



Falcon Newsletter

Phelps Luck Elementary (410) 313-6886

<http://ples.hcpss.org>

May 1, 2014

Important Dates

Friday, May 2

Monday, May 5

Tuesday, May 6

Wednesday, May 7

Friday, May 9

Thursday, May 15

Friday, May 16

1st Grade Field Trip to Washington, DC

2nd Grade Field Trip (Reimels, Bennett and Palumbo)

2nd Grade Field Trip (Barfield, Shucosky, Meiklejohn)

5th Grade Class Picture

Interim Progress Reports go home

Field Day (rain date 5/15)

Kindergarten Field Trip to Baltimore Zoo

Schools Closed for Students

From the Principal. . .

Happy Thursday! The weather extremes that our area has experienced this year certainly continued yesterday. Seven inches of rain reportedly fell yesterday alone in Laurel. I delayed dismissal yesterday by a couple of minutes to allow a strong rain shower to pass before asking students to venture out to their cars or busses. I also gathered all our student walkers in the media center and talked to them about the dangers of getting too close to rising streams along the pathways home. After our talk, I released our walkers a few minutes late as well. I was proud of the entire student body and staff members for their actions in ensuring a smooth and safe dismissal for all.

Recently, there have been increased incidences of students engaging in unsafe behaviors on the bus rides home from school. Some recent behaviors that have been observed or reported include students getting out of their seats, standing on their seat, and students turning around on their knees to interact with students seated behind them. As you can imagine, a bus driver's job is a demanding one – one that requires the driver to be responsible for the safety and well being of 30-50 children. When students engage in unsafe actions such as the ones described above, regardless of how innocent those actions may be, it makes the driver's job that much more challenging.

While I have ridden many busses home to reinforce my expectations and have engaged in productive conversations with specific students, and their families, about individualized issues, I want to take this opportunity to reach out to our community in hopes that it can inspire the same discussions at home. If your child rides a bus, please take a moment to outline your expectations about staying in their seats. In addition to the safety issue, I also explain to students that their actions on the bus help define our reputation as a school throughout the community. Thank you!

School News

Fabulous Falcons of the Week

Our Falcons for the week of April 28th are:

Kindergarten – Dayanira Lara-Martinez, Daniel Herr, Elmer Hernandez Lopez, Emonie Hazel, Emily Garrett,

1st Grade – Elijah Kiboino, Gensel Deras, Gabriel Davis, David Chachagua, Kaylee Washington, **2nd Grade** –

Faith Tabak, Morgan Peluso, Ronald McConnell, Thomas Bedwell, **3rd Grade** – Connor Duncan, Janaea

Nyorkor, Aliah Halsey, Franklin Cardoza, **4th Grade** – Judson Lincoln, Dedrick Eddington, Odalys Campos, Sam

Trevizo, **5th Grade** – Da'Miah Robertson, Melissa Osei-Tutu, Kellianne Rollins, Zecky Gluckman

From the Gym

Field Day is Friday May 9. A few notes to help make it successful:

- If you can help volunteer please send a form in to Mr. Deppen and Mr. Nunn. Check in will be in the front hallway on May 9.
- Please help your child(ren) be prepared with safe and comfortable athletic shoes and clothing.
- Each year we ask our grade levels to dress in a specific color t-shirt. This year class colors are:
- **5th – Class of 2014 shirts**
- **4th – Blue**
- **3rd – Yellow**
- **2nd – Green**
- **1st – White**
- **Kindergarten – Red**
- Please apply sunscreen at home.

- Lunch Choices if your child(ren) purchase lunch are Yogurt/Bagel/Fruit tray or Chicken Patty.

From the Band/Strings

Did you play a Band or Orchestra instrument when you were in school? Do you play a Band or Orchestra instrument now? Would you be willing to join our 5th graders performing one song in the spring concert?

Well, here's your opportunity! Parents, siblings, uncles, cousins... you get the picture☺ Dust off your instrument & come to 1 or 2 evening rehearsals and prepare to perform one song with our 5th graders in the spring concert on June 6th at Howard High School as a "Community Musician". The Band will be performing "Sousa Times Twosa" and the Orchestra will be performing "Brandenburg Concerto #3, first movement". PLES 5th graders will be performing these songs in the concert. Audio files for each of these songs can be found on the web. If you are interested in signing up, please contact Mrs. Wann at denise_wann@hcpss.org by May 9th.

Evening rehearsals will be held in the band room at PLES on Wednesday, May 14th and Thursday May 15th (Come to one or both) 7:00 pm-7:30 pm Orchestra rehearsal 7:45 pm-8:15 pm Band Rehearsal

Kindergarten and Pre-Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten, Pre-Kindergarten, and new student registration has begun. Come in between 9:30 am and 2:00 pm to register for the 2014 – 2015 school year. Kindergarten is mandatory in Maryland, and state law requires that children entering kindergarten in the fall of 2014 must be 5 years of age before September 1, 2014. Children entering Pre-Kindergarten in the fall of 2014 must be 4 years old on or before September 1, 2014. Children entering first grade in the fall of 2014 must be 6 years old before September 1, 2014. Parents or legal guardians are to register students at the school currently serving the address where the child's parent or guardian resides. The parent or guardian must present the following information at the time of registration:

- The child's birth certificate
- An authorized record of immunizations
- Proof of residency in the form of a lease, a deed, or house contract, and a utility bill
- Photo ID of the parent/guardian
- Proof of custody (if applicable)

Driver's licenses and voter registration cards will not be accepted as proof of residence. State law prohibits a child from attending school for even one day unless proof of immunization has been provided. Immunization and health forms are available at every school.

Students who are currently enrolled in any HCPSS pre-kindergarten program are not required to re-register for kindergarten.

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 4 Education

We earned \$1,483.30 for our school this year from Box Tops!!! Please help us continue earning **CASH** for our school. Submit Box Tops 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. Thank you for support PLES! Together we are making a big difference!"

From the Community

Our Shepherd Lutheran Church

Church Yard Sale! Our Shepherd Lutheran Church (a partner with PLES) would like to invite the PLES community to a church yard sale on Saturday, May 3rd, from 8:00 am to Noon, at 8940 Route 108 (look for the signs between the Red Branch Roads). Proceeds from the sale will support ongoing missions and ministries in Panama.

Cub Scouts

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.

Make-A-Wish Mid-Atlantic is gearing up for their 5th Annual Make-A-Wish Kids Triathlon - hosted at Padonia Park Club in Cockeysville May 18. The Kids Triathlon is for age 5-14. The event brings kids, families and the community together for a great day of fun, fellowship and athletic exercise (running, biking and swimming), but the greater purpose is to help our local Make-A-Wish children.

www.makeawishkidstrimd.org 410-453-9430

Kid Empowerment Smashing ANTs™ Plus Leadership

Register now for our Spring Session at www.smashingants.com - Classes beginning in April!

This fun and enlightening program helps children have the Kid Power to create their own success and confidence. The children learn how to recognize their **A**utomatic **N**egative **T**houghts (**ANTs**) along with the Empowerment Skills to smash them! With a toolkit of Personal and Group Leadership skills kids learn how to lead and inspire themselves and others. Through *experiential and enlightening, hands-on learning activities*, and cartoon animated lessons, we jumpstart your child on the path to success and happiness! Questions, call Michelle Schwelling at 410-292-2254.



No Doubts... No Limits... No Excuses

Sean Martin ~ Principal

Connie Fowlkes ~ Assistant Principal