

Burnt Mills Elementary School
~Principal's Monthly Newsletter~
October 2019

~~Hispanic Heritage Month~~

Dr. Stacy Ashton, principal
Mr. Troy Clarke, assistant principal

Important Events to Remember

10/1	Excel Beyond the Bell (EBB) Session I begins today PTA Meeting @ 7 PM
10/4	EarlyRelease Day @ 12:55 PM
10/9	No School for students and teachers
10/14	"Fall Back Into School" OPEN HOUSE - all day, all are welcome!
10/17	Classic Photography - Fall Pictures Retakes
10/23	Wear Pink Day - in recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month
10/24	Spanish Immersion Parent Meeting 6-7 PM
10/28	Pumpkin Day - the Pumpkin Patch will magically appear at BMES!
10/31	Fall Harvest Parties 2:15-3:15 PM

School News & Information

"Fall Back Into School" OPEN HOUSE is Monday, October 14, 2019!

When: Monday, October 14, 2019

Where: Burnt Mills Elementary School

Who: BMES Parents

Time: You can drop by for a few minutes, a few hours or stay all day!

What you can expect...

- This will be a normal instructional day, so expect to see teachers teaching and scholars learning.
- Parents can stop by the Very Important Parents (VIP) Room to mix and mingle with other parents, register to be a member of the PTA, view the new EUREKA math curriculum resources, and more. Coffee and tea will be provided.
- Photo Booth stations will be set up throughout the school for parents to snap a picture with their child.
- Dads/Father-figures we have something special just for you! Every Dad/Father-figure will receive a sweet treat and have their names entered into a drawing to win a Home Depot gift card. We will kick off our Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students) program.

To help us plan for your visit, please RSVP to your child's classroom teacher via Email or Class Dojo by Thursday, October 10th. Looking forward to an awesome day!

- George B. Thomas Saturday School: Registration is now open for the 2019-2020 school year! A registration fee of \$40 for students receiving FARMS and \$85 for non-FARMS is required to register. For more information about Saturday School, visit: <https://www.saturdayschool.org/>
- Chromebook Care: All Burnt Mills scholars in Grades K-5 are using Chromebooks on a daily basis. We expect our scholars to take care of these devices and use them appropriately at all times. Please read over the Student Expectations for Using Chromebook and Google Apps for Education contract, that was sent home in your scholar's October 2nd Wednesday folder, sign and return it as soon as possible. I have provided the student expectations below for your review. If you have any questions please contact the school.
- I will be responsible for any Chromebook that I use at school – I understand that I am only borrowing it from Burnt Mills.
 - I will put it back in the cart and make sure that it is charging properly.
 - I will keep food, drinks, and anything sticky away from the Chromebooks.
 - When I carry it around, I will make sure the top is closed and that I use both hands.
- I will handle my Chromebook with care, including the keyboard, touchpad, and screen.
- I will only download Google Apps under my teacher's direction.
- I will use the Chromebook and my Google account for school work only.
- I will keep my username and password private.
- If I receive anything inappropriate on my Google account, I will let my teacher know immediately.
- I am aware that my teacher has access to my account at all times and can monitor what I do.
- When gathering information from the Internet, I will always give credit to the original source.
- I will only use programs and websites that a teacher has assigned to me.
- I will only access my account to do work when my teacher has asked me to.
- I will only create, open, download, save, or print files, images, or messages that are appropriate for school.

[Counselor's Corner from Ms. Bell and Mrs. Dommu](#)

Classroom Guidance: This month we will be visiting each classroom to deliver classroom guidance around our core value of the month, Responsibility. We will also discuss how to maintain a healthy mind and body. To support this lesson, we will be reading *The Princess & the Fog* by Martyn Lloyd-Jones which talks about children coping with difficult feelings.

Coming Up:

- We will begin forming the following small counseling groups this month: K- self regulation, Grade 1- self regulation, Grade 2- social skills, Grade 3- social skills, Grade 4- self regulation, and Grade 5- peer conflict. Scholars have been referred by teachers and counselors. Should your child be invited, you will receive a permission form the second week of October. If you are interested in having your child participate, please contact either counselor via phone or email.
- The fifth-grade girls mentoring group Girls Leading and Motivating (GLAM Squad) will begin this month. Our first session will be Monday, October 7th.
- Burnt Mills Buddies will begin this month. If your child has been invited to participate, he or she will be coming home with a permission form in next week's Wednesday Folder.
- GRADE 5 FAMILIES: You will receive a flyer with important Magnet Middle School Information this week. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Dommu.

Sign Up:

- The Holiday Giving Project provides Thanksgiving and December holiday assistance to low income households. You will receive an informational flyer and referral form in Wednesday Folders. Please complete the referral form to participate. Referral Forms are due October 21st for Thanksgiving and November 11th for the December holiday season.

[Spanish Immersion News from Mrs. Plawner](#)

We will have our first Immersion Parent Meeting for current immersion parents on Thursday, October 24 from 6-7pm. Please send any questions or agenda items to Gloria_B_Plawner@mcpsmd.org. A draft agenda will be sent to you via email next week. Thank you for your recent Scholastic purchases towards our Immersion Program. Every little bit helps to add more books to our classroom libraries.

[PTA News from Mr. Miehl](#)

PTA thanks all parents and teachers for starting the year on a strong note. We have some fundraising and advocacy challenges ahead, and we need “all hands on deck.” We need a new school, and we welcome you to attend or testify at the School Board meeting held Tuesday October 8 at 12 Noon at the Carver Educational Services Center at 850 Hungerford Drive, Rockville. We hope Burnt Mills has a strong presence to help support fellow PTA members and parents testifying that day. We found out Title I funds won't cover cultural arts programs this year, and we therefore need to make up the funds which we diverted to teacher appreciation, teacher mini-grants, and field trip support. Please be generous with our fall fundraisers which include our Spirit Wear fundraiser and our Cocoa Run which will be Saturday November 2 from 9 AM – 12 Noon at Burnt Mills. Important information plus how to join PTA and/or donate can be found on the PTA website accessible from the Burnt Mills home page.

[Reminders](#)

[Free and Reduced Meals \(FARMS\) Applications - Applications were sent home on the first day of school. Families interested in receiving free or reduced price meals for 2019-2020 school year should apply online at \[www.MySchoolApps.com\]\(http://www.MySchoolApps.com\) or complete a paper application. If you completed an application online, please DO NOT submit a paper application. You may submit an application at any time during the school year. The information you provide is confidential. For assistance or questions, please contact our Parent Community Coordinator, Ms. Gordon at \(301\) 649-8192.](#)

Birthday Celebrations; Celebrations are allowed; however, they must be very simple and last no longer than 15 minutes. If you would like to acknowledge your child's birthday at school, please notify the teacher first. Birthday celebrations are allowed the last 15 minutes of the school day or during the lunch period. Small treats such as store bought brownies or mini cupcakes are allowed. Balloons, large cakes, goodie bags, and juice boxes are not allowed. Thank you for understanding.