



Summit Park Elementary School

6920 Diana Road
Baltimore, MD 21209

(410) 887-1210

Diane Richmond
Principal

Sharonda Gregory
Assistant Principal

Dates to Remember

Monday, October 6

6:30 PM Room Parent Volunteer Meeting

7:00 PM PTA Meeting

Wednesday, October 14

7:00 PM Northwest Advisory Council Pre-Budget Meeting—
Randallstown High School

Friday, October 16—Schools Closed

Professional Development Day/MSTA Convention

Friday, October 23—Kindergarten Field Trip

10:30—1:30 Clark's Elioak Farm

Wednesday, October 28—Grade 2 Field Trip

9:30—1:45 Green Meadows

Notes from the Principal

With any luck, we have successfully produced and delivered our first electronic newsletter. We are working to become a Green School and will continue to seek and implement new ways to reduce wastes and save resources. Soon we will hold our second Green School Assembly to get all of our students motivated and involved in our Green School projects. Later this month, we will begin staking out our butterfly garden site and layering it with compost so it will be ready for planting this spring.

I plan to send regular updates of school activities and events via email. Look for brief news updates beginning next week. Happy Fall!

Room Parent Volunteer Meeting, October 5th at 6:30 PM

If you are interested in being a room parent for your child's class and helping to plan class events, please attend this very important meeting. We will discuss responsibilities and begin planning for a great school year! Any questions, please email sshaffer@bcps.org.

PTA News

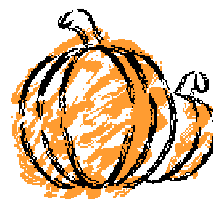
Our 2009-2010 membership drive is in full swing! Thank you to everyone who has already joined. If you have not, please consider joining. Every homeroom that achieves 100% participation receives a donut party for the students as well as a \$25 gift card to Target for their teacher. Joining the PTA does not mean you have to attend any meetings or fundraisers – it just means you are supporting your child and Summit Park.



SAVE THE DATE: Thursday, October 15th – Dance Party with DJ Doug! Come dance the night away with friends and great music as DJ Doug rocks Summit Park. Admission will be \$10 per child in advance and \$15 at the door. Tickets will go on sale the week of October 12th. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to bake and sell tickets! More information will follow!

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See separate email for remaining pages



New Faculty Members

We are happy to introduce to you Ms. Ronda Cooperstein, Library/Media Specialist. Ms. Cooperstein brings enthusiasm, creativity, and experience as a writer, librarian, and educational program coordinator.



She is excited to work with our students in the library this year. Ms.

Quinn, our former library/media specialist has moved overseas to teach.

We also welcome Mrs. Anastasia Scherr as our new kindergarten assistant. Mrs. Scherr has been very involved as a Summit Park volunteer and parent for several years and now she will be joining the team full time.

DIRECTORY: The annual Summit Park directory is almost complete. Don't be left out! If you haven't already submitted your directory form, please do so as soon as possible. If the PTA does NOT get your directory form, you will not be included in the school directory. If you need another form, please contact Rachel Resnick at resnickfamily1@verizon.net

PTA MEETING: Our 1st PTA meeting will be Monday, October 5th at 7:00pm library. Everyone is invited to attend.

Rachel Resnick, PTA President

Nurse's News

Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation also known as CPR is a skill that saves lives. Every parent should know how to perform CPR on an infant and a child in case a situation erupts and someone needs help. When performing CPR on a person having a heart attack or cardiac arrest, you can double a victim's chance of survival. The American Heart Association has developed the Family & Friends CPR Anytime Personal Learning Program which allows families to train in their homes. This program is a self-directed, personal CPR kit that makes learning easy, convenient, and affordable. It takes 22 minutes to learn and it can be done anywhere. The kit includes an inflatable manikin, a DVD, and accessories for the program. You may select the adult/child kit or the infant kit. The cost of each kit is under \$35 and you may order it online at www.cpranytime.org. The program does not provide certification.



The Southwest/Northwest Educators Linking Lives Coalition (SWELL) is sponsoring a program titled Windows of Opportunity for Prevention of Childhood Obesity with Dr. Alan Lake on Wednesday, October 28 at Dogwood Elementary School. For more information, call Eileen Edwards, R.N. at 410-887-6819.

If your child likes to buy snacks in the cafeteria during lunch, you may request on your child's payment form that he only purchase one snack at a time. This information will be placed into the computer by the cafeteria manager. If you have any concerns or questions, feel free to contact me.

Julie Varhaftik, RN, MS

Yearbook News

Order yours today and save, save, save! Yearbook prices **before** October 30th are \$22. From November 3rd through December 16th the price is \$24. From February 24th through April 9th, the price is \$26 and after April 9th the price goes to \$28. Send in a check made out to Summit Park with your child's name and yearbook written on the check.

Counselor's Corner

What a busy month!! I had the opportunity to visit all classes to discuss my role as a school counselor at Summit Park Elementary and look forward to starting my classroom guidance lessons with our kindergarten students. My goal for this school year is to work with each grade level focusing on the important people skills necessary for our children to be the best they can be via classroom guidance activities. In addition, I will facilitate small groups during lunch, collaborate with parents and teachers, and work with your child individually if necessary. Please see the flyer sent home if you would like your child to participate in a small lunch group. I will be running the groups throughout the year, one group topic at a time. Please feel free to contact me with additional questions, lmarks@bcps.org.

Last week, magnet brochures and applications were distributed to 5th grade students. These brochures/applications contain important information about magnet programs, admission criteria, and transportation. Please discuss this information with your child as you plan for the next phase of your child's education.

Magnet school applications must be completed and mailed to the Office of Magnet Programs at 6901 Charles Street, Towson, MD 21204. ALL applications must be postmarked by the deadline date, November 30, 2009, in order to be processed. Applications postmarked after the deadline date will not be processed.

Students were also provided with information about this year's Magnet EXPO!, Magnet Information Meetings, and Magnet Open House Dates during the months of October and November. Discuss this information with your child and plan to attend these important events.

Important Dates:

October 3, 2009 – Magnet EXPO! – Crowned Plaza, Timonium, 2400 Greenspring Drive, Timonium, MD 21093

November 5, 2009 – Sudbrook Magnet Middle School Open House, 5:30 – 7:00 pm.

November 30, 2009 – Magnet School Application Deadline for 2010 – 2011 School Year.

Laina Marks, School Counselor

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Volunteer Orientation

Volunteer Orientation must be completed annually. Orientation was held on Back to School Night and many parents received training at that time and are now eligible to chaperone field trips and volunteer in the school. If you have not attended training this year, you may call the office at (410) 887—1210 and make an appointment to receive the training. Teachers may not select parents as field trip chaperones unless they have attended the training and completed the Volunteer Applications. Please plan ahead! Thank you.

American Education Week

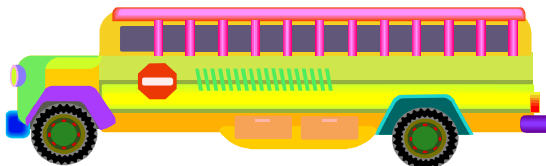
November 16—20 is American Education Week. Parents will be invited to visit their children's classrooms and observe them in action. A visitation schedule will be sent home soon with specific grade level visitation days so you may plan ahead.

Math Homework Helpers

Starting Wednesday, October 7th until May 2010, Math Homework Helpers can be viewed from 4:30—5:30 PM on Comcast Cable channel 73. Children can call in to receive help with homework and win prizes!

School Bus Rules

The school day starts at the bus stop for many students. We have the same expectations for students when they are on the bus as when they are in the school building. Summit Park Elementary School students need to follow these bus rules:



1. Follow directions from the driver the first time they are given.
2. Stay in your seat at all times while the bus is in motion.
3. Keep all parts of your body inside the bus.
4. Keep hands, feet, legs, arms, personal property, and your voice to yourself.

No eating, drinking, or vulgar language at any time on the bus.

Please reinforce the rules and importance of following the rules with your children. Parents are reminded to report any concerns regarding student bus behavior to the bus driver or to the school administration. Parents are not allowed to get on a bus to confront the bus driver or other children.

Birthday Celebrations

Children enjoy passing out doughnuts or cupcakes at school to celebrate their birthdays. If your child would like to pass out treats, please keep the following in mind, treats must be store bought, due to food safety regulations. Please make arrangements with your child's teacher in advance. Remember that we only have a few minutes to sing Happy Birthday and pass out treats. Please do not send balloons or decorations to school. Also, do not send sheet cakes or candles.

Converting from Heating to Cooling



To prepare for the winter season, the Department of Physical Facilities will be converting schools from cooling to heating beginning Monday, October 12, 2009. It is

necessary for the Department of Physical Facilities to shut down the cooling system because, unlike residential systems, most school mechanical systems cannot automatically switch from cooling to heating. Every effort will be made to ensure that the semi-annual changeover takes place with as little inconvenience as possible; however, since the fall and winter temperatures can be erratic, students are encouraged to dress appropriately. Each student should keep a sweatshirt or sweater in his/her locker.

Additionally, be advised that room temperatures will be maintained in the range of 68 to 70 degrees during the heating season.

Absence Notes

Whenever your child is absent from school, please send in a note upon his/her return to inform the school of the reason that your child was absent. The reason for the absence is coded on the student's attendance card. When notes are not received, the absence is considered unexcused. Your assistance with this important procedure is greatly appreciated.