



THE HALETHORPE *BEELINE*



A publication of the Baltimore County Public School District
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OCTOBER, 2009

Jill A. Carter, Principal

Russell Pratt, Jr., Assistant Principal

Greetings Parents and Guardians,

This year is off to a great start! Thank you for all of your support as we have established all routines and patterns to ensure that our boys and girls have a wonderful school year.

Please continue to support your child and us by joining our PTA! I am pleased to announce that our third grade class is in the lead with PTA membership. The third grade won a pizza party from the PTA! It is not too late to join the PTA. We have another competition going on to encourage more families to join. Mr. Pratt and I have promised to put on a silly performance for the first grade level to reach 100%. Surely you want your child to be able to see this special and crazy performance! Join! Join! Join! If parents want to view this wacky performance, you will have to attend our PTA meeting in December.

We would like to recognize all volunteers for the month of September. The following parents and friends gave time to help our students and teachers: Jean Greaves, Carla Carr, Amy Martin, Tim Utzig, Kate Mattingly, Glenn Kromeke, Chris and Danny Bageant, Harry McCrory, Imel Karakas, The Woodell Family, Dawn Sadowski, Sandy Sheubrooks, Cindy Waldron, Sherry Bopp-O'Neill, Dawn Vonella, and Marsha Higgins. We also want to recognize our UMBC student volunteers: Ethan Murphy, Lucas Wood, Scott Hopmann, Joey Placek, Kevin Clark, Rich May, Matt Gregoric, Neill Lewnes, Sam McKelvey, Amanda Damiant, Kyle Winer, Brian Schneider, Matt Kress, Dave Stock, Shawn Retz, Austin Drewyer, and Scott Wildeson. Thank you so much for helping to keep our school great!

Our fourth and fifth grade students are excited about running for student council offices. In addition to the elected officers, each class will have two representatives participating in Student Government. Our Student Government Association (SGA) will be deciding upon our Spirit Week activities later on this month.

Our boys and girls have been enjoying our new interactive Promethean Board in our library! This is a great new tool for us to connect technology with our lessons. Be sure to visit the media center when you come to school for conferences on November 23rd.

Thanks again for your continued support! Feel free to call or email if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Jill A. Carter

Principal

CALENDAR

Need to quickly find the date of the next school closing, activity or event? Your Baltimore County Public School Information Calendar can be found in your child's agenda book *and* a "Dates to Remember" section can be found **each week** in the "Monday Message" which is distributed by your child's teacher.

October 14 October 15	Market Day – Last day to turn in WRITTEN orders to school Market Day – INTERNET orders must be submitted by 11:00 p.m.
October 16	<u>SCHOOL CLOSED</u> – Professional Development/MSTA Convention
October 19-23	Hearing and Vision Screening
September 25	Student of the Month Assembly Grades 3-5: 1:30 p.m. Grades K-2: 2:30 p.m. Reception for BOTH groups will be held at 2:15 p.m.
October 21	Market Day Pick-Up – 5:00-6:00 p.m.
October 23	PTA Movie Night
October 27	Lifetouch Fall Picture Day
October 29	Raindate: PTA Movie Night



SAFETY PLAN REMINDER

We continue to have fire drills, severe weather drills, and lockdown drills to ensure the safety of our students and staff. Please remember, in the event of an emergency, **it is essential that we have correct emergency information for all students**. If you have recently moved or have a new home phone or cell phone number, please submit this information to Mrs. Batchellor or Mrs. Simmonds in our school office.

September Awards

Student of the Month

Grade 5

Ms. Tyler
Ms. Brown
Mrs. Brennan

Tatayana Jackson
Nikolas Scott-Coreas
Joshua Lambert

Grade 4

Mrs. Abolt
Mrs. Mendrzycki
Ms. Chace

Hank Williams
Kelvin Interiano
Ryan Mull

Grade 3

Ms. Flynn
Mrs. Skirven
Ms. Keevins
Ms. Chace

Sri Ramaranjana Singh
Alex DelosSantos/Kelly O'Connell
Samuel Whitaker
Logan Bristow

Grade 2

Mrs. Myers
Mrs. Fitzgerald
Ms. O'Connell

Gianella Victorio/Ronald Wheeler
Raekayla Johnson
Arielle Wyckoff

Grade 1

Mrs. Bruck
Ms. McClain
Mrs. Buckingham
Mr. Stearns

Ethan Broschart
Faith Johnson
Dylan Fauver
Lydia Talbott

Kindergarten

Mrs. Miskimon
Ms. Ostrowski
Ms. Catterton

Abigail Clontz
Rica Bianca Asuncion/Christopher Snell, Jr.
Skylar Beard/Harris Linsenmeyer

Prekindergarten & Preschool

Mrs. Baker-a.m.
Mrs. Baker-p.m.
Ms. O'Neill-a.m.
Ms. O'Neill-p.m.

Chloe Brewer/Maxen Tyson
Christopher Johnson, Jr./I'yanna Nelson
Isabelle Taylor
Gregory Holsey

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Parents! Learn Your A,B,C's:

Here are some of the ABC's of helping parents get their children off to a flying start at school.

Attend school functions as much as possible.

Be aware of what negative comments you might make towards your child.

Communicate the importance of education to your child.

Don't criticize school in front of your child as the child will adopt your attitude.

Encourage your child to talk about what happened at school each day.

Find out who your child's friends are and get to know them and their families.

Good readers are made not born. Read to your child ever day.

Help your child get organized for school the night before.

Impress upon your child the importance of a good attendance record.

Join the PTA.

Keep up with your child's medical appointments. Healthy students have better attendance and do well in school.

Let your child do his or her homework and projects with only limited assistance from you.

Monitor how your child spends time on the computer, playing video games, and watching television.

Never make fake excuses for a child who doesn't do homework or misses a day of school.

Observe the work your child brings home from school each day.

Praise your child for their work, even if you only say how neatly his or her name is written.

Quiet corners in your home encourage study. Set up a study area.

Request conferences with teachers when trouble begins to appear.

Spend time with your child finding out what their interest are and what they like to do.

Try to make your day trips and/or vacations educational whenever possible.

Understand that learning is not always easy and your child may need help.

Value your child as an individual. Don't compare a child to a brother, sister, or another child.

Work with the school staff. Always consider yourself a partner of your child's teacher.

X is the extra-special things that you will do to help your child succeed.

You are your child's most important teacher.

Zip it all up with love.

--Mrs. Vernier, School Counselor



APPLICATION FOR VOLUNTEER SERVICES

Two years ago, Baltimore County Public Schools adopted a new policy in order to ensure the safety of our children. All volunteers must complete a new *Application for Volunteer Services* **each year**. The school will do a background check in order for volunteers to be **in the classroom, in the building, or to chaperone a field trip**. Please make sure you send in a completed form for yourself, your spouse, a grandparent, etc. so that all can continue to volunteer.

Every volunteer and chaperone must have completed a new application and be cleared for volunteering. Applications are available NOW! **Please do not wait to return your application to the school.**



Reading Takes You Around the World

Welcome aboard! It is time to take a trip into the wonderful world of books. So pack up your things, your passport is waiting! Books can take you to exciting new places and introduce you to fascinating new characters. Are you ready?

Beginning in October, we will start our reading incentive program here at Halethorpe. The program is called "Reading Takes You Around the World". It will last for seven months from October until April.

Each month, students will bring home a monthly family book project to complete. They will also be required to record the minutes they read in their agenda book. Our reading requirement is for each child to read at least 300 minutes or 5 hours each month. When this is broken down it works out to be approximately 15 minutes, 5 days a week or 20 minutes, 4 days a week. Parents should record the minutes their child reads each day on the calendar in their agenda book and initial it. At the end of the month, parents should total the minutes and record it on the last day of the calendar and sign. The reading completed can include your child reading independently, your child reading to you, or you reading to your child.

Students should return their completed monthly projects and have their reading minutes recorded and totaled in their agenda book at the end of each month with their parent's signature.

Students will record their monthly progress when they complete their book projects and meet the monthly reading requirement of 300 minutes as documented on their agenda book calendar by placing a sticker on their passport that illustrates the continent visited that month.

Those students who complete 6 or 7 book projects and the required monthly reading minutes will be invited to the culminating Reading Takes You Around the World party sometime in May! Please encourage your child to participate in this exciting reading incentive for as many months as possible. The more your child reads, the more your child will learn.

In October, students who complete their reading projects and minutes will earn a sticker on their passport for North America.

--Mrs. Reynolds, Reading Specialist

REVISED OFFICIAL MSDE ATTENDANCE RULES

Students scheduled for a full day:

- A full-time student must be **present for at least 4 hours** to be marked present for a full day.
- A full-time student must be **present at least 2 hours** to be marked 1/2-day present.
- A full-time student present for less than 2 hours will be marked absent.

Students schedules for a partial day:

- A student scheduled for less than a full day is to be counted present based on the amount of time he/she is scheduled. For example: A student scheduled for a two hour block of time will be counted for the full day if the student is in attendance for that entire block of time. If the student is absent for that entire block of time, the student will be counted absent for a full day. A student scheduled for a two hour block of time will be counted ½ day if the student is in attendance for one hour.

A student is counted present if at school or at another place at a school activity sponsored by the school and personally supervised by a member(s) of the school staff. This may include authorized independent study, work study programs, field trips, athletic events, contests, music festivals, student conventions, instruction for home bound students, and similar activities when officially authorized under policies of the local school board. It does not include “making up” school work at home, or activities supervised or sponsored by private groups or individuals.

(Excerpt for **2008 Maryland Student Records System Manual**), page C-3.



A NOTE FROM THE HEALTH SUITE

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL

Preventing and controlling the spread of infectious disease agents among students and staff is an important function of the school nurse. Although prevalent in the school age population, the spread of infections in schools can be successfully prevented through immunizations and the use of appropriate preventative and control measures.

Parents should be encouraged to keep students home if visible signs or symptoms of a communicable disease are present, including:

- Cough
- Runny nose
- Sore throat
- Headache, in conjunction with other symptoms
- Fever (student should be fever-free for 24 hours before returning to school)
- Vomiting
- Rash
- Swollen neck glands
- Diarrhea
- Jaundice

Handwashing with soap and water for 15-30 seconds and drying with disposable paper towels is the **single most important technique** for preventing the spread of disease and should be done frequently, and:

- ❖ Before eating and drinking
- ❖ Before handling clean utensils or equipment
- ❖ Before and after handling your child’s food
- ❖ Before and after assisting your child in toileting and feeding
- ❖ Before and after using the bathroom
- ❖ After contact with body secretions and excretions, i.e., blood, urine, feces, mucous, saliva, drainage from wounds
- ❖ After handling soiled diapers, undergarments, or equipment
- ❖ After caring for any child, especially those with nose, mouth or ear discharge.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM THE HEALTH SUITE

URGENT! The Health Suite extra clothes supply for **older students** is EXTREMELY LIMITED. If you have 2 or 3 items to donate, please write “Health Suite” on the inside of the clothes.

★Vision and Hearing Screening will take place on October 19, 20, 21, 22 and 23.★

Please see the following attachments in this month’s *Beeline*:

- *Why is hand washing so important?*
- *Windows of Opportunity for Prevention of Childhood Obesity*

FLU VACCINES – SEASONAL and H1N1

What is the difference between Seasonal and H1N1 flu vaccines?

This year the flu vaccine is coming in two parts. The Seasonal part targets flu strains that were predicted to be circulating, based on information available in the winter of 2009. In the spring of 2009, health officials discovered a new strain of flu, called H1N1 or “swine” flu. A separate vaccine has now been developed for this new strain.

Will there be a flu vaccine that contains both strains (seasonal and H1N1)?

No, not this year.

Who should get the H1N1 flu vaccine?

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that the following groups get the H1N1 flu vaccine as soon as it is available:

- Pregnant women
- Persons caring for children under 6 months of age
- Persons between the age of 6 months and 24 years
- Persons between the ages of 25 years and 64 years who have a chronic health condition (like diabetes) that places them at increased risk for complications of the flu
- Health care workers

Is H1N1 vaccine available? Where will I be able to get my child an H1N1 shot?

As of the writing of this document (9/28/09), no H1N1 vaccine is yet available. The Department of Health expects to receive vaccine in mid to late October and will begin a series of public clinics once the vaccine arrives. These clinics will be publicized through our schools and through the media. Many of the clinics will be held in Baltimore County school buildings. Some schools may have a clinic held at their school during the school day. Some private doctors have also registered to be a provider of this vaccine. You can check with your child’s doctor to see if your child will be able to get the vaccine at his/her doctor’s office.



A NOTE FROM INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Fifth grade Band and Orchestra parents – please mark your calendars for our Winter Band/Orchestra Concert on Tuesday, December 15th, 2009, at 7:00pm. All fifth grade Band and Orchestra students are expected to attend. Attire is a white shirt (no writing, designs, graphics, or tee shirts, please), black pants or skirt (to the knee or longer) and black or dark shoes.

We are looking for donations of **Sanitizing Wipes, Tissues, Paper towels** or **Purell** especially for the 4th Grade Exploratory Music Classes so we can aid in the prevention of germs/ illness this school year!

Finally- the 5th Grade Instrumental Students have their first lessons with instruments!! They should have showed you their NEON YELLOW practice calendar that they will be filling out for September and October. Please help your child to fill it in EACH day with at LEAST 10 minutes of home practice! Special Note: Piano, guitar and other music lessons DO count as practice time, and if your child is sick, please write that in the box!

Check out Ms. Trumpler's webpage for more information if you need it!

http://teachers.bcps.org/teachers_elem/ktrumpler/halethorpe





A NOTE FROM THE ART ROOM

Many thanks to all participants of Peace Day!! Thank you for donating pencils and push pins!! We had fun with our "Pinwheels for Peace" parade and will continue the tradition each year on September 21st, International Day of Peace!

PLEASE DONATE PIPE CLEANERS!! Walmart sells them for \$1 per pack. Creative artists go through them like water, so any extra donations of pipe cleaners are much appreciated. A.K.A. the 'PC' term: Chenille Stems.

Crafty Club for October: Monster Jewelry – Lottery Selection Process
Attendance is limited to 20 artists. After collecting permission slips we will pull them anonymously to select the 20 artists who will stay. The remaining artists who wanted to come will be given a coupon to attend November's Crafty Club.

For "Monster Jewelry" artists will create armatures and cover them with polymer clay. They will bring home their sculptures to bake in home oven. Instruction sheet will come home with the artist. The jewelry will bake safely at 275 degrees on glass baking surface.

November's Crafty Club will be "Crazy Crayons". Please see Mrs. Murphy if you have previous experience with melting wax crayons (to share knowledge-no fear of recruiting). If you have old candy making molds that you're not using anymore, please consider donating them to the art room.

Thank you for your continued support.

--Peace, Mrs. Murphy, Art Teacher
smurphy2@bcps.org

MAGNET SCHOOL APPLICATION DEADLINE

The application deadline for all magnet programs for the 2010-2011 school year is November 30, 2009.



RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES®

POP TABS

We collect pop tabs from aluminum beverage cans to benefit the Ronald McDonald House. For the past four years, we have been able to send the Ronald McDonald House a check in the amount of \$50. Please continue to deposit them in the collection bin in the school lobby.



BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION and CAMPBELL'S LABELS – ALL FOR EDUCATION!

We are collecting Box Tops for Education and Campbell barcodes from any of their products. If you have been saving any of these items, please send them with your child/children.



A+ BONUS BUCKS

- The program begins October 9, 2009 and ends on April 2, 2010.
- 20 Bonus Cardholders have designated our school for this year. Thank you!

Remember - Bonus Card Holders must RE-DESIGNATE their school each year!

To re-designate, please go on-line to www.giantfood.com to "Register your Card"

Or,

If a computer is not available to you, the school will be happy to re-designate your card.

Please give us the 12-digit number off the back of your card!



THANKS A "BUZZILLION"

... for your generous contribution to our school during the 2009-2010 school year. Our thanks go out to our contributors:

- Mr. Harry McCrory for his \$100 donation toward the Science Fair.
- Mr. Harry McCrory for his \$150 donation toward the purchase of canopies.
- Mr. Harry McCrory for his donation of 2 laptop computers.
- Mrs. Denise Parr for her donation of printer toner.

PTA NEWS

MARKET DAY INFORMATION

Oct. 14: Last day to submit orders to the school

Oct. 15: On-line orders to be entered on the computer by 11pm

Oct. 21: Market Day Pick-Up 5:00-6:00 p.m. in the cafeteria

UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct. 23: Family Movie Night Event

PTA CONTACTS

President: Glen Kromeke 410-242-8933 gkromeke@verizon.net

Vice President: Dawn Sadowski 410-247-0905 Dawn.Sadowski@comcast.net

Treasurer: Sandy Sheubrooks 410-242-6226 sheubrooksavon@aol.com

Secretary: Cindy Waldron 410-242-6030 cindywaldron@comcast.net

Volunteer Coordinator: Marsha Higgins 410-242-6333 marsha21higgins@hotmail.com

Volunteer Coordinator: Sherry O'Neill 410-242-2663 sybill6774@yahoo.com

BEE-A-WINNER

Congratulations to Alyssa Free, Grade 3, and her parent, for helping her be our September winner in the “**BEE**” **A WINNER** drawing. We thank the 18 students and their parents who returned their tear-off to school. See the tear-off in this issue for your chance to be October’s “**BEE**” **A WINNER**!

Attachments to this newsletter:

1. October, 2009 issue: *Building Readers*
2. Building Readers: *Reading Extras*
3. Flyer: *Why is hand washing so important?*
4. Flyer: Windows of Opportunity for Prevention of Childhood Obesity
5. BCPS October, 2009 Learning Calendar
6. Our Business Advertisers



“BEE” A WINNER!

Read the **Beeline** with your child, **BEE** Informed and **BEE** a Winner by returning this tear-off on or before October 30th. One lucky student will receive a gift coupon to receive **3** ice cream treats from our cafeteria!

Student Name: _____ Teacher: _____

Parent’s Signature **: _____

**Not valid without parent signature.