanksgiving Holiday**

### DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

- 1 **PTA Meeting, @7:15pm, APR, Babysitting Provided**
- 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**
- 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**

## **FINAL PRINTED PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER**

This is the final printed edition of the Cold Spring Principal's Newsletter. From hereon in, the newsletter will be made available exclusively online via the Cold Spring web page. The biweekly newsletter will continue to update parents with time-sensitive dates and events.

## **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 in mid November and collected mid December. Then items will be delivered to the Salvation Army for distribution. Exact dates will be forthcoming.

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@comcast.net](mailto:mandkcoulter@comcast.net).

## **HELP THE HOMELESS WALKATHON SUCCESS**

**On Wednesday, October 14, all Cold Spring students and staff participated in a walk during the school day to raise money for the Hand-to-Hand program. This walk is sponsored by the Fannie Mae Foundation.**

**Cold Spring thanks to Mrs. Pyo, Mrs. Reed, Mr. Robison, and the office staff for coordinating this event.**

## **SGA UPDATE**

The new SGA season is upon us. Mrs. Peterson has decided to lead and coordinate Cold Spring's student government this school year. Our campaign season will begin with an information meeting on Wednesday, October 21<sup>st</sup> from 12:00 – 1:00pm. Any third, fourth, or fifth grader interested in running for SGA office is invited to attend. Look for further information in the next Principal's Newsletter.

## **HALLOWEEN HAPPINESS/SAFETY**

On Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, Cold Spring will be celebrating Halloween with the traditional parade and parties in the classrooms. Festivities will begin at 1:15pm, as the costumed children exit the school via the Main Office door. Photo opportunities will be available on the blacktop area of the playground during that time. Classroom parties will follow immediately. Parents and siblings are welcome.

To maximize the fun experience, we urge all students to practice safe behaviors at school and at home. Thank you in advance for your support in this activity. We hope to see you at these fun-filled events.

## **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 10:00am, you will receive a computer-generated message requesting that you call school to inform us of the reason for your child's absence.**

## **MIDDLE SCHOOL MAGNET PROGRAMS**

Mrs. Whited, school counselor, has been reviewing all middle school options with all 5<sup>th</sup> grade students. *All fifth grade students are eligible to apply.* She will review the program highlights and hand out application forms to those who want them. Additionally, forms will be available online mid-October at: [www.montgomeryschoolmd.org/curriculum/specialprograms](http://www.montgomeryschoolmd.org/curriculum/specialprograms).

Below are dates/times for information meetings on all magnet programs.

**All application and choice forms are due November 9, 2009.**

Mrs. Whited is available to parents for questions or assistance with this process.

**Middle School Magnet Consortium Parent Student Information Meeting: Norwood HS Sept. 30  
7:00pm** MSMC schools and choice process.

### **MSMC Open Houses:**

**Loiederman Magnet Schools for Creative and Performing Arts Oct. 15  
7:00pm Argyle Magnet School for Digital Design and Development  
Oct. 28 7:00pm Parkland Magnet School for Aerospace Technology  
Nov. 5 7:00pm**

### **Information Meetings:**

**Eastern Middle School (Humanities and Communication Arts) Oct. 19  
7:00pm Takoma Park Middle School (Math, Science, and Computer Science)  
Oct. 21 7:00pm**

### **Optional Application Workshops:**

**at Gaithersburg HS Thursday, Oct. 29  
at Wheaton HS Monday, Nov. 2**

## **COUNSELOR'S CORNER**

### **RED RIBBON WEEK**

**Oct. 26 - 30**

This is a time to renew our commitment to a healthy and drug-free lifestyle and show our dedication to education and prevention efforts in our schools and communities.

Red Ribbon week was established to honor Enrique "Kiki" Camarena, a U.S. Drug Enforcement agent who lost his life while investigating a drug gang in Mexico. In 1986, one year after the agent's death, angry citizens in California responded by wearing red ribbons, showing their support in the war against drugs. Red Ribbon Week quickly spread across America and celebrations take place during the last week of October.

Cold Spring will be celebrating this week as well. I will be doing classroom presentations this month focusing on how to keep us healthy. More information will be forthcoming.

## **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.

## **HONORS CHORUS AUDITIONS**

All 5<sup>th</sup> grade students in Montgomery County schools are eligible to audition for membership in the 2010 Elementary Honors Chorus. The Honors Chorus was formed in 1982 to bring together talented children of various backgrounds to study and perform choral music representing a wide variety of historical eras and cultures and to achieve the following objectives:

- **To provide a challenging performance opportunity for elementary students in grade 5 with outstanding singing ability**
- **To help students develop and refine choral singing skills and enhance their ability to read music**
- **To reinforce the Curriculum Framework objectives for the elementary schools by providing opportunities for teachers to observe exemplary choral teaching techniques**

Each general music/choral teacher will administer the audition to all interested students at his/her school during the school day. The audition measures each student's ability to match pitch, sing in the treble range, maintain a harmony part, and sing a melody from notation. Students receive a numerical score for each task based on a rubric, and the students with the five highest scores will represent Cold Spring in the Honors Chorus.

Rehearsals will be held on Wednesday evenings from 7:15 to 8:45 pm at Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School in Germantown, beginning February 3, 2010. The final concert will be held on May 5, 2010 at Wootton High School. Attendance at all rehearsals is expected. Participants are responsible for providing their own transportation

Students who would like to audition for Honors Chorus will need to have their parents sign and return a permission slip to Mrs. Minier no later than October 16. Permission forms are available in the music room.

## **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.

## **FLES CLASSES BEGIN**

Depending on enrolment, the following FLES language classes are slated to be offered before and after school.

### *Second to Fifth Graders*

- Spanish Level I – Wednesdays, 7:45 – 8:45am**
- Spanish Level II – Thursdays, 7:45 – 8:45am**
- Spanish Level III – Tuesdays, 7:45 – 8:45am**
- Spanish Level III(adv.) – Tuesdays, 7:45 – 8:45am**

- French Level I – Wednesdays, 3:10 – 4:10pm**
- French Level II – Thursdays, 7:45 – 8:45am**

### *Kindergartners and First Graders*

- Spanish Intro – Tuesdays, 3:10 – 4:10pm**

French Intro – Wednesdays, 3:10 – 4:10pm

Registration is currently taking place. Please do so by following the link below by simply clicking on it or cutting and pasting it into the web address:

<https://www.registrationheadquarters.com/events/?a6dd88e861b6400e88496b2ff3886a>

For further information, please contact Cold Spring's coordinator—Mr. Marlon Bernal.

## **SCHOOL INFORMATION**

### **NATIONAL SCHOOL BUS SAFETY WEEK**

**Oct. 19 - 23**

Please remember to recognize our dedicated bus drivers during National School Bus Safety Week, from October 19 – 23. They safely and efficiently transport our students to and from school and field trips on a regular basis. We are fortunate at Cold Spring to have such wonderful bus drivers assigned to us!

### **BINGO NIGHT/TEACHER RAFFLE/BOOK SALE**

**Oct. 23**

On Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 6:30pm, Cold Spring will host its annual Bingo Night. This event is the kick-off activity of Book Fair week. During this time, students and parents are invited to purchase books, play bingo, and participate in the ever popular teacher raffle. Please attend!

### **FIRST GRADING PERIOD ENDS**

**Oct.30**

Please note that the first marking period ends on Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. Report cards will be distributed to all students in grades 1-5 on November 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **BOOK-A-BREAKFAST: K-2 GRADES**

**Nov. 5**

The Cold Spring PTA will sponsor its first Book-A-Breakfast on Thursday, November 5<sup>th</sup> in the All- Purpose Room. The breakfast will be held from 8 – 8:45am. We hope to see all our K-2 students there!!

### **BOOK-A-BREAKFAST: 3-5 GRADES**

**Nov. 12**

The Cold Spring PTA will sponsor its second Book-A-Breakfast on Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup> in the All- Purpose Room. The breakfast will be held from 8 – 8:45am. We hope to see all our 3, 4, and 5 students there!!

## **REPORT CARD PREPARATION/PARENT CONFERENCES**

MCPS has designated November 2 as a report card preparation date. Therefore, all MCPS schools will be closed for students in grades K- 12 on that date.

In addition, MCPS has set aside the afternoons of November 11 and 12 as parent conference times. Your child(ren)'s teacher will be sending home reminders to you as to the date and time of your individual conference.

The parent conference will be held in lieu of written first quarter report card comments.

Please note these important dates and plan accordingly.

## **CENTER FOR THE HIGHLY GIFTED APPLICATION**

**Nov. 13**

The Montgomery Public School system offers seven centers for the highly gifted for students entering Grade 4. These centers are designed for students whose academic needs for advanced instruction may not easily be met in their local school. Cold Spring houses one such center. For more information about the centers and the application and testing process, please contact the school, visit [www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/enriched](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/enriched) or call 301-592-2040.

**If you are interested in having your child considered for the Center for the Highly Gifted, please complete the application and return it by November 13, 2009. If you have not received an application and would like for your child to apply to the program, please access the application from the web site at**

**[www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/specialprograms/](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/specialprograms/).**

Parents of present third graders who would like to have their child screened/tested for the Center for the Highly Gifted should follow the timeline below:

September 25- October 2, 2009	Highly Gifted Center applications/information mailed home to all Grade 3 students
November 13, 2009	Deadline for parents to submit completed applications to the school
December 14, 2009	Deadline for schools to submit completed applications to the Department of Accelerated & Enriched Instruction
January 6, 2010	Testing occurs at the local elementary school

## **BLOOD DRIVE**

**Nov. 14**

There will be a blood drive on Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am – 2:00pm in the Cold Spring APR. Anyone at least 17 years old (16 with written parental consent), weighing at least 110 pounds, and in good health is eligible. Registration is preferred but walk-ins are welcome. Babysitting will be provided.

Ninety-five percent of the population will need a blood transfusion within their lifetime. Only 5% of the eligible public actually donates. Your donation will help up to 3 people. Please contact Lisa Rispler @ 301-762-5156 or [Risplerfamily@comcast.net](mailto:Risplerfamily@comcast.net) to register. For more information on blood donation, contact the American Red Cross at 1-800-GIVE-LIFE.

## **PTA MEETING SCHEDULED**

**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 7:15pm sharp. Babysitting services will be provided.

## **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.

## **SAFEMAY 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,  
Principal**

Wootton High School Center for the Arts

Presents

# ***YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU***

Thursday, November 5th, Friday, November 6th and Saturday, November 7th

7:30 p.m.

Wootton High School Center for the Arts is thrilled to present *You Can't Take It With You*.

Show times are: Thursday, November 5th, Friday, November 6th and Saturday, November 7th at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$5 for students, \$10 for adults (general admission only) and can be purchased at the Wootton Box Office Monday, November 2nd through Wednesday, November 4th from 3-6 pm, and two hours before show times on performance days. Ticket forms are available online at: <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/woottonhs/academics/art/YCTIWYTicketOrderForm.pdf>

Tickets may also be purchased online at:

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/woottonhs/woottonShop/wShopOne.html> (and click on the "Center for the Arts" heading)

*You Can't Take It With You* is a classic American comedy from the legendary team of George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart. It is the story of two very different families brought together by love. After Tony Kirby, Vice-President of Kirby & Co., falls for Alice Sycamore, he brings his parents to the Sycamore's house for dinner and the fun begins! It becomes obvious that the upstanding, socialite Kirby's and the delightfully strange Sycamores are NOT a match made in heaven. The Kirby's are shocked by the antics and attitudes of the Sycamore household and it leads Alice to believe that marriage to Tony is out of the question. Tony, however, refuses to give up, and with the help of Grandpa, he seeks to convince both Alice and his parents that it will work. It's a hard sell after the Kirby's witness the daily madness of the Sycamore house; madness which includes a visit from an ex-Grand Duchess, an actress who needs sobering up, a no-nonsense maid, a visit from the IRS, a printing press in the parlor, firework manufacturing in the basement, ballet lessons, playwriting, painting and snakes! Don't miss out on this classic comedy!

For more information, please call 301-279-8581. Wootton High School is located at 2100 Wootton Pkwy., Rockville, MD 20850.