

# THE LION'S DEN

Bethesda Elementary / Bethesda Elementary PTA Newsletter

January 4, 2019

## Seymour's Shout Out...

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a wonderful winter break!

Some of you have asked about Ms. Jordan and how she is recovering from the foot surgery she had back in September. Ms. Jordan is on the mend, but will not be returning to Bethesda E.S. Ms. Jordan has worked at B.E. for 20 years and will be greatly missed. If you would like to send her well wishes, you may drop them off at the front office.

During the months that Ms. Jordan has been on leave, Ms. Velasco-Galey "Mrs. Paz" supported the school as the substitute secretary and has been a great support to the school community in Ms. Jordan's absence. When the position opened, Mrs. Paz applied and I am pleased to share that she is now a part of the Bethesda community. Please join me in welcoming Mrs. Paz to Bethesda ES !

*Lisa Seymour*

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## Access for ELL's:

Access for ELL's testing will begin on Monday, January 7- February 22, 2019. English Language Learners will take a test in four domains: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Student should remember to get a good night's sleep, eat a healthy breakfast and do their best on testing! More information has been sent home to parents.

## Visiting Local Author:

Jonathan Roth is the author-illustrator of the chapter book series *BEEP AND BOB* (Simon & Schuster/Aladdin, 2018), which chronicles the adventures of the new kid at space school and the devoted little alien who won't leave his side. *BEEP AND BOB* is aimed at elementary kids who like funny and exciting stories, and has been recommended by School Library Journal, Booklist, Scholastic Teacher Magazine and Washington Parent. Jonathan is also an elementary art teacher in Montgomery County Public Schools and lives in Rockville with his wife, two kitties and three (or more!) bicycles. Learn more at [www.beepandbob.com](http://www.beepandbob.com).

## Cultural Arts Events:

Mary Ann Jung, the historical and Shakespearean actress, will perform and hold workshops for the 3rd grade on January 29th and 30th. She will come in character as Sally Ride, first female astronaut.

Renate Maile-Moskowitz, the fiber artist, will hold her wool residency for the 2nd grade with a presentation on wool on January 30th and felting workshops during art class ending on February 11th, with a parent demonstration during Multicultural Night on March 21st.

[MatheMagic.com](http://MatheMagic.com) is Bradley Field's website, if you would like to take a look. He is an award-winning and experienced mathemagician, using math and tricks with numbers to entertain. He will be performing on February 4th for the whole school.

*Mark your calendar...*

January 21st- NO SCHOOL

January 25th- Early Release Day (12:55 PM)

January 28th- NO SCHOOL for students (possible make up day for SNOW DAY/ Emergency school closure)

January 29th- 2nd semester begins- 3rd Quarter

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## [Sign up for ALERTMCPS](#)

Alert MCPS is a way that you can receive text messages or e-mail from Montgomery County Public Schools during weather-related emergencies and other major events that impact school system operations. Alert MCPS is administered by Montgomery County Public Schools and is part of the Montgomery County Alert System.

<https://member.everbridge.net/index/1332612387832009#/signup>

Check out MCPS Quick Notes Issue:



<http://news.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/current-issue-quicknotes/>

## ATTENTION GRADE 3 FAMILIES:

Information regarding the Center for Enriched Studies (formerly the Center for the Highly Gifted) was recently mailed directly to all parents of Grade 3 students in Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS). As stated in that letter, all Grade 3 students in your school will be centrally reviewed for potential candidacy for the CES rather than parents submitting an application. MCPS offers both regional and local programs. All Grade 3 students will be considered for a regional CES program, which is based on their address, unless they attend a school that houses a local program.

Schools that currently house a regional program include Lucy V. Barnsley, Chevy Chase, Clearspring, Cold Spring, Charles Drew, Fox Chapel, Mill Creek Towne, Oak View and Pine Crest elementary schools.

Schools that currently house a local program include: Rachel Carson, Piney Branch, Spark Matsunaga, and Stonegate elementary schools.

Students who demonstrate an overall above average academic profile will be considered for one of the seats in the CES. You will be notified in early February as to whether your child will be considered for the CES. Upon notification, you will have the option of requesting or declining CES testing. Testing will occur in February 2019, at your child's school, with selection results occurring in late March.

There will be a parent information meeting about the CES on January 23, 2019, at 6:30 p.m. at: Richard Montgomery High School Richard Montgomery Drive Rockville, Maryland 20850

The meeting also will be live streamed on the MCPS homepage and will be posted on the MCPS website.

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## Attention ELL FAMILIES:

ALL ELL (English Language Learner) students will take the WIDA Access for Ell's 2.0 test during the months of January and February to determine their English language proficiency level for next year. Students in grades 3-5 will take all domains of the test online; listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Grade 1-2 will write in testing booklets and take the rest of the test online. Kindergarteners will take the test individually with Ms. Pluznik or Mrs. Petrossian over the course of two days. Students will take only one test per day and no more than two in a week. Testing will occur in the E.S.O.L classrooms of Ms. Alison Pluznik, Mrs. Vivian Hu, and Mrs. Julie Petrossian. Testing will usually occur during your child's regularly scheduled E.S.O.L support time.

### Schedule for testing at Bethesda Elementary:

January 7-11, 2019- **Listening and Reading Tests** for grades 1-5, Kindergarten tests

January 14-18 2019- **Speaking Tests** for grades 1-5, Kindergarten tests

January 21-25, 2019- **Speaking tests and Writing Tests** for grades 1-5, Kindergarten tests.

**No school** on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Monday, January 21, 2019

Early release (12:55pm) on Friday, January 25, 2019

January 28-February 1, 2019- **Writing Tests** for grades 1-5, Kindergarten tests Teacher workday/no school for students – Monday, January 28, 2019

February 4-8, 11-15, 18-22, 2019- **Make-up testing as needed**; Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing