



Sandymount Elementary School
2222 Old Westminster Pike
Finksburg, MD 21048
410-751-3215/Fax 410-751-3925
Http://www.carr.org/ccps



CHIPMUNK CHATTER

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December 2011

Wendy K. Leishear,
Principal

Jane M. Kacmarski
Assistant Principal

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As 2011 comes to a close we would like to take this opportunity to say thank you and best wishes to Mrs. Kacmarski for her ten years as Assistant Principal at Sandymount Elementary as well as her 31 years of educational service. Mrs. Kacmarski will be retiring effective January 1, 2012. Although it is hard to say goodbye, we are looking forward to seeing her in the community and her visits to Sandymount.

We know that there are so many families who have been touched by Mrs. Kacmarski's kindness and caring in so many ways that we would like everyone to have the opportunity to visit her. The PTA is hosting a dessert open house on **Friday, December 9, 2011** from 3-4 pm for parents and students (past and present) to offer their well wishes to Mrs. Kacmarski. During the ten years at Sandymount we know that many of the students who worked with Mrs. Kacmarski are now in middle school, high school, and beyond, so please help us spread the word in the community that all are welcome if they would like to celebrate Mrs. Kacmarski's retirement.

We hope you and your families have a safe and happy end to 2011 and that you are looking forward to an exciting 2012.

Sincerely,

Wendy Leishear

Strategic Thinkers

Excited Learners

Successful Leaders

Attendance Notes

Attendance notes can now be emailed to the school at **sesattendance@carrollk12.org**. You may also email parent pickup notes to the same address. **Remember parent pick up notes must be received by 1:00 pm.**



News from the Art Palette

by Mrs. Moore

Kindergartners had their first painting experience of the year with a crayon resist pumpkin, then a scarecrow standing in the field – what wonderful results! They also learned about the art of mosaics as they created a pumpkin. The **First graders** created black cats with shining orange eyes and turkeys with very unique personalities. In **second grade** students used clay to sculpt pumpkins. During the harvest season **third graders** studied the art of Giuseppe Arcimboldo and his fruit faces to make their own fruit faces with colored pencils. **Fourth** and **fifth graders** worked in Guidance, Media, and Art to research and paint peace-maker posters. Look for them hanging in the main hallway in mid December and January. **All students** will be working with clay this month. Please send in bubble wrap and/or boxes (cereal boxes will work) to help their delicate clay creations make it home safely.

Mrs. Moore's website: <http://members.thinkport.org/jamoore> Here you will find online activities, exhibits, and more.

Ideas for the holidays:

How to draw books, books on artists, a trip to a museum, calligraphy pen or markers, drawing pencils, sketch book, oil based clay, box of watercolors, tempera (poster) paint, origami paper, charcoal sticks, markers, stencils, fancy scissors, construction paper, glitter glue, stitchery kits, stamps and stamp pad, pipe cleaners (stems), yarn, chalk, and art kits.

Donations: small plastic margarine containers with lids.



December Dates to Remember

December 1st-3rd—Mini Book Fair

December 2nd—Grade 5 Chorus to perform at Carroll Hospital Center

December 3rd—Holiday Breakfast and Shopping 8:00-11:00 AM; PTA Meeting 10:00 AM

December 7th—Grade 5 Chorus and Instrumental Music Winter Concert 2:00 PM & 7:00 PM

December 8th—GT Field Trip to National Cryptologic Museum

December 9th—1:00 Early Dismissal—Step Afrika Program; Dessert with Mrs. K 3:00-4:00PM

December 16th—PTA Tickled Pink Fundraiser (Glyndon)

December 21st—PTA Meeting 7:00 PM

December 23rd—1:00 Early Dismissal

December 26th-January 2nd—School Closed—Winter Break

January 3rd—School Reopens

Notes from the Nurse:

WEATHER: The temperature is dropping. Students are still going outside for recess. Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately and has a coat for recess.

CLOTHING FOR THE NURSE'S OFFICE: According to CCPS health policy, only new (unused) underwear may be given to students when needed. If a student requires a change of clothes, please feel free to keep the underwear, but wash and return to the health office any other clothes given to student to wear. We have a small supply of new underwear and clothes to change into, but it quickly dwindles as changes are needed. It is a great idea to send in a change of clothes to be kept in student's lockers or cubbies. Please make sure all clothing is labeled.

REMINDERS:

Fever policy: Any student who is sent home with fever of 100 degrees or more may not return until the student has been fever free for 24 hours WITHOUT MEDICATION.

Medications: Medications may not be transported to school by students. If there is a need for a student to carry a medication, i.e. inhalers, epi-pens, due a medical emergency necessity, there must be signed permission from the doctor and parent in order to do so. Please contact nurse for any questions concerning this policy.

Only the following items may come to school with your student: chapstick/lip balms, saline eye solution, hand lotion, sunscreen, waterless hand cleansers. Non-medicated cough drops are also permitted i.e. Halls, Luden's, Ricola. Medicated cough drops have a daily usage and a limit for 24 hour period and would require a physician order and be transported by an adult.

Health Concerns: If there has been any changes to your child's health status, please inform us of these changes. There are situations where a medical condition was listed in the past, but not listed on the current emergency card. We have no way of knowing if these medical issues have resolved. This updated information will help us in caring for your child. This includes medication changes, even if your child does not take any at school.

Thanks ahead of time for your continued cooperation in these matters. If there are questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the nurses at any time.

Parent Pick-Up Procedures

Parents picking up their children at dismissal time are asked to park on the side or lower lot and enter the building at the loading dock door. (This door will be locked **UNTIL 3:45** each day.) Parents are asked to proceed to the right and enter the gym. Immediately following afternoon announcements, parent pick-up students will be dismissed to the gym.

Parents must come inside to the parent pick-up area (Gym) and initial the sign out page before leaving with their child. Please do not be offended if the staff member on duty does not know you and asks for identification. Also, if someone other than a parent is to pick up your child, their name **MUST** be on the emergency card or your child will not be released to them.

If your child will be permanent pick up each day, you will **ONLY** need to send one note on the first day of school indicating this, and they will be added to the list daily. Also, send one note if your child will be picked up consistently each week on a certain day (i.e., every Monday, Tuesday, etc.). These students will also be added as per your instructions, and there will be no need to send additional notes unless there is a change. Students needing to be picked up "on occasion" will need to bring a note.

FOR SECURITY REASONS, YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO REQUEST THAT YOUR CHILD BE ADDED TO THE PARENT PICK UP LIST OVER THE PHONE. FAXED REQUESTS WILL BE ACCEPTED. THIS PROCEDURE MUST BE COMPLETED BY 1 PM.

In the event that you should need to pick up your child at the last minute and you have not had the opportunity to send or fax a note, it will be necessary for you to go to the office to sign them out before going to the gym.

When sending a note for parent pick up, please include the children's first and last name, teacher's name and parent's first and last name.

Your support of these procedures is appreciated, as we want to ensure each and every child arrives home safely.

Visitor's Badges

Please remember that **visitors** entering Sandymount Elementary School will be required to report to the office to sign in and get a badge. Upon leaving the building visitors are required to sign out and return the badge to the office. This is required even if you are just walking your child to his/her classroom. The only children going into the first grade door at parent drop-off in the morning will be those students entering the building without an adult. Staff members will be monitoring the hallways. Anyone without a badge will be asked to return to the school office and sign in and get a badge or leave the building. We appreciate your cooperation in helping us make Sandymount Elementary School a safe place for our students.

Parent Drop-Off Procedures

9:00 AM First Grade Door

1. Upon entering the Sandymount entrance, drive toward the back of the school (1st and 2nd grade side of the building), keep to the right of the yellow center line.
2. Once at the loop in the rear of the building (near dumpsters), go around the outside loop keeping to the right, and proceed down the side by the curb.
3. **DO NOT STOP** at back entrance (entrance for deliveries and daycare drop-off).
4. There are zebra lines **////** painted and signs indicating the student drop-off area.
5. Stop and let your child exit your vehicle. School personnel will be at the door. Remind children to be ready to exit your vehicle promptly, since at least six cars or vans can be unloading at the same time. Do not let your child exit your car until you see a staff member at the door and the bell rings.
6. At all times, private vehicles are to yield to school buses and pedestrians.

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Carroll County Public Schools (CCPS) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ancestry or national origin, religion, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. The CCPS provides nondiscriminatory access to school facilities in accordance with its policies and regulations regarding the community use of schools (including, but not limited to, the Boy Scouts). The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Gregory J. Bricca, Director of Research and Accountability, 125 North Court Street, Westminster, Maryland 21157, 410-751-3068.

Notice

The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (A.H.E.R.A) management plans for all buildings owned or leased by the Board of Education of Carroll County are available for review at the individual Carroll County school locations and at the Office of Plant Operations located at: 191 Schaeffer Avenue, Westminster, MD 21157. Management plans are required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and depict the location, amount, condition, and response action projected for any asbestos-containing materials, if any are located in the school building.

2 Hour 45 Minute Early Dismissal Days

Students will dismiss on the dates below at 1:00 p.m. Students may not ride a bus other than the one they have been assigned on these days or any other day. These afternoons are professional, teacher collaboration and planning days.

The dates for the 2011-2012 School Year are:

December 9	March 5
December 23	May 11
February 10	June 14

Notes from the Music Room

Thank you to all the parents who went to the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra and Ft. McHenry with our Fifth Graders. We were very proud of the excellent behavior our students showed!

Fifth grade chorus families- don't forget that we have THREE performances in December. The first is **December 2 at 6 PM** at the Carroll Hospital Center. Please meet in the main lobby by 5:45. This is an optional performance but we'd love to have a good turnout. The other big concert day is **Wednesday December 7 at 2 PM and 7 PM**. Families are welcome at either performance. (Please watch for a letter with final details on the concert.)

At this hectic time of year, take an evening or Saturday and attend a concert or movie with your family. It's a great way to celebrate the season and unwind a bit. Check at our local Arts Council <http://www.carrollcountypartscouncil.org> for fun and inexpensive activities.

Our music room website is <http://members.thinkport.org/JoannBenson> and Mrs. Benson's email is jlbenso@carrollk12.org.

Happy and Healthy Holidays to all!

Inclement Weather-Related Delayed Openings or Early Dismissals

Please review the Inclement Weather Policy in the Carroll County Public Schools' Informational Calendar (page 24) that was sent home with your youngest child early in the school year. The policy outlined pertains to extreme heat and humidity, as well as ice and snow.

Inclement Weather Procedures for Pre K

School **delayed opening** for 1 or 2 hours Sandymount Pre K program is cancelled; for school **dismissing early**—1 hour Sandymount Pre K will dismiss on its regular schedule; 2 hours early Sandymount Pre K will dismiss at 11:00 a.m.; 3 hours early Sandymount Pre K will dismiss at 10:00 am.

Procedures for Closing Schools for Late Openings on Two-hour and Forty-five Minute Early Dismissal Days

System-wide Two-hour and Forty-five Minute Early Dismissals

If weather or another condition warrants a late opening on a day when a system-wide early dismissal for students is scheduled, Mr. Guthrie will close schools rather than bring students in on a delayed schedule and send them home on an early dismissal.

Elementary Students Two-hour and Forty-five Minute Early Dismissals

If weather, or another condition, warrants a late opening on days when an early dismissal is scheduled for elementary students, Mr. Guthrie will close schools for **elementary students only** rather than bring students in on a delayed schedule and send them home on an early dismissal. **Middle and High Schools will be open and operate on the announced delayed opening schedule.**

**Carroll County Public
Schools Volunteer Program**
Making A Difference Together



Level II Volunteers (classroom helpers, tutors, chaperones, mentors, etc) are required to attend an annual training session at least seven (7) school days prior to volunteering. School Days are defined as days when schools are open for students. Volunteer training, obtained during the 2010-2011 school year is only valid through September 30, 2011.

Please Note:

The training session will begin promptly at the scheduled time, so allow adequate travel time in order to arrive before the presentation begins. Attendees must be present for the entire presentation because volunteer training is an annual compliance requirement. You will need to attend another presentation if the training session has begun when you arrive. The trainers appreciate your understanding and regret any inconvenience this situation may cause.

	SCHOOL + precedes a school event/activity * follows a school event/activity # part of a school event/activity	TIME	CONTACT Please call the number provided to confirm the scheduled training session.
December 2011			
5	William Winchester Elementary	9:30 am	410-751-3230
8	Robert Moton Elementary	6:30 pm	410-751-3610
January 2012			
9	Manchester Elementary	6:00 pm	410-751-3410
10	West Middle	6:30 pm	410-751-3661
11	+Cranberry Station Elementary	6:00 pm	410-386-4440
11	New Windsor Middle	6:30 pm	410-751-3355
12	+Friendship Valley Elementary	5:45 pm	410-751-3650
12	Oklahoma Road Middle	6:00 pm	410-751-3600
18	Manchester Valley High	3:00 pm	410-386-1673
18	+Sandymount Elementary	6:30 pm	410-751-3215
February 2012			
1	Winfield Elementary	6:30 pm	410-751-3242
6	William Winchester Elementary	9:30 am	410-751-3230
6	Manchester Elementary	6:00 pm	410-751-3410
8	+Piney Ridge Elementary	6:30 pm	410-751-3535
9	Mechanicsville Elementary	9:00 am	410-751-3510
9	Oklahoma Road Middle	9:00 am	410-751-3600
9	Carrolltowne Elementary	7:00 pm	410-751-3530

Library Media Center News

Photography Contest

It's time to start taking pictures! Our annual Sandymount Photography Contest will take place in March this year. Photographs are due to the media center by March 2, 2012.

We are once again partnering with Mechanicsville Elementary, Gerstell Academy, and the Finksburg Library, to host a Photography Exhibition. You will be able to visit the Finksburg Branch any time during April to see the wonderful photographs of fellow student photographers. For more information visit the Sandymount website: <http://www.carrollk12.org/ses/>

(Click on **Media** and **Photography Contest**)

Websites and Passwords

Destiny OPAC Home Access: <https://destiny.carrollk12.org>

(Sandymount's library catalog)

Database	Username	Password
CultureGrams Online http://online.culturegrams.com	sndymtelem	sndymtelem
SIRS Discoverer http://discoverer.sirs.com	ccpses	elem
World Book Encyclopedia Online http://online.k12.carr.org/worldbook/index.html	sesmedia	chipper
Tumble Books www.TumbleBookLibrary.com	sandymount	books

Donations

The media center could use new or gently used copies of the following series books: I Spy, Where's Waldo, Diary of a Wimpy Kid, Rainbow Fairies, Flower Fairy Friends, Pokémon, and Goosebumps.

Volunteers

We are always looking for parent volunteers to help in the media center. If you are interested, give me a call at 410-751-3215. I am also available through email at kaboggs@carrollk12.org. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

WMUNK News

Congratulations to our first **Play 60** news crew of the year. The WMUNK Crew did a terrific job filming and reporting the news around Sandymount. The students worked hard learning technical and on camera jobs, researching, and writing scripts. They worked well cooperatively while producing our live show.

Great job!

You can watch episodes of WMUNK News on CETV, Channel 21 or live streaming online. For the broadcast schedule or to watch online, visit the CETV 21 link from the CCPS homepage. (www.carrollk12.org)

Peace and Happy Reading Chipmunks!

2012 Carroll County Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Teacher Awards

DEADLINE: January 3 2012

Nominations received after 5:00 PM will not be accepted.

Nomination forms must be received in the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce office (*not just postmarked*).

Mail Nomination forms to:

Carroll County Chamber of Commerce

Attn. OTA

P.O. Box 871 ♦ Westminster, MD 21158

FAX: 410-876-1023

Online: www.carrollcountychamber.org Outstanding Teacher

REQUIRED QUESTIONS

On a separate piece of paper please respond to the following three questions.

1. **Give specific examples** of how this teacher inspires students to learn.
2. **Give specific examples** of how this teacher builds confidence and self esteem.
3. **Give specific examples** of the ways that this teacher helps students apply what they have learned to real world situations.

Please feel free to make additional comments.

Answer the questions fully but please limit your response to fit on one page. Your answers are used by the judges to determine the winners. Please print or type.

The Nomination Form is on the back of this page.

2012 Carroll County Chamber of Commerce



Outstanding Teacher Awards Nomination Form

Teacher Information *(Please print clearly) (* Required field: incomplete forms will not be accepted)*

*Teacher's Name: _____

First

MI

Last

*Nominee is a **FULL TIME TEACHER**: Elementary School Middle School High School

Career & Technology Special Education Counselor Media Specialist

*Teacher's School: _____

*School Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Nominator Information *(Please print clearly) (* Required field: incomplete forms will not be accepted)*

My name may be released to the teacher I've nominated if requested, otherwise nominations are confidential.

*Nominator Name: _____

First

MI

Last

*Nominator is: Parent of a student Student Teacher School Administrator

*Nominator's Mailing Address: _____

*City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

*Phone #: _____ Email: _____

****A RESPONSE TO THE THREE QUESTIONS ON THE PREVIOUS PAGE IS REQUIRED.***

AND USED BY THE JUDGES TO DETERMINE THE AWARD WINNERS

Submit nominations online Nov 1—Jan 3

Visit the Chamber website at www.carrollcountychamber.org **Nominate early!**

Heavy use of the online site may interfere with your nomination being received.

Nominations close on Jan. 3, 2012 at 5:00 PM

Mail to: Carroll Co. Chamber of Commerce 9 E. Main Street, Westminster, MD 21157