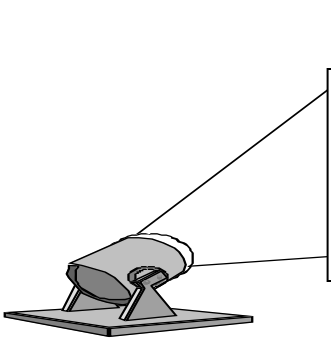

Spotlight on Bells Mill Elementary

January 19, 2015

Office of the Principal

Mon., Jan. 19 **School Closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday**

Tue., Jan. 20 **No School for Students, Professional Day for Teachers**

Wed., Jan. 21
Third Marking Period begins
Intermediate French, 8:00-9:00 am, rm. 212
Intro to Spanish, 8:15-9:00 am, rm. 125
Beginning Spanish, 3:30-4:30, rm. 120
Art Escapades, Clay Creations, 3:30-4:30 pm, rm. 163
Chess, 3:30-4:30 pm, Media Center
Gr. 2 Brownies, 3:30-4:30, rm. 155
Gr. 5 Parent Meeting, 7:00 pm, Media Center

Thur., Jan. 22
Head Start Parent Meeting, 10:00 am
MSA Indoor Soccer, 3:30-4:30 pm
Intermediate Chinese, 3:30-4:30 pm, rm. 209
Tae Kwon Do, 3:30-4:30 pm, rm. 121
Yoga, 3:30-4:30, rm. 165
Gr. 2 Scouts, 3:30-4:30 pm, rm. 132
Parent Resource Meeting, 7:00 pm, Media Center

Fri., Jan. 23
Mad Science Experimentamania, 3:30-4:30 pm, 163
Legos Engineering, 3:30-4:30 pm, rm. 213
Odyssey of the Mind, 3:30, Media Center
Wear your school colors today
Have a great weekend!

A look ahead

Jan. 26 **Understanding PARCC parent info mtg, 7:00 pm, Seneca Valley HS**
Jan. 27 **Class and group photos, 9:30 am-3:30 pm**
Jan. 28 **Bells Mill Restaurant Night at BGR, 4:00-9:00 pm**
Information mtg. for parents of incoming kindergarteners, 7:00 pm, Media Center
Jan. 29 **Report cards distributed**

- **New after-school activities have started. Please be sure to inform your child's teacher of any changes in dismissal plans.**
- **Grade 5 Parents: On the evening of January 21 there will be a brief meeting with the fifth grade team as we share the process of articulation for your children to Cabin John Middle School.** We will meet in the Media Center from 7:00 – 7:30 pm. Then on January 29 you will meet with the staff at Cabin John Middle School to learn about the middle school program. Please check backpacks for a letter from Cabin John regarding orientation and registration.

- **Parents of students in Gr. 3-8, learn how to prepare your student for PARCC assessments at Understanding PARCC Assessments, a parent information workshop, on Monday, January 26, 7:00-8:30 pm, Seneca Valley HS**. In spring 2015, students in Grades 3–8 will take PARCC assessments in English Language Arts (ELA)/Literacy and Mathematics. These assessments will replace the Maryland School Assessments, the current reading and mathematics state assessments. The PARCC tests will assess students' critical-thinking and problem-solving skills, and will provide timely information about whether a student is on track to be college and career ready by the time they graduate from high school. Come and learn strategies to prepare your child for the PARCC assessment. Facilitated by MCPS staff.

- **Class and Group photos will be taken on Tuesday, January 27**. Photographing begins promptly at 9:30 am. All homeroom classes will be photographed, as well as the following groups: Patrols; Chorus; Instrumental Music; Best Buddies; Ambassadors; SERT/Recycling; and Student Government. Parents will have the option to order online. Please watch backpacks for ordering information.

- **Please help us get the message out to neighbors with incoming kindergarteners for the next school year**. We are now gathering names and contact information for next year's kindergarten class. Please ask your neighbors to call the school if they have a child who will be 5 years old by September 1, 2015. Parents of incoming kindergarteners are invited to an **information meeting on Wednesday, January 28**, **7:00 pm, in the Media Center,** where they will learn about our kindergarten program and get their questions answered. Additionally, parents and their future kindergarteners are welcome to observe a typical day in kindergarten at our Open House on **Friday, February 6 (snow date February 9), 9:30-11:30 am** (we ask that younger siblings not attend). Our ***tentative*** dates for Kindergarten Orientation are Wednesday and Thursday, April 1 and 2 (by appointment).

- **Report cards for the second marking period will be sent home in backpacks on Thursday, January 29, to all students in K-Gr. 5. If you have any questions regarding report cards please contact your child's teacher.**

- **The official MCPS school calendar for the 2015-2016 school year is available online at http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/info/calendars/future/index.aspx .**

Thank you for being partners in your child's education