



Pot Spring Press

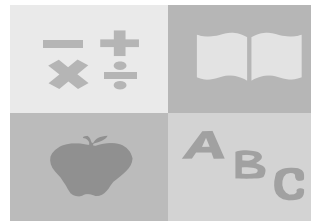
Principal's Message

WOW! It doesn't seem possible that more than half of the year is over already. I am pleased to report that our students are reading and writing at even higher levels than in previous years because of the high standards set by the teachers. The teachers are providing the students with very specific

feedback on their work and then providing them with a chance to make the necessary improvements on a regular basis. This strategy helps the students apply the feedback in order to learn from their mistakes.

Please continue to support your child in their education by checking their

homework, having them read to you and asking them questions about what they are learning in school. Together we can accomplish great things!



The Maryland School Assessment

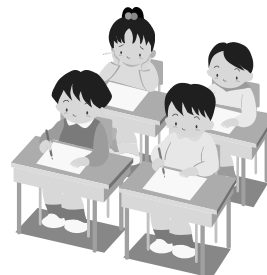
MSA testing for grades 3, 4 and 5 is fast approaching. Testing will begin, Tuesday, April 1st and will end on Thursday, April 10th. Make-up testing will occur April 11th through April 16th. The schedule for each grade is below.

- April 1 -Reading-Grade 3
- April 1 -Math-Grade 4
- April 2 -Reading-Grade 3
- April 2 -Math-Grade 4
- April 3 -Math-Grade 5
- April 4 -Math-Grade 5
- April 7 -Math-Grade 3
- April 7 - Reading-Grade 4
- April 8 - Math-Grade 3
- April 8 - Reading-Grade 4
- April 9 -Reading-Grade 5
- April 10 - Reading-Grade 5
- April 11th-16th - Make-up Testing, Reading and Math, all grades

Our fifth grade students will be taking the MSA Science assessment online this year!! The test-

ing window is April 23rd-April 30th. Students will test for two of those days with their homeroom.

Attendance, a good night's sleep and a hearty breakfast are essential. Schedules for all of our students will be slightly altered to accommodate the testing schedules. Thanks for your support!



Pot Spring Elementary School

Volume 6

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2007 Maryland Report Card Performance Report

Under the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001*, each local education agency must publicize and disseminate the results of the state academic assessments to parents and the school community. In compliance with this mandate, attached are two reports about Pot Spring to help you monitor school achievement. If you would like to receive these reports in Spanish, please contact the school office at 410-887-7648.

Cell Phones, Electronic Games, Webkins



Baltimore County Schools have a very clear policy concerning students bringing cell phones to school. A student may bring a cell phone to school, however it must remain off at all times (including the bus) and be either in their locker or backpack. Mrs. Martin and I discuss this cell phone policy with the students every year when we review the Student Behavior Handbook. Please help us by reinforcing these expectations with your child. If

a child is caught with a cell phone on their person or turned on, the cell phone is confiscated and must be picked up by a parent or guardian.

Here at Pot Spring we also have a policy concerning electronic games. Students are not allowed to bring any kind of electronic games to school. The games are expensive, can be a distraction from learning and can also be easily broken. If a child chooses to bring an electronic game to school, it will also be confiscated until it can be picked up by an adult. This year

we are expanding the list of items that should remain home to the new Webkins.

We appreciate your help in reinforcing these policies with your child. We want to be able to focus all of our time in school on instruction and helping your child learn to their highest potential. The least amount of distractions students have the better the chance that they can focus on their learning.



Double Parking in Parking Lot

Just a reminder-

Please do not double park in the parking lot at dismissal. We have a small pre-K bus that uses that lot as a pick-up

location each day. The driver is concerned about maneuvering safely around cars double parked at dismissal. We appreciate your help!



Parent Forums

Please join the administration at one of the upcoming parent forums on Friday, March 14th. These informal chats will give you an opportunity to meet other parents, discuss common issues of that particular age and learn

more about the curriculum. The Intermediate Parent forum for grades 3-5 will be held from 1:30-2:30 p.m. and the Primary Parent Forum for PK-Grade 2 will be held from 2:30-3:30 p.m. The forums will be held in room 15.



Instrumental Music



Fourth grade Exploratory Music students are concluding their study of the string family by bowing the violin. They also heard a guest artist, Mrs. Gwen Mahoney, who demonstrated and played the harp. Each student got to play a glissando. Our next unit of study will be the brass family. Each child will learn to play the trumpet. During Black History Month, fourth graders learned about the lives and contributions of Nat King Cole, Louis Armstrong, Marian Anderson and Duke Ellington. The children saw pictures of the musicians and listened to CD's of their music.

Fifth grade band students have learned several new notes and our first piece for the May 13th concert. The string ensemble is currently practicing their first piece for the May concert. Keep practicing!
Mrs. Hendry

Volunteers

Thanks to everyone who has volunteered this year! We still have many opportunities this spring for those of you who have not yet been able to volunteer, including Jump-A-Thon, Envi-

ronmental Night, Science Fair, and the Spring Fling. These events occur after school or on the weekend. According to the parent survey, many of you say you wish you could volunteer, so these

events are a great chance to inspire our kids and to make a difference at Pot Spring. For more information, please contact March Klein at marchklein@juno.com.

Physical Education Summer Sports Camp

Summer will be here before you know it and it's time to gear up for Mr. Hester's Summer Sports Camp. Watch for registration forms to be available April 1st. Each camp week runs from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Camp Dates:

June 23rd-June 27th Students ages 9-12

June 30th-July 3rd "Whittle Week". Students ages 7-11

July 7th-July 11th Students ages 6-8

Any questions email Chuck Hester at chester@bcps.org.

Summer Art Camp

Mrs. Aghalarov will be having Summer Art Camp this year at Pot Spring. Registration forms will be handed out in art class and registration will begin on April 7th.

June 23rd-27th from 8:30-10:30 a.m. - upcoming 2nd & 3rd graders

July 7th-11th from 12:00-2:00 p.m. - upcoming 4th graders

July 14th-18th from 12:00-2:00 p.m. - upcoming 5th graders

July 21st-25th from 12:00-2:00 p.m. - upcoming 6th graders

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration for the 2008-2009 school year will be held on Thursday, April 17th. If your child will be five years of age by September 1, 2008, please contact the school office at 410-887-7648 to receive a registration packet. First graders who will be entering Pot Spring may also register at this time.

Pre-Kindergarten Screening

Pre-Kindergarten screening for the 2008-2009 school year will be held on Wednesday, April 23rd. If your child will be four years of age by September 1, 2008 and you are interested in having him/her screened, please contact the school office at 410-887-7648.

Cockeysville Middle Parent Orientation

Mark your calendar - Cockeysville Middle School will hold a parent orientation on Wednesday, May 14, 2008 from 6:00-7:40 p.m. More information will follow in the May Pot Spring Press.

Central Area Education Advisory Council (CAEAC)

Dumbarton Middle School will host the March 13th CAEAC Pre-Budget meeting at 7 p.m. in the school's auditorium. For directions or questions, please call the Central Area Office at 410-887-3172.

Special Education Citizen's Advisory Committee

The Special Education citizen's Advisory Committee is pleased to present an informational meeting on Monday, March 10th. The topic of the meeting is IST, SST, 504 & IEP. The meeting will be held at the ESS Building, room 114, at 6901 Charles Street from 7-9 p.m.

PTA CORNER

Pot Spring is Blooming with Excitement for Spring! Check out our Spring Events Calendar...

<i>March 18th</i>	<i>Environmental Night</i>
<i>April 17th</i>	<i>Kindergarten Round-up</i>
<i>April 24th</i>	<i>Volunteer Tea</i>
<i>April 28th - May 1st</i>	<i>Science Fair (Set Up April 28, Judging April 29, Visitation April 30/May 1)</i>
<i>May 10th</i>	<i>Spring Fling: Games, Silent Auction/Class Basket Auction, Bake Sale &...</i>
<i>May 4th - 10th</i>	<i>Teacher Appreciation Week</i>
<i>May</i>	<i>Movie Night</i>
<i>May 23rd</i>	<i>Green Day Every Day Celebration</i>
<i>June</i>	<i>Fifth Grade Graduation</i>

Have You Seen the Bluebird? It's All Over Our School!

Go to:
www.myteammall.com/potspringbluebirds

The *Pot Spring Blue Bird* has made a grand entrance! You can see our bird in our classes, halls, cafeteria and on the playground! Yes, our

new spirit wear is in and our Pot Spring families are full of excitement. Showing your school pride is one of the best things around!

There is so much to choose from: Tee shirts, sweatshirts, jackets, sweatpants, shorts and more.

Check out the website to see what fits your family's needs. Order online and the clothes will be shipped to you directly. It is simple. Hope you find something you like! We can't wait to see all our blue and white throughout our halls.

Family Environmental Learning Night

March 18th
The PTA will join the school to sponsor this wonderful evening of learning. We will be running a "Make your own Bird

Feeder" activity in the cafeteria using recycled plastic bottles. Volunteers are needed to help run stations for approximately 20 minute intervals. Instruc-

tions and snacks for the evening will be provided by the PTA. We hope you can join us!

Spring Fling

May 10th - Event Chairpersons: Carol and Jim Purvis

Mark your calendars for Pot Spring Elementary's biggest event of the year...The Spring Fling! Pot Spring families, friends and neighbors all look forward to this celebration of spring in Pot Spring style - games, crafts, international bake sale, silent auction, class basket auction, and more...

Do you own a company or frequent a local business? We are hoping to have our most impressive silent auction ever! Please email Michelle Bell at bell@constellation.com with the name of the organization. She has copies of the "request for donation letter." We are creating a master list of organizations that can support our Spring Fling Auction.

Picture Parent

Monica Rafferty - Chairperson

Picture Parent is pure student enrichment. Please volunteer your time to present celebrated artwork to your child's classroom. We have a packet of information to give you and we have all the supplies! Just contact Monica Rafferty or your "Class-parent." We are presenting a piece of art each month through May. Please volunteer your time for this program.