



Falcon Newsletter

Phelps Luck Elementary (410) 313-6886

<http://ples.hcpss.org>

December 4, 2014

Important Dates

Friday, December 12

Tuesday, December 23

Wednesday, December 24

Monday, January 5

Interim Reports sent home

Spirit Day – Pajama Day!

Schools Closed – Winter Break Begins

Schools Reopens

From the Principal. . .

Dear Parents,

I hope your family enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday. It is always great to have an opportunity to relax and reconnect with friends and family members over great food, even better desserts, and football☺.

Please be aware that TeleHealth enrollment forms (Parental Consent Form and Medical/Family History Questionnaire) have been sent home in your child's Thursday Folder today. The enrollment forms are enclosed in white envelopes identified with the Howard County Health Department address on the top left corner. Inside the envelope, in addition to the enrollment forms, several pages of information that further describes, explains, and clarifies the TeleHealth service can be found.

As a reminder, the TeleHealth service is optional and dependent upon parental permission. However, if you are interested in enrolling, please complete the appropriate forms and return to the Phelps Luck front office or health suite. Once your enrollment information is received, it is collected, processed, and officially entered into the TeleHealth database by the Howard County Health Department.

Although not yet fully operational, the enrollment forms represents an important step in the process. We have been notified that we could expect to begin utilizing the components of TeleHealth by mid/late December.

In order to fully support the integration of TeleHealth into the health room support we provide to all students, the Health Department and HCPSS have partnered to provide a full time registered nurse at Phelps Luck, in addition to our full time health assistant. The ability to host a full time registered nurse at Phelps Luck will further enhance our abilities to provide care and guidance to students and parents alike.

Take care,

Sean Martin, Principal

School News

Turkey Trot

Our 19th Annual Turkey Trot was held, Friday, November 21st. Congratulations to all of our Phelps Luck trotters. Below are the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers from 3rd, 4th and 5th grades:

5th Grade:

1st – Asia Robison, Judson Lincoln

2nd – Nina Cooper, Tyler Mason Dubose

3rd – Jamya Hairston, Isaiah Williams and Azur Griffin

4th Grade:

1st – Grace Drasin, Mark Lumpkin

2nd – Ella Werdell, Michael Reid

3rd – Sarah Churchill, Victor Lundgren

3rd Grade:

1st – Airess Najib, Jameson Michel

2nd – Morgan Peluso, Rowan Nelson

3rd – Gerogia Day, Jordyn Eveler

New Visitor Sign In Procedures

The front office has a new procedure for visitors. We have a "Lobby Guard" which scans your driver's license and prints a visitor pass with your photograph. With the "Lobby Guard" system you MUST have your license with you every time you come to visit the school.

Spirit Day!

Wear your favorite school appropriate pajamas to celebrate the last day of school before Winter Break. No slippers please!

From the Health Room

The Health room is in desperate need of gently used clothing for students. Pants, shirts and underwear donations are greatly needed. Thank you.

Strengths Explorer Grades (4th and 5th Grade)

This year, we began implementing the new Elementary School Model (ESM) at Phelps Luck Elementary and at five other elementary schools throughout Howard County. As a part of the Strengths Development component of the model, all Grade 4 and 5 students will take the Strengths Explorer prior to winter break. The Strengths Explorer tool was developed by Gallup for use by Grade 4 – 6 students to identify natural talents. During the week of January 12, 2015, parents of Grade 4 and 5 students will receive a report on their child's strengths themes and a Strengths Explorer Parent Playbook that includes information and activities to share with children to encourage development of innate talents.

School staff will continue to work with students on maximizing their natural talents and strengths. School counselors will conduct lessons in all Grade 4 and 5 classrooms that support students in understanding the strengths themes and how they can be used. Grade 4 and 5 students will receive and use a Strengths Explorer Student Playbook.

Our school website will be updated in January to include more information on the Strengths Development component of the model. We look forward to sharing this new tool with the 4th and 5th graders. For additional information, please go to the <https://www.strengths-explorer.com>.

Young Authors Contest

It is time for the Young Authors Contest. It is open to 2nd through 5th grades. Students should write a short story or poem. Entries must be original work. Short story entries may range from a minimum of 300 words to 800 words. Poem entries will consist of a single poem, and should consist of a minimum of 25 words, but no more than 150 words. Entries may not have graphics. Entries must include a completed cover sheet signed by the student author and sponsoring teacher. Entries are due December 19th, 2014. For additional information check with your child's Language Arts teacher.

Spanish Department Information

We are excited to inform you that all students in grades Kindergarten through 5th now have access to our online Spanish materials! Students and their families will be able to view and utilize the online textbook, as well as videos and a workbook from the convenience of their home. Log in information was distributed the week of October 20th and will include your student's username, password, and the website information. The information will be printed on a label and placed in your student's agenda book (grades 3-5) or your student's white folder (K-2). If there are any questions, please contact the Spanish Department at 410-313-6886.

Emergency Procedure Cards

Parents, if you have not completed your Emergency Procedure Cards, either online or hard copy, please do so as soon as possible. Any questions may be directed to the front office. Students may not attend field trips, if the card is not completed.

From the PTA

Box Tops for Education

Send **Box Tops for Education** labels to school ANYTIME in a bag or envelope marked "Box Tops 4 Education" or by using submission forms sent home monthly in your Thursday folder (make sure to cut out the logo and expiration date). Box Tops earn CASH for our school!

Labels for Education

Send **Labels for Education** labels (make sure to cut out the logo and bar code) to school ANYTIME in a bag or envelope marked "Labels for Education". Points earned from the labels can be redeemed for FREE educational merchandise for our school!

Thanks for supporting PLES. Together, we can make a big difference!

From the Community

"Cub Scout Pack 678 at Phelps Luck Elementary School always welcomes new scouts! Cub Scouts is open to 1st through 5th grade boys. An ideal opportunity for parents and sons to interact with others in a family oriented environment. We offer fun activities with a purpose! If you're interested in learning more about us, e-mail us at scoutpack678@yahoo.com."



No Doubts... No Limits...

Sean Martin ~ Princiobal

Connie Fowlkes ~ Assistant Princiobal