Monocacy Elementary School

Principal’s Newsletter

October 21, 2019

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18801 Barnesville Rd., Dickerson, MD 20842

[www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/monocacyes/](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/monocacyes/) 301-972-7990

A Look Ahead

*Below are important reminders to help you stay involved in your child’s success during the school year at Monocacy Elementary.*

Mon. 10/21 – Fall Book Fair

 10/25

Fri. 10/25 Trunk or Treat 7pm

Tues. 10/29 Community Coffee 9:15-10:00am

Thurs. 10/31 Halloween Parties 2:00 pm

Wed. 11/6 Math Information Night/PTA

 Meeting 7pm

**Thanks & Celebrations**

* Thank you to all of our bakers! We raised $805.00, up from last year, at the PTA bake sale!
* Mr. Ritter and the PTA for organizing a bonfire at Bretton Woods. It was so nice to eat a s’more and mingle on such a beautiful fall night. Hopefully we will have another in the spring.

**Information & Reminders**

* As we head into fall, the kids know Halloween can’t be far behind. The Halloween parade and class parties will be Monday, October 31st. The parade will begin at 2:00pm. **Students are to bring costumes in bags; they are NOT permitted to wear them to school.** Teachers will review in advance what types of costumes are acceptable and what items/costumes are not permitted at school. Parents who wish to attend should report directly to the bus circle area out front at 2:00. Parents are invited to join the class parties that immediately follow the parade.  **As a reminder, no homemade treats/snacks are permitted for health and safety reasons.**
* **Save the date: November 6th 7-8:30 pm**

Come learn more about the new math curriculum, Eureka Math! Staff members will present information and be available to answer questions. Childcare is provided. We hope to see you there!

**Principal Community Coffees**

This year I will be hosting monthly community coffees for anyone who would like to attend. The coffees are an informal opportunity to talk with me and any staff who can join us on a wide range of issues. Some months there may be a topic, others open for just conversation. The first coffee will be **Tuesday, October 29th** from **9:15-10:00** in room 102. Mrs. Romagnoli, the school counselor, Mrs. Kiernan our new reading specialist and Mrs. Hickey, our PTA President will also join me that morning. We appreciate your support and partnership as we work together to help your child have a successful year. I hope you can join us.

Next month’s date Tuesday, November 19th from 6-7:00 pm at Monocacy ES media center.

Dear Parents,

 *We’ve had a wonderful beginning to the school year! Things are definitely in “full swing” and the students have been doing an outstanding job focusing on their school work, working together and making new friends. We are almost through the first quarter of the school year. It is difficult to believe that school has already been in session for eight weeks. Soon we will be having parent teacher conferences. If you have not signed up for a conference or have forgotten when you scheduled a conference please reach out to your child’s teacher. Hope to see you soon at one of our many fall events.*

 *~* Ms. Alban

I can be reached at Kristin\_A\_Alban@mcpsmd.org

**News from Staff and Community**

**PTA Yankee Candle Fundraiser**

Dear MES Parents,

The MES PTA tries to limit fundraising activities, but the events and activities we sponsor require that, periodically, we do a fundraiser. This year, we are doing a Yankee Candle Fundraiser and the materials are attached. Why do we fund raise? Because the MES PTA sponsors many things that benefit the school and our students. For instance, the MES PTA offsets the cost of transportation for the 4th and 5th grade full day field trip to St. Mary’s that occurs every two year (THIS year!), we offset a large portion of the cost of the MyON reading system, and we sponsor Cultural Enrichment Programs that bring various performers, presentations and workshops to MES for the benefit of our students. Aside from these big ticket items, there are many smaller things that the MES PTA provides for from support for the Student Patrol picnic to helping maintain the school fish tank and a thousand things in between, such as Back to School Picnic, Donut Day, Campfire, Trunk or Treat, and Muffins in May, to name a few. The Yankee Candle Fundraiser is not intended to put pressure on families or students, but it is an opportunity for you, your family and friends to get a head start on your holiday shopping and help out the MES PTA while you are doing so. Happy shopping! Many thanks in advance, Anne Marie Hickey, MES PTA President. **The fundraiser will run from** **October 21, 2019 to November 1, 2019.** MonocacyelementaryPTA@gmail.com

**Upcoming Flu Clinics**

The Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services will conduct free injectable flu vaccine clinics on Tuesday, November 12, from 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. for children 18 and under at John F. Kennedy, Northwest, and Rockville high schools. These clinics will be open to any school-aged child. The clinics are free, but **registration is required due to limited vaccine supplies**. For more information, visit [apps.montgomerycountymd.gov/FluVaccine/](https://apps.montgomerycountymd.gov/FluVaccine/).

**QuickNotes**

Stay Informed with MCPS QuickNotes (English and Spanish) MCPS QuickNotes is a bimonthly newsletter that provides MCPS families with important news and information about MCPS programs and activities, plus emergency information. MCPS QuickNotes is offered in seven languages: English, Spanish, French, Korean, Chinese, Vietnamese, and Amharic. Visit news.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/

 to read the latest edition.

**Montgomery County Executive to Host Budget Forums**

Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich is holding several budget forums to seek input from residents about Fiscal Year 2021 (FY 21) Operating Budget priorities. The forums are scheduled for:

* **Monday, October 21– 7:00 p.m.**– Bethesda-Chevy Chase Regional Services Center, 4805 Edgemoor Lane, Bethesda, Maryland 20814
* **Wednesday, October 30 – 7:00 p.m.** – Silver Spring Civic Building, in the Buffalo Soldiers Great Hall, 1 Veterans Place, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910
* **Thursday, November 7 – 7:00 p.m.**– BlackRock Center for the Arts, 12901 Town Commons Drive, Germantown, Maryland 20874
* **Wednesday, November 13 – 7:00 p.m.**– Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center, 3300 Briggs Chaney Road, Silver Spring, Maryland 20904

The County Executive will announce his Recommended FY21 Operating Budget on Monday, March 16, 2020. The County Council approves the operating budget at the end of May.