



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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November 2011

Wendy K. Leishear,
Principal

Jane M. Kacmarski
Assistant Principal

Dear Parents and Guardians,

American Education Week is November 14th-18th. Below is a schedule of parent visitation days for American Education Week. If you are unable to visit on the scheduled day for your child's grade, you are welcome to come another day that week. This year Sandymount Elementary is offering a math and reading seminar for families during American Education Week. We encourage you to attend the math and reading seminar to gain a better understanding of how we can work together to ensure that your child or children receive the best possible education. It is proven that when schools and families work together they produce a positive educational experience and maximum student achievement. We are looking forward to your participation in American Education Week. When you come to visit please sign in as you enter the building and put a visitor sticker on before proceeding into the school. While visiting your child's classroom, please remember to turn off your cell phone when you enter the school.

Conference days are November 3rd and November 14th. You may call the school office to schedule a conference with your child's teacher. We hope to see everyone for conferences!

Sincerely,

Wendy Leishear & Jane Kacmarski

Strategic Thinkers

Excited Learners

Successful Leaders

American Education Week Schedule of Events

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.**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
American Education Week Kick Off Day		Education Support Professionals Day Math and Reading Seminars for parents 6 – 7 pm PTA meeting 7:00 pm		Substitute Educators Day
	Pre – School Parent Visitation Day Fourth Grade Parent Visitation Day	Kindergarten Parent Visitation Day Second Grade Parent Visitation Day Fifth Grade Parent Visitation Day	First Grade Parent Visitation Day Third Grade Parent Visitation Day	

November Dates to Remember

November 1st—Picture Retakes

November 3rd—1:00 Early Dismissal (No Pre-K); Cultural Arts Program Mutts Gone Nuts; Conference Night

November 4th—Fun Run Outdoor Classroom Fundraiser

November 9th—Report Cards Go Home

November 10th—Grade 5 Field Trip to Baltimore Symphony Orchestra and Fort McHenry

November 14th—1:00 Early Dismissal (No Pre-K); Cultural Arts Program Native Pride Dancers

November 14th—18th—American Education Week

November 15th—Pre-K and Fourth Grade Visitation Day

November 16th—Kindergarten, Second Grade, and Fifth Grade Visitation Day; Math & Reading Seminars for parents 6:00—7:00 pm; PTA Meeting 7:00 pm

November 17th—First Grade and Third Grade Visitation Day; J & P Pizza Night Grade 3

November 18th—Grade 1 Grandparents Day; PB&J Club 6:00—8:00 pm

November 22nd—Grade 3 Field Trip to Baltimore Aquarium

November 23rd—November 25th—School Closed—Thanksgiving Break

Notes from the Nurse:

It's that time again! Cold and flu season are upon us. Just a reminder that one of the best ways to prevent the spread of germs is with good hand washing. A good way to get children to wash their hands so that it is effective is to have them say the alphabet 2 times while washing their hands. If the little ones do not know their alphabet quite yet, singing "Happy Birthday" 2 times will do. Also, as silly as it sounds, remind them to use soap when washing their hands! To help prevent the spread of germs teach your children if a tissue is not available to sneeze into their arm. Many of us were taught to cover our noses and mouths with our hands when sneezing. Unfortunately, this too is a great way to spread germs. When children sneeze into their hands, then touch other people the germs have been spread! So let's get a head start on preventing illness by being diligent with our hand washing routine!

A word about medications - According to Carroll County School Policy, ibuprofen and Tylenol (acetaminophen) may be administered to children within the school system with a parent/guardian's signature on a medication form supplied by the school. The parent/guardian must supply these medications. These medications will be administered according to the directions on the package for the children's age/weight. All other medications, even if over the counter, require a doctor's signature to be able to administer them to students. This does not apply to non-medicated cough drops. Another reminder - **students may not transport any medications to school.** This needs to be done by parent/guardian, or a responsible adult. All medications need to be in the original container for that medication. Prescription medications should have a pharmacy label with the student's name, correct medication, strength and dosage.

One more thing - there has been a change in the CCPS policy concerning head lice. When students are discovered to have head lice, they must be treated. After they are treated, the empty package of the pediculocide the student was treated with needs to be brought to the nurse. The student does not need to be nit free in order to return to school. With that being said, when students receive the initial treatment of pediculocide, this does not necessarily kill all the nits. So it is advisable to remove as many nits as possible and to retreat the student according to the package directions. Treating of the environment is also very important as head lice can remain in bedding, clothing, brushes, etc. The nurse will also check students who have had head lice in 10-14 days after treatment for any signs of reinfestation.

If there are any questions concerning any of these policies or procedures, 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:

November 3	December 9	March 5
November 14	December 23	May 11
	February 10	June 14

Notes from the Music Room

November 10th our fifth graders will be visiting the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra to observe a rehearsal! This is a privilege usually reserved for middle and high school students, but our students have shown such great respectful behaviors that we have been invited back. We will also be visiting Fort McHenry that day- watch for more details to come home soon.

The BSO's website is <http://www.bsomusic.org/>

Attention all parents of fifth grade chorus members:

Don't forget that December brings our trip to Carroll Hospital Center on Friday, December 2 at 6 PM and our Winter Concert on Wednesday, December 7 at 2 PM and 7 PM. More information will be coming home in November about both concerts.

Check out our music room website at <http://members.thinkport.org/JoannBenson> for up to the minute information about everything coming up in the music room, as well as great activities and games for the kids to enjoy.

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.

November	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.
2	Spring Garden Elementary	7:00 PM	410-751-3433
8	Spring Garden Elementary	7:30 AM	410-751-3433
8	Oklahoma Road Middle	6:00 PM	410-751-3600
9	# Runnymede Elementary	6:30 PM	410-751-3203
10	+ Cranberry Station Elem.	6:00 PM	410-386-4440
10	West Middle	6:30 PM	410-751-3661
15	Mt. Airy Middle	6:00 PM	410-751-3554
15	# Runnymede Elementary	6:30 PM	410-751-3203
16	Eldersburg Elementary	9:30 AM	410-751-3520
16	+ Mechanicsville Elementary	6:30 PM	410-751-3510
16	+ Mt. Airy Elementary	6:30 PM	410-751-3540
21	# Runnymede Elementary	6:30 PM	410-751-3203
21	Northwest Middle	7:00 PM	410-751-3270
22	Elmer Wolfe Elementary	7:00 PM	410-751-3307

Library Media Center News

Destiny Home Access is Here!

Students may now search for books in the media center from home. Using our catalog, called *Destiny*, students can use *Library Search* or *Destiny Quest* to look for media materials, *Web-Path Express* to search for websites, or the Chipper Destiny page to access a large selection of online resources.

Destiny OPAC Home Access:

(Sandymount's library catalog)

<https://destiny.carrollk12.org>

Databases:

When it comes to searching online for information, it is sometimes hard to know where to begin. The following are some fee-based databases that students have access to from both school and home. These databases are great places to begin research because the reading level is more appropriate for elementary age students and the information included is reliable.

In order to use these sites, you need to enter the usernames and passwords listed below. All of the databases below are accessible via the Destiny OPAC Home Access Page.

Home Access Passwords for Online Databases

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

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@k12.carr.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

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.



HAPPY
Thanksgiving

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