



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



CHIPMUNK CHATTER

CHIPMUNK CHATTER

February 2012

Wendy K. Leishear,
Principal

Mary Gouker
Assistant Principal

Strategic Thinkers

Excited Learners

Successful Leaders

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Today you are receiving your child's report card for the first semester of the 2011-2012 school year. It is hard to believe that we are half way through the school year. We want to make sure each and every student makes as much progress as possible for the remainder of the school year. One way to do this is to schedule a conference with your child's teacher at our next parent conference evening on Thursday, February 9, 2012. Please call the main office as soon as possible to schedule your conference. Special education faculty as well as special area teachers will also be available so you may schedule individual conferences or a team conference as needed.

We would like to welcome our McDaniel Interns who will be with us until May 11th. Ms. Borchers is working with Mrs. Siwinski, Ms. Boteler is working with Mrs. McLeod, and Ms. Maisel is working with Mrs. Clark. They are also planning a wonderful reading and writing night on February 23rd. We hope you "Leap Into Literature" with us. Details for the event will come home soon.

As you are scheduling upcoming appointments, please remember that MSA's will be given to students in grades 3-5 on March 14, 15, 20, and 21st and schedule accordingly.

Sincerely,

Wendy Leishear & Mary Gouker

NEW SCHOOL TIME FOR THE 2012-2013 SCHOOL YEAR

Instruction begins at 9:30 am

Doors will open at 9:15 am

Dismissal will begin at 4:00 pm



Please remember to pack napkins, spoons, and forks in your child's lunch when needed. We are currently purchasing over 600 spoons per month for students.

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.**

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.

February Dates to Remember

- February 1st—Report Cards Go Home
- February 7th— Pizza Night Grade 4—J&P Pizza 4:00—8:00 pm
- February 8th—Instrumental Music Concert 7:00 pm
- February 9th—Parent/Teacher Conference Night
- February 10th—1:00 Early Dismissal Day—Cultural Program—Children’s Author Melinda Long
PTA Bingo Night 6:00 pm
- February 15th—PTA Meeting 7:00 pm; Grade 5 Band Field Trip to Westminster High School 8:40 am;
Grade 5 Band Concert at Westminster High School 7:15 pm
- February 17th—PTA Art to Remember Information Going Home
- February 20th—School Closed—Presidents Day
- February 21st—School Closed for Students
- February 23rd—Reading/Writing Night “Leap into Literature” - 6:00-7:30 pm

Notes from the Music Room

We would like to congratulate our 2012 Eisteddfod Representatives:

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Genna Thacker | Julia Wawrzynski |
| Shelby Cheuvront | Jakob Zielinski |
| Gabby Manning | Alexa Hayman |
| Ansley Green | Michael Parinello |
| Jessica Bush | |

We know they'll work hard and do a great job representing Sandymount at the 84th annual Eisteddfod concert March 30th. Rehearsals begin Thursday, January 26th from 3:40 till 4:30.

Fourth graders will begin Chorus on Thursday February 2nd. We're looking forward to a great Spring concert season. Their spring concert will be May 10th at 7 PM.

Third graders have been working very hard on playing dulcimers, singing in harmony, and playing their dulcimers in harmony. Be sure to ask your child about it!

Second graders have been studying the work "The Four Seasons" by Antonio Vivaldi to connect with the second grade weather unit. We have become experts at visualizing what a composer wanted us to see.

First graders are learning about quarter and eighth notes, and will be writing and reading pitches on the music staff soon.

Kindergartners are finding their singing voice by participating in a lot of game songs.

Remember our music room website is <http://members.thinkport.org/JoannBenson>

Check back often for new information and fun sites to visit.

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:

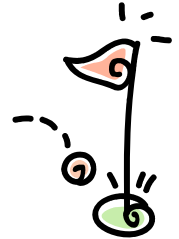
February 10

March 5

May 11

June 14

As you enjoy the cold weather you can look forward to...

Sandymount's Annual Golf Tournament**Saturday, June 2, 2012****Oakmont Green Golf Club**

We are so excited to put more technology in the hands of the students by raising thousands of dollars WHILE having a great time!! All proceeds will go directly to our technology fund.

Forms for the 2nd Annual Sandymount Golf Tournament went home last month. If you need a sponsor form or player sign-up form let us know!!

If you are not a golfer we would love to have you participate in this event by:

- searching out sponsors, or sponsoring the golf tournament
- using your connections in the community to get items for the raffles and silent auction
- coming to the tournament to check out the items in the silent auction and eat a steak dinner with everyone! Details for the steak dinner will be coming soon!

For more information, please contact Mr. Laughlin (wjlaugh@carrollk12.org) or Mrs. Anglemyer (reangle@carrollk12.org).

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION WEEK**March 26-30, 2012**

Registration for kindergarten for the 2012 - 2013 school year will be held the week of March 26-30, 2012 at the elementary school in your attendance area. Enrollment in kindergarten is mandatory for children who will be five years of age **on or before September 1, 2012**.

Parents will need to present the following at the time of registration:

1. their child's birth certificate or other legal document to verify their child's legal name and birth date
2. verification of residence such as a public utility bill or a lease agreement
3. specific address from which the child will be transported to school and the specific address to which the child will be transported after school.

If you have questions about kindergarten, kindergarten orientation, or alternatives to kindergarten, please contact Mrs. Leishear at school.

**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.
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

March 1	Winfield Elementary	6:30 PM	410-751-3242
1	Elmer Wolfe Elementary	7:00 PM	410-751-3307
6	Eldersburg Elementary	9:30 AM	410-751-3520
6	+ Cranberry Station Elem.	6:00 PM	410-386-4440
6	Eldersburg Elementary	7:00 PM	410-751-3520
8	Manchester Valley High	6:00 PM	410-386-1673
12	Carrolltowne Elementary	7:00 PM	410-751-3530
14	+ Piney Ridge Elementary	6:30 PM	410-751-3535
14	West Middle	6:30 PM	410-751-3661
15	+ Friendship Valley Elem.	5:45 PM	410-751-3650
19	+ Manchester Elementary	6:00 PM	410-751-3410
20	+ Century High	6:30 PM	410-386-4400
21	+ Mechanicsville Elementary	6:30 PM	410-751-3510
21	+ Mt. Airy Elementary	6:30 PM	410-751-3540
21	+ Sandymount Elementary	6:30 PM	410-751-3215
22	Northwest Middle	8:00 PM	410-751-3270
26	Robert Moton Elementary	5:30 PM	410-751-3610
29	Manchester Elementary	6:00 PM	410-751-3410

Library Media Center News

Author: Melinda Long

Students in grades K-5 have been preparing for a special visit by author, Melinda Long. Melinda Long will be visiting Sandymount on February 10th thanks to our wonderful PTA. To get ready for the visit students have visited Tumblebooks to read and listen to *How I Became a Pirate* and *Pirates Don't Change Diapers*. Students made a lot of funny noises while helping to tell the story *When Papa Snores* and shared their advice and family secrets for getting rid of hiccups while hearing the story *Hiccup Snickup*. To learn more about Melinda Long visit her website at www.melindalong.com To view her books on Tumblebooks, visit www.TumbleBookLibrary.com

(Username: sandymount, password: books)

CETV-Channel 21 Film Festival

CETV-Channel 21 is sponsoring a new event, the **CETV-Channel 21 Film Festival**. Students in grades K-12 may enter a student created film or video of 5 minutes or less. Films will be judged for creativity, technical composition, and overall production value. There will be three categories for judging: elementary, middle, and high. Monetary prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. For entry criteria and official entry forms, please visit

<http://www.carrollk12.org/admin/commedia/cetv/>

or click on the CETV link on the CCPS home page www.carrollk12.org

Videos and entry forms are due to CETV by March 30, 2012.

Good Luck!

Photography Contest and Exhibition

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, Geronimo Stilton, Goosebumps, Star Wars, 39 Clues, and Weird School.

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.

Peace and Happy Reading Chipmunks!

Ms. Boggs, Media Specialist
Mrs. Stitely, Media Clerk

Summer Kids@Carroll and NEW! Teen College

Exciting enrichment summer programs at Carroll Community College capture children's attention and engage teens with a camp-like environment. Half-day programs are for ages 3 – 15 will be held June 25 thru August 10. Registrations are being taken now!

For course details go to www.carrollcc.edu/summerkids or call Continuing Education & Training at 410 386-8100.

Sneak a Peek at Summer 2012!

February 25 – 9:30 am – 12 Noon—Great Hall at Carroll Community College

Learn about the NEW! Summer Teen College
Meet and talk with camp instructors and learn about specific camps
See demonstrations and exhibits for selected upcoming programs
Meet college staff
Register early for popular camps

Hot program areas include:

Preschool Curiosity Shop	Fitness
Careers	Performance
Cooking	Reading, Writing & History
Creativity	Science & Technology
Digital Design & Video Games	Woodworking

For course details go to www.carrollcc.edu/summerkids or call Continuing Education & Training at 410-386-8100.



March is Youth Art Month. The exhibit starts February 23. YAM will be celebrated countywide with an exhibit at the Carroll Arts Center in Westminster from **February 23 through March 14, 2012**. The exhibit will highlight elementary and middle school students' artwork. Look for the names of the Sandymount students in March's newsletter.

**Youth Art Month
Carroll Arts Center
91 West Main Street
Westminster, MD 21157
410-848-7272**

Thursday, February 23 to Wednesday, March 14, 2012

Hours - Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri, Sat- 10:00am-4:00pm

Thursday - 10:00am -3:00pm

<http://carrollcountyartscouncil.org/>

The High School YAM Exhibit will be held March 1 to March 27, 2012 at Carroll Community College, located at 1601 Washington Road in Westminster. Mrs. Moore's website <http://members.thinkport.org/jamoore> Information and online activities. Enjoy!

In the Art Room ... All students have been busy creating art for our PTA fundraiser "Art to Remember". A packet will be sent home soon giving you an opportunity to purchase your child's artwork on items such as magnets, mugs, water bottles, night lights, clocks, and more. If you have questions please contact Mrs. Hudgens, Mrs. Moore, or go to the website <http://www.arttoremember.com>.

Kindergarten students used sponges and fingers to create a water lilies painting in the style of Claude Monet. **First graders** reviewed shapes and lines to create a primary and secondary color painting. In **second grade** students created a self portrait. **Third graders** used warm and cool colors to create a watercolor painting of their hand. **Fourth graders** drew and painted colorful hot air balloons. **Fifth grade** classes created a complicated Op Art design using lines and shapes. Many students will participate in the annual Doodle for Google contest which runs January 18—March 23, 2012. For more information visit <http://www.google.com/doodle4google/>

Donations: small butter containers with lids

Art Class: Summer Enrichment Program: Advanced Topics in Art – Grade 3, 4, & 5 (for students who have completed those grades). Linton Springs Elementary, July 10-20, 2012, See Mrs. Moore if interested.

Contest: 2013 Poster Contest Sponsored by: The Maryland Association of REALTORS® (MAR) ; Equal Opportunity/Cultural Diversity Committee. THEME: Fair Housing Lives in Maryland. Deadline for entries to the local board is Friday, February 17, 2012.

<http://carrollcountyrealtors.net/public/index.html>

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.**

Notes from the School Nurses

February has been proclaimed as National Heart Month. In keeping with this theme, it is important to know your numbers. By numbers, we mean your BLOOD PRESSURE, TOTAL CHOLESTEROL, LDL(bad) CHOLESTEROL & HDL (good) CHOLESTEROL. Knowing these numbers can indicate if you are at risk for heart disease.

Some facts to know about high blood pressure and heart disease:

About 72 million Americans and 1 in 3 adults have high blood pressure and many don't even know it.

High blood pressure usually has no symptoms, which is why it is called a "Silent Killer".

Untreated high blood pressure can lead to stroke, heart attack, angina or both, heart failure, kidney failure, peripheral arterial disease (PAD)

Heart disease is the #1 killer of women in the USA. Some factors that contribute to heart disease are high blood pressure, an unhealthy diet, lack of exercise, being overweight and smoking.

Now for the good news:

Some ways to combat the possibility of having high blood pressure and heart disease:

Eat a HEART SMART diet that is well-balanced and low in sodium, saturated fats, trans fats and cholesterol that includes lots of fruits, vegetables and fat-free dairy products. Lose weight if you're overweight. Limit alcohol to no more than one drink per day for women or two drinks a day for men. Be more physically active. Exercise at least 30 minutes on most or all days of the week. Take any medications as prescribed by your doctor.

Although many of you have heard these things before, it cannot be stressed enough that high blood pressure and heart disease is not to be ignored. Both can progress without a lot of symptoms and can be debilitating or deadly if left untreated.

On a lighter note: Thanks to all the parents who have been so patient and persistent as we have battled the dreaded HEAD LICE at Sandymount. Things have improved tremendously and it can only be attributed to all the people involved who have worked so hard to make it better.

A final note:

Cold and flu season is upon us. Here are some important tips to remember:

1. Kids can catch 3 to 12 colds a year. Colds are caused by viruses and they go away on their own. The only way to treat a cold is to treat the symptoms, usually with over-the-counter medications to relieve symptoms. Encourage rest and fluids.
2. Signs of the COMMON COLD can be : stuffy, runny nose(the mucous may be clear or colored depending on the stage of the cold), sore throat, fever, cough, watery eyes and feeling tired. It takes a week or more to completely get over a cold. Antibiotics do not work for the common cold as antibiotics treat bacterial infections.
3. Signs of the FLU can be :fever, headache, fatigue, weakness, chest discomfort, cough, general aches and pain. It can take several days to several weeks to get over the symptoms of the flu. Again, the flu is caused by a virus. Therefore, antibiotics do not treat the flu. True influenza does not involve gastrointestinal distress.
4. Cold viruses can spread from hard surfaces as well as direct contact with a sick person. Touching a doorknob or telephone, for example, and then touching your nose or eyes can transmit the virus. The flu is spread rapidly by coughs and sneezes. So good hygiene is key to prevention. Handwashing and covering nose and mouth when coughing and sneezing as well as cleaning hard surfaces frequently are all part of controlling these pesky viruses.

Any questions or concerns, feel free to contact the nurses at anytime.

Lisa A. Johnson, RN