

KNOLLS NEWS

Montgomery County
Public Schools 



FROM THE NEST

Dates to
Remember

October 12

No school for
students

October 24-28

Spirit Week

M~ Super hero

T~ Crazy hats

W~ Sports teams

Th~ Neon

F~ SK spirit

Fall is here, and it is certainly proving itself to be a “season of change”. In addition to our new teachers, we have 2 new paraeducator hires who are already wonderful assets to SK. I am also excited to announce the front ramp expansion project was just completed- adding over 10 feet of wheelchair accessibility! I am truly grateful to Peter Park and Laurie Lyons at the MCPS Safety Office for making this happen at no cost to us.

This month, in celebration of Hispanic Heritage month, we have really been reflecting on the diversity here at SK, among both staff and students. I was thrilled to have Jeffrey Mehr from the Equity Initiatives Unit come to lead 2 workshops on Equity and Diversity for our staff. I truly believe each person was able to walk away with something from these classes which will positively benefit the work done in classrooms as well.

Stay well,
Kim Redgrave

**STEPHEN KNOLLS CELEBRATES
HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH!**

National Hispanic Heritage Month is recognized from September 15- October 15. Stephen Knolls staff and students represent dozens of Hispanic countries throughout the world and this month, we have been taking extra time to celebrate the many different cultures and traditions that make our school so diverse. Read about just some of the many things we are doing to celebrate!



PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

Miss Bri's class celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month by exploring music and art from Hispanic countries! They made rain sticks, Piñatas, paper Mache masks, and rainbow twirlers all while listening to the music of each country. Miss Aleyda, the paraeducator in that class, taught them all about her native country of Honduras and even some of the beautiful dances!



In Mrs. Amelia's PEP-C classroom, our friends are so diverse and from all over the world. During Hispanic Heritage month (September 15-October 15) we recognize all the Latin American countries that are represented in B-6. We have friends from Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala. Staff members in B-6 also represent different Latin-American countries. Mrs. Amelia is from El Salvador and Ms. Yolanda is from the Dominican Republic. Friends in B-6 had a

chance to taste foods from different Latin American countries. We ate tamales, fried plantains, papaya, mango and pupusas! Our B-6 families also sent in pictures of different celebrations and customs to share with the class. Music is very important in Latin America and students had a chance to listen to merengue, bachata, salsa and cumbia. We had a great time celebrating Hispanic Heritage month in B-6!

CELEBRATE
Hispanic Heritage Month



SCHOOL AGE

Middle School students engaged in making popcorn for the first time this school year in their school's new kitchen. This is a Vocational Job that involves counting, adding, identifying their names, using voice output devices and using devices to turn on the popcorn machine. The beautiful cabinets held our supplies, the fresh new refrigerators held our butter supplies and the shiny new counter tops made it a delightful place to work.



In Ms. Samantha's secondary class, D-6, we are reading the book Holes. To go along with the story, students wrote letters to their families and are taking a community trip to the post office to mail them. We went over our addresses and parts of a letter and addressing a letter. We are also practicing using our vocabulary words, by digging holes in containers with a shovel, for instance.

SPECIALS

Throughout September in Mr. Brad's PE classes, the preschool students have been using their bodies to learn their position words (in, out, over, under, on, and off). These activities also help the students improve their ability to move through space safely. The elementary students are working on their independent movement and body postures. The secondary age students started the year off with Bocchia, a lifetime physical activity. The students had the opportunity to watch video clips of Paralympians playing the game in Rio. It has been a wonderful start to the school year!



Have You Provided?

Last week the bus drivers for Stephen Knolls came to Stephen Knolls for training. They do this twice a year. They are being trained in how to safely evacuate your child from the bus in the event of an emergency. Most of the bus drivers and attendants have worked at Stephen Knolls for several years and have participated in the training many times. Our school and our students are lucky to have their experience. It is very obvious at these trainings that they really care about your child, and they want to make sure they provide necessary care if an emergency occurs.



Typically, we think about a bus emergency as an event that happens to the bus and requires the bus driver and attendant to evacuate the students from the bus. However, there are also emergencies on the bus that happen to the individual student. An example of this is a child having a seizure. The individual student emergency is far more common than a bus mechanical emergency. While we train the bus drivers twice a year for the evacuation, we need to make sure that we prepare them for the medical emergency.

At the beginning of the school year the bus drivers send home a form to all parents requesting information about your child. This information is confidential, and requested only to assist the drivers and attendants in taking care of your child if an emergency arises. If you have not taken the time to fill out this card, PLEASE do. If you no longer have the form and need another one, please ask. If you have any questions, need any help filling out the card, knowing what information is important, please ask your classroom teacher, the school nurse or your therapist to help you.

Help the bus drivers and attendants to be prepared for all the emergencies that may occur when driving your child to school.

