



Falcon Newsletter

Phelps Luck Elementary (410) 313-6886

<http://ples.hcpss.org>

September 4, 2014

Important Dates

Friday, September 12

Tuesday, September 16

Wednesday, September 17

Thursday, September 18

Schools Closed for Students, Professional Learning Day

Back to School Night for 1st and 2nd Grade – 6-7:30 pm

Back to School Night for Kindergarten – 6-7:30 pm

Back to School Night for 3rd, 4th and 5th Grade – 6-7:30 pm

G/T Orientation 5:30-6:00 pm

Band Presentation 5:00 pm

Orchestra Presentation 5:30 pm

Spirit Days – wear school colors, red & black, or spirit wear

Friday, September 19 and 26

From the Principal. . .

Dear Parents,

It has been such a great experience welcoming back all of our new and returning families to Phelps Luck for what promises to be an exciting school year. It has been so motivating to interact with our students in the hallways, café, playground, or classrooms – there is such a positive feeling that continues to exist throughout the building. Throughout the first eight days of school, I have observed our students in grades 1-5 not only quickly becoming acclimated with classmates, but also enthusiastically embracing the new components of their school day, specifically Spanish instruction and navigating AM/PM classrooms associated with departmentalization. Essentially, your child attends two different classes throughout the day - one focusing on ELA/Social Studies and one focusing on Math/Science.

Daily Spanish instruction and departmentalization are two of the components associated with our Elementary School Model. Other components include full-day pre-K for eligible families, partnership with Gallup to promote Strengths Based awareness and instruction, and the adoption of the TeleHealth program.

I would like to take another opportunity at our Back to School Nights, during the Administrative Report (6:00-6:30), to review these components in detail and answer/clarify any questions you may have developed after your child started the school year.

Back to School Nights...

Grades 1 and 2 Tuesday, September 16 (6:00-7:30)

Kindergarten Wednesday, September 17 (6:00-7:30)

Grades 3, 4, and 5 Thursday, September 18, (6:00-7:30)

Take care,
Sean Martin, Principal

School News

From the Music Department

Attention, All Band and String Parents

Parents of Band and String Students can meet with Mrs. Wann at 5:00 (band) and 5:30 (Orchestra) on Thursday, September 18th at Back to School Night. You will be able to get information about the Instrumental Music program here at PLES, including, instrumental lesson schedule, instrument choices, instrumental rental programs and school instruments that are available. The weeks before Back to School Night, 3rd and 4th graders will have attended a recruitment program for instrumental music. Please feel free to attend the Back to School Night meeting to have your questions answered about the program and how your child can participate and be successful. Looking forward to meeting you. Mrs. Denise Perry Wann, Instrumental Music, PLES

From the Media Center

Welcome back to a happy new school year! The Media Center is looking for volunteers to assist with shelving books AND completing some long term projects. Even if it is just 30 minutes per week, flexibly scheduled, it will be greatly appreciated! If you are interested in helping, please contact Stephanie Greene at stephanie_greene@hcpss.org.

From the Physical Education Department

Did you know that September is Childhood Obesity Awareness Month and that the prevention of childhood obesity starts at home? In an effort to make families understand their risks, the American Heart Association's *EmpowerMEnt Challenge* was created.

Over four weeks, families across the country are encouraged to take control of their health by pursuing a different goal every week which include increasing their fruit and vegetable consumption, reducing sugar sweetened beverage consumption, reducing sodium intake and increasing their physical activity — together. Each goal is fun, simple, won't break the bank and can be done as a family. By the end of the month, families will be better equipped to live a heart-healthy life.

We encourage you to adopt this challenge during the month of September. Help your children becoming healthy living influencers, not only to their peers, but to their families as well. The AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION has created complimentary templates and activities that can be viewed by going to www.heart.org/healthierkids and clicking the *EmpowerMEnt Challenge* banner. If you'd like to take the challenge personally, you can also visit the *EmpowerMEnt Challenge* [Facebook Event Page](#).

From the PLES Reading Team

Sorting through your bookshelf? If you have books that you no longer use and would like to donate them to support a school initiative, you are in luck. At Phelps Luck we are gathering resources to help all students be successful with our Reading at Home Initiative. If you have books that you wish to donate to PLES for this purpose please bring them to the front office labeled to the attention of the PLES Reading Team. Thank you for helping to support our students as they soar to new heights.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

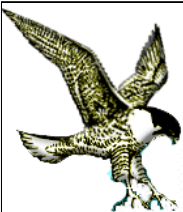
If you have moved or plan on moving, please notify the office of your new address. You will need to bring your new lease/deed and a current utility bill to the office in order for your child's record to be changed.

From the PTA

Box Tops for Education – Please continue to collect Box Tops over the Summer Break. Box Tops earn CASH for our school! Summer Collection sheets (collect 25 Box Tops per sheet) will be sent home in your Thursday folder. Turn in completed collection sheets by September 26, 2014 for a chance to be entered into a drawing for a \$25 gift card! Thanks for supporting PLES. Together, we can make a big difference!

From the Community

"Cub Scout Pack 678 meets at Phelps Luck Elementary! We are an active and family oriented pack that likes to have fun while learning about ourselves and the world we live in. Some of our activities include: camping, arts and crafts, games, the Pinewood Derby, archery, community service projects, Christmas caroling, and fundraising. Cub scouts is open to boys in the 1st through 5th grades. If you are interested in learning more about us, come talk to us at the Back to School Nights on Tuesday, September 16th; Wednesday, September 17th and Thursday, September 18; at the Cub Scout Popsicle Social on Friday, September 19; or e-mail us at scoutpack678@yahoo.com."



No Doubts... No Limits...

Sean Martin ~ Principal

Connie Fowlkes ~ Assistant Principal