

October 2009

**UPCOMING DATES**

10/28 N/E Area Education Adv. Council Mtg.; Joppa View E.S.; 7 p.m.

11/4 PTA Mtg.; Library; 7 p.m.

11/5 1st marking period ends

11/6 Assessment Day. No school for students

11/11 The Ronald McDonald Show; 9:30 a.m.; Veteran's Day

11/12 BCSB Banking Day

11/16-20 American Education Week

11/18 BCPS Paraeducators Appreciation Day

11/19 Distribution of Report Cards

11/20 Grandparents Day; 8:45-10:15 a.m.

11/23 Elementary School Conference Day. No school for students

11/24 Lifetouch Picture Retakes; 11:00 a.m.-2 p.m.

11/25 Awards Assembly; Gr. 2-5; 2:45 p.m.

11/26-27 Thanksgiving Holiday; Schools closed

Vincent Farm Elementary School

From the Principal's Desk...

American Education Week is coming soon. This year's theme is "Great Public Schools: A Basic Right and Our Responsibility". We hope you will be able to visit us and spend some time in your child's classroom. While we have designated different days for each grade level in order to alleviate over-crowding and allow for ample parking spaces, you are wel-

come to visit on any day that best suits your schedule. If you work and have difficulty getting release time for school related events, I will be sending home a letter which you may show to your employer requesting his/her understanding in granting you release time. It is important that parents and teachers work together for the success of the children.

For that reason, we hope to see all of our parents and grandparents at Vincent Farm Elementary during **American Education Week, November 16-20**. Please see the schedule below.

Visitation runs all morning until your class' lunch time. We ask that parents do not stay for lunch as we

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From the Health Suite...

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Just a quick note to update you about what is happening at Vincent Farm Elementary regarding influenza. As you have heard on the radio and TV, H1N1 is present throughout the Baltimore area and nation. It was expected, then, that we would also have cases of H1N1 in our community and our school. Vincent Farm has remained under 10% for absences. This figure includes ALL kinds of absences.

Parents are doing a great job controlling the spread of influenza because they

are adhering to the CDC regulations of keeping students home until they are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of Tylenol or ibuprophen. Similarly, our custodial staff has been very diligent cleaning the school on a daily basis. Teachers have continually reinforced hand-washing and coughing techniques in class, and the use of hand sanitizer.

We will be advising parents of county clinics for vaccines as they become available to us. There seems to be a delay in the availability of the vaccine at this time.

Here are a few tips to help you and your child during the flu season:

- Make sure your child gets adequate rest.
- Encourage fluids
- Continue to discourage sharing of drinks.
- Reinforce hand-washing techniques.
- Have children cough or sneeze into their upper arm; not their hands.

If I can be of any assistance, please call.

Sheila Jasowsky, R.N.



November 16-20, 2009 is American Education Week

Quote of the month:

Winter is an etching,
spring a watercolor,
summer an oil painting,
and autumn a mosaic of
them all.

Stanley Horowitz



HAPPY FALL!

Magnet Program Application Deadline

PK and Grade 5 students! If you are interested in applying to a magnet program next year, don't forget the deadline date. ALL magnet ap-



plications MUST be received in the Office of Magnet Programs or postmarked by **NOVEMBER 30, 2009** in order to be considered. Don't be late!

If you need more information about the magnet

process, please see Lorrie Erdman in the main office.

More information about the BCPS magnet programs is available at www.bcps.org/offices/omp or by calling the Office of Magnet Programs at 410-887-4127.

From the Principal's Desk...cont.

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cannot accommodate additional people in the cafeteria.

November 20 is designated for grandparents, and Life-touch photographers will be here from 9:00-10:30 a.m. to take pictures of your child with his/her grandparents. Consider it as a great holiday gift!

I look forward to seeing

you during this special week.

Visitation Schedule

Mon. 11/16-Gr. 1 & 5

Tues. 11/17-Gr. 3 & 4

Wed. 11/18-PK, Gr 2, FALS

Thurs. 11/19-KG

Fri. 11/20-Grandparents day; all grades

Sincerely,

Anne Gold
Principal

We're on the web:

<http://vincentfarmes.bcps.org>

Recognition Awards

At the end of each quarter, following the distribution of report cards, we recognize those students who have earned distinction in various categories. If your child will be receiving an award, there will be a notice inside the report card envelope when it is brought home informing you of the date of the recognition assembly should you choose to attend. We welcome parents and other

family members, of course!

Awards

1. Effort Honor Roll: All "1s" in effort, grades 2-5
2. Honor Roll: All A's and B's, including special area subjects, grades 3-5
3. Principal's Honor Roll: All A's, including special area subjects, grades 3-5
- On A Roll (quarters 2,3,4):

At least one grade goes up without any other grade dropping; but does not meet Honor Roll or Principal's Honor criteria.

Please save the dates at 2:45 p.m.:

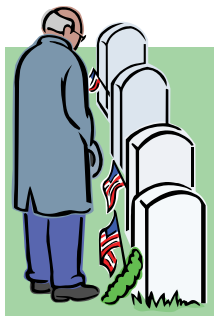
1. Wed. Nov. 25th
2. Fri. Feb. 12th
3. Wed. May 5th
4. June-To be determined



For information on the seasonal or H1N1 flu, please visit the following websites:
www.dhmh.state.md.us
or
www.baltimorecounty.md.gov/go/health

Need a flu shot? Visit:
www.findaflushot.com

- Main Office: 410-887-2983
- FAX 410-335-4054
- Principal: Anne Gold
- Assistant Principal: Paul Balsamo
- Guidance Counselor: Kara Roberts
- Health and Wellness: Shelia Jasovsky 410-335-2438
- Library: Gina McDonald 410-887-2912
- Parent Line 410-335-4078



Veteran's Day

November 11th

Transportation changes

In recent weeks, we have had an overwhelming number of last minute requests to change student's mode of transportation. This has resulted in missed buses and miscommunications.

It is now school policy that all changes regarding transportation must be communicated to the office by 10 a.m. on the date of change. This procedure is to ensure that children follow your in-

tended plan.

We appreciate your cooperation.



Recycle Paper and more!

TOPPING TOWERS Recycling Contest is BACK!

Last year we recycled to new heights and this year we need your help to do it again. Start collecting all of those holiday catalogs and magazines for our



school-wide paper recycling contest. Contest begins in November. More information to come!

Still have newspaper and other paper items? Bring them in to our

Paper Retriever bins.

Please remember, no

cardboard or telephone books are accepted.

RECYCLE MORE...

We are now working with Cartridges for Kids to recycle cell phones, inkjet & laser cartridges, laptops, iPods, PDAs, video games & consoles, digital cameras, DVDs and GPS devices. Help us free our landfills from these items and earn cash for our school program.

Northeast Area Education Advisory Council Meeting

The Northeast Area Education Advisory Council will host their fall **Political Meet and Greet** session on Wednesday October 28th at 7 p.m. The meeting will be held at Joppa View Elementary School at 8727 Honeygo Blvd.

You are invited to come meet constituents Senator Kathy Klausmeier, Senator Andy Harris, Delegate Joseph Boteler and County Councilman Joseph Barntfelder.

Additionally, there will be a **Gang Awareness Presentation** by Officer James Barr, Student Resource Officer at Parkville High School. Learn what constitutes a gang; what signs to look for and what the cultural influences gangs have on communities.



Happy Halloween

Thanksgiving Food Drive

Please join Vincent Farm Elementary School by helping our neighbors this holiday season

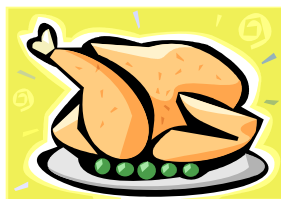
What: We are collecting non-perishable items such as canned foods, stuffing mixes, baking mixes, cereal, and pasta– Anything that will not spoil

When: Monday, November 2nd through Friday, November 20th

Where: All food will be collected at the front entrance of the school in boxes labeled “Canned Food Drive”

Why: To help those in need by making their holiday season happier and brighter!

Questions? Please feel free to contact Miss Hecht, school counselor, at 410-887-2983 for more details.



Volunteer Training

Volunteering in your child's school can be a rewarding experience for you and your child. In order to volunteer in your child's classroom or to chaperone on field trips, you must complete the volunteer application and attend a volunteer training session. This whole process will take about 30 minutes to complete.

We are offering training the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

If you plan to chaperone field trips with your child, this training is mandatory. Thank you.

Yes I will be attending the following Volunteer Training Session:

Your name and telephone #: _____

November 4, 2009 6:30 p.m. -----

December 3, 2009 6:30 p.m. -----

January 6, 2010 6:30 p.m. -----

February 3, 2010 6:30 p.m. -----

Student(s) name(s) and grade(s) _____

Teacher(s) name(s): _____

Future dates will be listed in our monthly newsletters.