

November 2009

Mount Airy
Middle School

Dear Mount Airy Middle Community,

The school year is off to a good start, in spite of the flu. Our children are coming to school on time and working well. Please continue to encourage them to do their best.

Our classroom temperatures fluctuate so, now that winter is approaching, have the children bring a sweater or sweatshirt to wear. This will ensure their comfort.

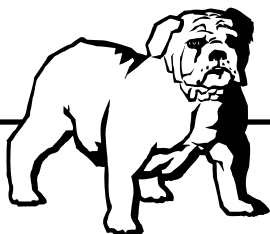
American Education Week is November 16 - 20. Join us and visit your child's classroom. Please see the schedule on page 3 of this newsletter. We look forward to seeing you.

Remember, we have another conference day November 11 and January 6. We will send a sign up sheet for January before the break.

We continue to thank you for your support. Please call us if there is anything we can do to help.

Sincerely,

Virginia G. Savell
Principal



102 Watersville Road, Mount Airy , Maryland, 21771
410-751-3554, 301-829-1314, 410-795-1756
Fax: 410-549-6475; Email: kreigen@k12.carr.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER

- 3 Picture Re-takes; 8:30 am
- 4 Multicultural Club Field Trip to New Windsor Brethren Center
- 5 Book Fair Family Night; 6 pm
- 5 Family Living Preview Night (more info to follow)
- 6 Report Card Distribution
- 6 PTSO Quarter Mania; 6 pm; Cafeteria
- 9 Two Hour and Forty-five Minute Early Dismissal; System Wide
- 11 Conference Night; 4 - 7:30 pm
- 13 School Play; "Romeo & Winifred"
- 16 - 20 American Education Week
- 18 Instrumental Music Concert; 7pm
- 23 Mr. vomLehn's Field Trip to Antietam/Sharpsburg
- 23 - 24 Schools Closed for Students and 10 Month Staff; Conferences Rescheduled
- 25 - 27 Schools/Offices Closed - Thanksgiving Holiday

DECEMBER

- 11 Grade 7 Field Trip to Medieval Times
- 14 Grade 8 Field Trip to The Lyric Opera House
- 23 Two Hour and Forty-five Minute Early dismissal; System Wide
- 24 - Jan 1 Schools/Offices Closed; Winter Holiday

JANUARY

- 4 Schools and Offices Reopen
- 6 Conference Night; 4 - 7:30 pm
- 18 Schools and Offices Closed; M.L. King, Jr. Day
- 22 Two Hour and Forty-five Minute Early Dismissal; System Wide
- 25 Schools Closed for Students; Professional Day

Grade 6 *2010 Outdoor School*

February 1 - 5
February 8 - 12
February 22 - 26

Groups have yet to be determined.



2010 MARYLAND STATE ASSESSMENTS

Monday, March 9 –Reading, Day 1
Tuesday, March 10 - Reading, Day 2
Monday, March 16 - Math, Day 1
Tuesday, March 17 - Math, Day 2

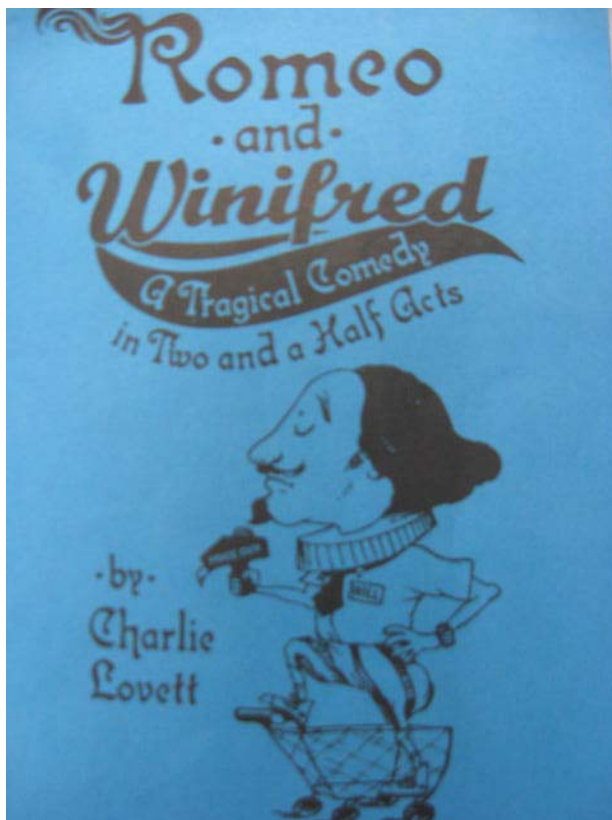
**Please try to schedule any appointments in
the afternoon on these days.**

The Science MSAs will be held between
April 21 ending May 11.

Please visit Mount Airy Middle during **American Education Week**, November 16-20. We ask that you adhere to this schedule, if possible, since we expect and welcome numerous visitors. The schedule is as follows:

	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
Monday, November 16			
Tuesday, November 17			Parents
Wednesday, November 18		Parents	
Thursday, November 19	Parents and Grandparents	Grandparents	Grandparents

There will be a Grandparents Reception at 8:25 am on Thursday in the cafeteria. Please let us know when you sign in, if you are staying for lunch so we can be prepared.



November 13, 2009
 7:00 pm performance
 Tickets: \$5.00
 Purchase during Lunch
 on the 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th

Art Welcomes Ms. Robertson!

Mrs. Malkin is pleased to have McDaniel College Art student Ms. Robertson here as she finishes her final weeks of student teaching. She will be teaching printing to 8th grade, creating clay mugs with "character" in 7th and papier mache' monsters in 6th grade.


Mount Airy Middle students display artwork at the Mount Airy Library!

Check out the large display of artwork created by our sixth and seventh graders on display at the library during November.

Project Linus:

Any donations of new **polar or micro-fleece** OR **fabric scissors** would be greatly appreciated. The fabric must be new and not washed. Blanket sizes are **1 yd or 1-1/2 yds.**

Lunch Menu - November 2009

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
2 Grilled Cheese Sandwich or Hot Dog on Roll Pizza Soup Hot Vegetable Applesauce Fruit Fluff	3 Popcorn Chicken w/Roll Hot Vegetable French Fries Fruit	4 Chicken Patty of Roll Or Hot Dog on Roll Potato Tots Fresh Veggies w/Dip Pears	5 Breadsticks w/Meat Sauce Tossed Salad Hot Vegetable Peaches Jello w/Fruit	6 Pizza or Ham & Cheese on Roll Green Beans Fruit Cookie
9 Cheesesticks Hot Vegetable Orange Juice Potato Rounds Fruit	10 Chicken Nuggets w/Choice Of Sauces and Roll Or Hot Dog French Fries Hot Vegetable Mixed Fruit	11 Pizzatas Hot Vegetable Fruit	12 Sliced Turkey & Dressing Mashed Potatos Green Beans or Sauerkraut Cranberry Sauce Roll Holiday Dessert	13 Pepperoni or Cheese Pizza or Chicken Salad Wrap Corn Applesauce Cookie
16 Cheesesticks w/Dipping Sauce or Chef's Salad with Roll Hot Vegetable Carrot & Celery w/Dip Peaches Fruit Juice Bar	17 Ranchero or Ham & Cheese on Roll Hot Vegetable Pears Cookie	18 Chicken Tenders & Roll Or Rib-B-Que on Roll Potato Rounds Green Beans Apples	19 Tacos w/ cheese or Hot Dog on Roll Shredded Lettuce Corn Applesauce Fruit Fluff	20 Pizza or Turkey Wrap Hot Vegetable Mixed Fruit Cookie
23	24	25	26	27
Schools Closed for Students - Thanksgiving Holiday				
30 Hamburger or Cheese- burger on Roll Soup Rice Casserole w/ Vegetables Applesauce Cookie				
1/2 pint of milk served with each menu			Choice of fruits and/or vegetable	

Don't forget Nov. 6th is Quarter Mania, to reserve you \$5.00 tickets call or e-mail Tamar at 301-829-3535/ tblburns@aol.com. or tickets can be purchased at the door for \$8.00, doors open at 6:00pm and game starts at 7:00pm in cafeteria. 70 prizes to be won, don't miss out on the fun, bring the kids and friends and help the school too!

REMINDERS...

If you move or change your work or home phone numbers, please send the changes, in writing, to the school office. In the event of a move, we will also require proof of residency in the form of a recent utility bill, pay statement or home purchase contract or lease.

In order to protect your child, no student will be released to anyone other than a parent, unless **written** authorization from the parent has been received at the school in advance. This can be done on a daily basis or for longer blocks of time. Please include the child's name and homeroom, parent's signature and the name and relationship of the person who is being authorized to transport your child.

Students are permitted to ride only their regularly assigned buses. Please do not send in a note to ask for your child to ride a friend's bus home.

If, for any reason, your child is going to miss school, please call the school the morning of the absence. Or, send an to MAMAttendance@k12.carr.org. (Please be aware that it is case sensitive and must be sent as shown.)

When reporting in this manner, please provide the following information:

Student's FULL Name, Grade, and Homeroom Teacher, Date(s) of Absence, Parent's Name and Phone where you may be reached, and the REASON for Absence

For any pre-planned absences, please send in a note ahead of time so that your child can pick up work to do while away. Doing so will prevent MAMS from calling to verify the absence.

Please make sure that your child's name is marked on ALL of their belongings. Our 'Lost & Found' is overflowing! There are many pencil cases, lunch boxes, eye glasses, instruments, gym suits, and articles of clothing in the cafeteria lost and found.



Book Fair News

Always a highlight of Fall, the Book Fair this year is scheduled to help you begin holiday shopping stress-free. A selection of great books guarantees your students a good read on that trip to Grandma's for Thanksgiving and favorite books for Christmas stockings and Chanukah treasure hunts. Our big KickOff is Book Fair Family Night! The Media Center is open from 5:30-8:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 5,

so that your students can share the excitement with you; add this to your calendar now! In addition, students are given an opportunity to browse on November 3, 4 and 5. Each RLA teacher will allow students time to shop as follows: Eighth graders will shop on Friday, November 6, sixth graders on Tuesday, November 10, and seventh graders on Wednesday, November 7th. Proceeds from the Book Fair have been used in the past to improve the equipment for

the Morning Show, to add much-loved booths and rockers to our décor, and to help reconfigure the Media Center into the effective space it is. This year, we'll use the funds to have favorite author Roland Smith visit MAMS in March to speak with all our students.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you can help on November 3, 4, 10 and/or 11, please let us know. You'll love the new calculator...it does all the work for you!

Roland Smith is the author of many books, including Cryptids Hunters and Tentacle, Peak, Zach's Lie and Jack's Run, and the I.Q. series. He has travelled extensively to research his books and shares his travels and work ethic with the students when he visits schools. Several of his books will be included in the Book Fair.



Dear Parents & Guardians,

I wanted to take the opportunity to say goodbye to many of you that I have had the pleasure of speaking to, meeting with, and/or knowing for the past several years. I have accepted a Pupil Personnel Worker position in Anne Arundel County Public Schools. I have been eager to find such a position and since they are few, I needed to take advantage of this promotion. Carroll County and Mount Airy Middle is a great place to be; your children will receive an outstanding education in a warm and caring environment. I wish you and your family well. Your student will soon meet Mr. Driscoll, the new counselor for the 6th grade as well as the 8th graders with last names ending with M-Z. He is a wonderful addition to MAM and he is looking forward to working with you and your children.

Have a wonderful rest of the school year!

Mrs. Christy Perdomo

Please Welcome...

Mr. Chris Driscoll, our new guidance counselor. Mr. Driscoll grew up in upstate New York and attended Herkimer County Community College and the University of Albany. He moved to Maryland in 2005 to attend McDaniel College and received his M. ED in Counselor Education in December 2008.

For the last four years he has been the Academic Advisor for student-athletes at UMBC.

Unfortunately, Mr. Driscoll is a Yankees fan. We will need to help him realign his loyalties.

And, **Mrs. Kim Hackett**, our new Data Clerk. She will be helping out in both the Main and Guidance offices.

Welcome to Mount Airy Middle!

What is H1N1 Flu?

- **H1N1 flu is a new influenza virus causing illness in people.** It has two genes from flu viruses that normally circulate in pigs in Europe and Asia, plus avian genes and human genes. Scientists call this a “quadruple reassortant” virus.
- **H1N1 flu is contagious.** This new virus was first detected in people in the United States in April 2009. The virus is spreading from person-to-person, in the same way that regular seasonal influenza viruses spread.
- **H1N1 flu is NOT caused by eating pork or pork products.** H1N1 flu is not a food-borne disease, it is a respiratory disease. The USDA continues to remind consumers that all meat and poultry products are safe to eat when properly prepared and cooked.
- **Illness with the new H1N1 flu virus has ranged from mild to severe.** While the vast majority of people who have contracted H1N1 flu have recovered without needing medical treatment, hospitalizations and deaths have occurred.
- **About 70 percent of people who have been hospitalized with H1N1 flu have had one or more medical conditions that placed them in the “high risk” category** for serious seasonal flu-related complications. These include pregnancy, diabetes, heart disease, asthma and kidney disease.
- **Unlike the seasonal flu virus, adults older than 64 do not yet appear to be at increased risk of H1N1 flu-related complications.** CDC laboratory studies have shown that about one-third of adults older than 60 may have antibodies against this virus. It is unknown how much protection may be afforded against H1N1 flu by an existing antibody.

For more information please visit, www.flu.gov.



Not My Child “Online Activities”

November 2009



Most children today have personal cell phones, and these devices are invaluable for allowing instant contact between parents and their children. However, these same cell phones are also being used to record all manner of videos. On sites like *YouTube* and *eBaum's World*, you will find videos of deadly car wrecks, dangerous stunts, embarrassing moments, and illegal activity. Underage drinking is also a popular theme for kids. “I’m going to chug a pint of Jack Daniels out of this here beer bong,” announces a boy who’s made a home video from his college dorm room.” Each day, 70,000 videos are being uploaded to *YouTube*, and kids are “pushing the envelope” trying to do more outrageous things so they can post a video that will draw a high number of viewing hits.

The vast majority of teens spend a significant amount of time online. According to a recent Harris Interactive Poll, 72% of teens have an online social-networking profile (*MySpace*, *Facebook*), 73% use cell phones, and 91% have an email address. But what information are they sharing? Consider these statistics:

- 59% believe posting personal information or photos on public blogs or social-networking sites is “somewhat unsafe” or “very unsafe.”
- 7% believe posting personal information is “very safe.”
- 34% believe posting personal information is “somewhat safe.”
- 62% post photos of themselves.
- 45% post the name of their school.
- 4% post their home address.
- 14% post their cell phone number.

It is important that parents stress to their children that anyone has access to view videos that have been uploaded to a public website, such as *YouTube*, including potential employers and college admissions staff. Because these videos are recorded “in private” and uploaded on a personal computer in the seclusion of a bedroom or home office, children tend to think their videos are private and anonymous. In reality, it’s easy for someone with sophisticated search tools to track down the person who uploaded a video. Explain the potential dangers of posting embarrassing videos online and make sure your kids understand that once they post information on the Internet, it can’t be taken back.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please contact:
Anna Bible, Coordinator of Safe and Drug-Free Schools
Carroll County Public Schools
410-751-3331
ambible@carrollk12.org



Great online resources for parents can be found at:

<http://www.onguardonline.gov/topics/safety-tips-tweens-teens.aspx>

<http://www.ikeepsafe.org/>

Excerpts taken from “Online Fools,” Wednesday, September 30, 2009, www.connectwithkids.com

