

Dr. Kimberly Thompson, Principal
Charlene Parilla, Assistant Principal



Burning Tree



Elementary School



Principal's Message

Dear Burning Tree Families,

Happy New Year! I wish you all a very healthy and happy 2021.

January will be a busy month at our school. We are preparing the building to welcome staff and students back to school and are watching the metrics with anticipation. Remember that you can check the MCPS Covid Dashboard to get the most updated data regarding Covid in our county. As we come to the close of marking period 2 we want to acknowledge the hard work of our teachers, students, and families. Our virtual program has been strong because of dedication, planning, and support. The next step of this work is to continue to elevate positive student experiences in the virtual world and refine them for a possible hybrid model. We would like to invite you to attend our next BT Community Coffee on January 21st at 9:30am, where we will share the latest updates for reopening from MCPS regarding re-opening plans and what we are doing at Burning Tree to be prepared.

Join meeting zoom

<https://mcpsmd.zoom.us/j/89048359065?pwd=VXRuc0k3VnBZVW93U3Z0OXA0MXBhZz09>

Meeting ID 890 4835 9065

Password 970192

Call in number 301-715-8592

We hope to see you all Wednesday, January 13 for our drive through materials pick up for marking period 3 supplies. Students will receive updated workbooks and school supplies. Please have your child's name and teacher name displayed on a paper on the windshield. Students in grade K,1, and 2 can pick up materials between 11am and 1pm and students in grades 3,4, and 5 can pick up materials from 1pm until 3pm. If you are not available on Wednesday, we will have an additional pickup window on Friday January 15 between 11:30am and 1pm.

Keep an eye on the many important dates coming up. PTA is bringing Bingo Night, International Week, and wonderful community building activities to the next month. The No Place for Hate Committee is bringing the Great Kindness Challenge and SGA is starting up with their first meeting! In addition, the PTA has lined up an amazing quest speaker for the February 2nd PTA meeting to discuss the very relevant topic of kids & technology. There are so many great things to look forward to.

Wishing Everyone a Warm Winter,

Kimberly Thompson



January Calendar Updates

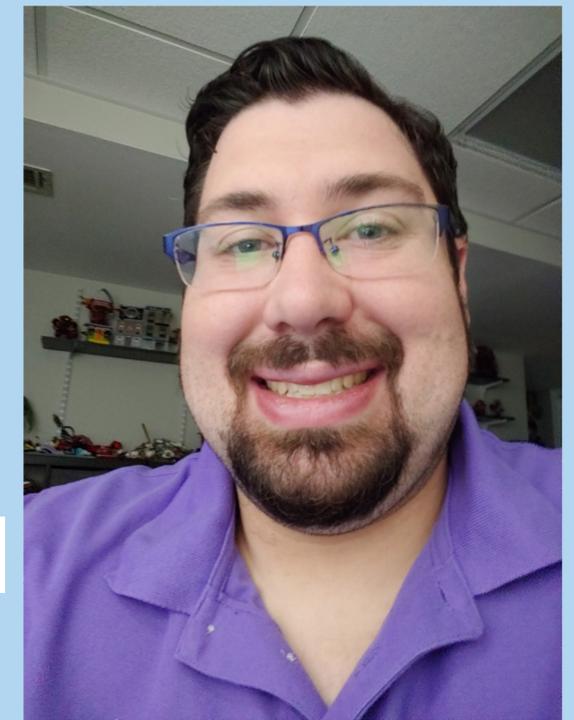
- January 8: Bingo
- January 12: 1st SGA meeting & student wellness meeting
- January 13: MP3 materials distribution
- January 18: No School
- January 21: Community coffee hour
- January 25-29: Great Kindness Challenge
- January 28: End of Marking Pd 2



January 2020



This month meet our fabulous 2nd grade team of dedicated professionals.



Deirdre Salcetti
2nd Grade Team Leader

My name is Deirdre Salcetti and I have happily been a second grade teacher at Burning Tree for 20 years. I feel fortunate to be able to teach your children in our wonderful and supportive community. I love second graders! I grew up in the Bannockburn Community and have lived in Bethesda my entire life where I married my husband, Tom and raised our two sons, Conor and Ryan. Our sons are grown and live in Taipei, Taiwan and Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Ryan was married last year in Cambodia and we were lucky to celebrate his wedding last January. I live with my husband and two delightful golden doodles, Coco and Clover, who are very helpful during our zoom classes. My hobbies include: reading; walking our dogs; yoga; swimming; and travel to far-away lands!



Justin Day

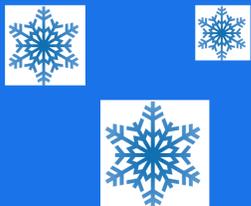
I am a proud husband and father of 2 children. I got into teaching because I love children (being a big one myself) and I love helping people. My dad taught for 32 years, inspiring me to follow in his footsteps. The laughter and smiles of all the students in the school are a cherished daily reward. This school year has been challenging for everyone, and I am just so proud of all the hard work our students, parents and staff are doing. I know this year is hard, different and full of changes, but as a school, community, and a Burning Tree FAMILY, we can do it together!



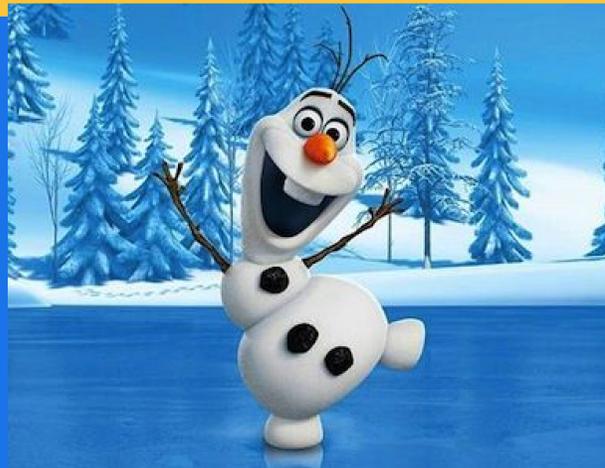


Enit Curry

My name is Enit Curry. I was born and raised in Columbia, SC; however, I've been living in Maryland for more than 31 years! I attended two HBCU, North Carolina Central University in Durham, NC and Benedict College in Columbia, SC. One of the things I love about teaching is watching the students faces as they discover or learn something new. I've been teaching at BTES for 31 years. Burning Tree is truly a special place to come to everyday to work! I enjoying traveling, reading, hanging out with family and friends.



Our new lighting construction projected has been completed. The classrooms and building is much brighter. Our building service staff has cleaned all classrooms and work spaces with great attention to detail. The blacktop playground area was also extended in December. If you come to BTES check it out.



SGA to begin January 12, 2021

We will kick off 2021 with our BTES SGA meeting Tuesday 1/12/21, 11:40am to 12:10pm. This years focus will be school spirit and kindness.

Each class will elect 2 representatives. The reps need to commit to attending 1 to 2 meetings per month which will be held on Tuesdays 11:40am to 12:10pm.

This year SGA will consist of grade level reps. We will not hold elections for officers. We will encourage the 4th and 5th grade reps to take on leadership roles during the meetings.

If you have any questions please email: Maura_J_Backenstoe@mcpsmd.org



Alana Kiviat

I'm Alana Kiviat, and this is my 17th year teaching and my 12th year at Burning Tree! I went to Johns Hopkins University for my Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science, and I earned my Master of Arts in Education from Pepperdine University. I have taught 2nd, 3rd, and 5th grades. I feel so fortunate to be doing what I love every day with such amazing students and families!

I grew up in Santa Fe, New Mexico and have also lived in Los Angeles (where I began my teaching career). I love traveling, baking, musical theater, going to museums and spending time with my husband, two teenage sons, and my cocker spaniel.

Burning Tree is a very special place, and I have loved being a part of this wonderful community for so many years! I can't wait to all be together again, in person, very soon!





PTA Guest Speaker

Please join us and bring your questions as we engage in a discussion and learn about technology safety and usage with our children.

Topic: "Practical Advice for Parenting in the Digital Age" Tuesday February 2, 2021 7pm. The PTA will be sending out an email with more details very soon.

Looking forward to seeing everyone for this important topic.

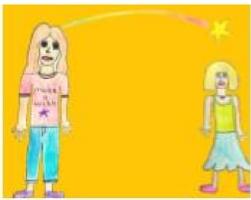


Great Kindness Challenge



Great Kindness Challenge

January 2021

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|---|--|---|---|
| I AM Poster  | Happy Heart  | 10 Grateful Things  | Make a Wish  | Kindness Matters  |

Marking Period 3 Materials Distribution

Please mark your calendar for Wednesday January 13, 2021 to pick up your child's instructional materials.

K-2: 11am to 1pm 3-5: 1pm to 3pm

Make up day will be Friday January 15, 2021 11am to 1pm



Please post your child's name and their teachers name on a paper and place in the passenger area windshield. This will help us keep the traffic in the circle moving. You may also pick up all your children's materials at the same time. No need for 2 trips.



January Fun Facts

History: January was named after the Roman god Janus. Janus is also the Roman word for door. The god Janus had two faces which allowed him to look forwards into the coming year and backwards into the past year.

Holidays: National Book Month, National Thank You Month, National Eye Care Month, National Soup Month, National Volunteer and Blood Donor Month



Technical Issues?

Is your child's Chromebook not working even after calling the help desk?

You can replace it by going to 45 Gude Drive Rockville MD 20850. Bring the current chromebook and your child's student identification number to trade in for a new one.

Contact the parent help desk 240-740-7020, 240-740-7022 or email

communitytechsupport@mcpsmd.org

or contact Charlene Parilla at Charlene_M_Parilla@mcpsmd.org

Click the following link for problem solving ideas:

[Parent Academy Website](#)

[Compiled Synergy Guides](#)



Curriculum and Instruction

End of Marking Period 2 is Thursday January 28, 2021. You will be able to access your child's report card thru synergy starting on February 8, 2021. To access your child's marking period 2 report card: login to ParentVue, select from the left tabs DOCUMENTS, select report card. Still having trouble reach out to your classroom teacher.



Below you will see information for RLA and Math.



EUREKA MATH



Roadmaps are another parent resource from Eureka Math. Roadmaps explain key grade level skills, show how they are related to previous concepts, and how they build to the next level. These connections can help pinpoint areas where students may need to reach back for a little review and areas where they may be ready for additional challenges. Roadmaps also share examples of key strategies, visual models, and examples of problem types for each grade level.

Another feature of each roadmap is Helping your child learn outside of school. This section provides ideas for engaging in math outside the classroom and ways to foster a growth mindset in math. These tips also encourage “math talk” and discussions about approaches to problem solving.

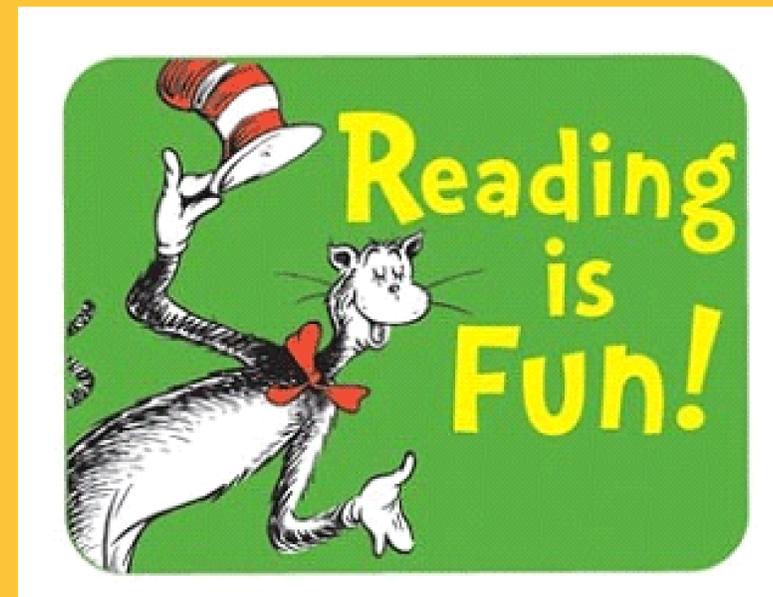


Click on the links below to access grade level roadmaps.

- Kindergarten Roadmap
- Grade 1 Roadmap
- Grade 2 Roadmap
- Grade 3 Roadmap
- Grade 4 Roadmap
- Grade 5 Roadmap
- Grade 6 Roadmap



As we settle in back from winter break, classes are moving into Unit 3 of Benchmark Advance, which focuses on life sciences. Grades K-2 will build on their understanding of plant and animal needs as Grade 3 learns how animals adapt to change. Students in grades 4 and 5 will work to discuss how we respond to nature and make decisions about resources. All students will continue to work with informational texts and build their content and process writing skills. At the conclusion of unit 3, students in all grade levels will take the Benchmark Interim Assessment, which shows teachers, our school, and MCPS how our students are progressing toward mastery of the grade level standards at this point in the school year. More information on the assessment will be provided in next month's newsletter.





No Place for Hate/Wellness Committee Meetings

This year we will meet once a month on the first **Tuesday** of each month from **3:30-4:30 pm**. I hope you're able to join me! Reminder this is a joint staff/parent/student venture but just the 'grown-ups' again for this meeting. Please note since we are using MCPS' Zoom you will have to login with your *student's MCPS account!* The reoccurring zoom info is as follows:

Upcoming Dates:

- Feb 2, 2021 03:30 PM
- Mar 2, 2021 03:30 PM
- Apr 6, 2021 03:30 PM
- May 4, 2021 03:30 PM
- Jun 1, 2021 03:30 PM



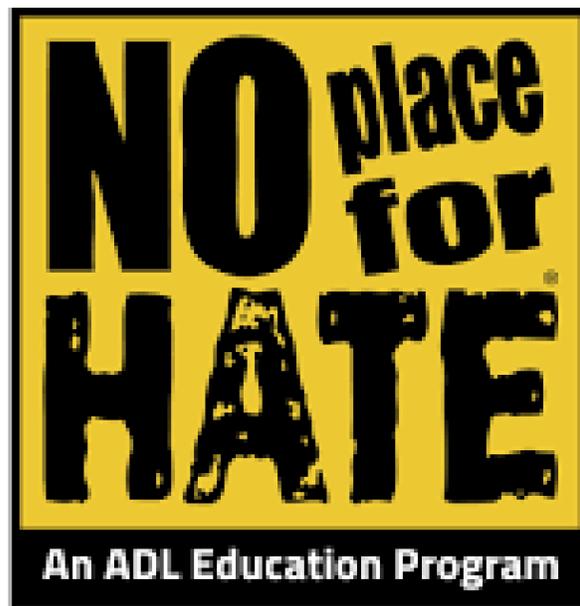
Meeting ID: 951 5850 7909

Passcode: 278799

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,95158507909# US (New York)

+13017158592,,95158507909# US (Germantown)



COUNSELOR'S CORNER



- January 25-30th The Great Kindness Challenge - Will you participate?! Stay tuned for morning announcements and daily details about the challenges and rewards!
- Student No Place for Hate Committee
- Thursday, January 7th @ 11:30 AM - Wellness Committee/Adult No Place for Hate Meeting

Meeting ID

meet.google.com/cop-rqxx-bid

Phone Numbers

(US) [+1 636-329-4638](tel:+16363294638)

PIN: 810 191 249#

- Tuesday, Jan. 12th @ 11:30 Student No Place for Hate Meeting

Zoom

[-https://mcpsmd.zoom.us/j/81478940220?pwd=Zk0rMldqcUhNTUIOYmxHbzZIN2ZTQT09](https://mcpsmd.zoom.us/j/81478940220?pwd=Zk0rMldqcUhNTUIOYmxHbzZIN2ZTQT09)

- Don't forget Teacher and Staff Shout Outs

[-https://forms.gle/KuQucKqygWv7k2Du7](https://forms.gle/KuQucKqygWv7k2Du7)

If you have any questions please reach out to me at:

Jennifer_L_Fleming@mcpsmd.org

