

# ELKRIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Debra Anoff, Principal

Katherine Carter & Anthony Esposito, Assistant Principal

**Elkridge...Always providing Elkcellence!**



## The Elkster Examiner

**7075 Montgomery Road  
Elkridge, MD 21075  
410-313-5006**

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**Health Room 410-313-8506**

**Front Office 410-313-5006**

**[ees.hcpss.org](http://ees.hcpss.org)**

### FROM THE DESK OF THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

Thank you to parents that joined us this past Tuesday for Coffee & Conversation with Administration. We enjoyed our time together. Our next Coffee & Conversation is scheduled for Wednesday, January 14, 2015.

Thank you PTA for all you do to support our school. If you haven't joined PTA please consider joining today! If you haven't joined yet, you can do so by filling out a membership registration form. Please make checks payable to EES PTA.

The Fall administration of the MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) testing is complete. Thank you for getting your students to school on time and ready! Our students here at Elkridge Elementary did a fabulous job taking this online assessment and we are very proud of each and every one of them. ☺ We anticipate that the MAP parent report will be ready to be sent home with first quarter report cards in early November. We will have an EES MAP Information Night on Tuesday, October 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 PM.

Just a quick reminder of some dates coming up that the students are not in school due to two Professional work days and Election day! Friday, October 17, 2014, Monday, November 3, 2014, Tuesday, November 4, 2014 Have a wonderful weekend!

Mrs. Carter & Mr. Esposito, Assistant Principals

### PICK-A-TIME

Look for directions coming home in your child's October 24<sup>th</sup> Friday folder to sign on to Pick-A-Time; to register for upcoming Parent/Teacher conferences for the end of November.

### OCTOBER COUNSELOR CORNER

October is National Bullying Prevention Month. Mrs. Tacka and Miss Cooley discuss bullying vs. conflict, empowering the bystander and conflict resolution skills throughout the school year to teach students the definitions and skills needed to manage bullying and conflict situations. Here are some helpful websites if you are interested in any additional information...

[www.stopbullying.gov](http://www.stopbullying.gov)

[www.netismartz.org](http://www.netismartz.org)

[www.cyberbullying.us](http://www.cyberbullying.us)

Our monthly school character trait is **Responsibility**, one of our 3 school rules. This is a great skill to teach at home. Here are some ideas to help encourage your child to gain this important character trait...

- Assign an age appropriate chore to each individual in the house (create a fun chore wheel or chart to keep track of your progress)
- Ask your child to empty their own backpack and show you their take home folder/agenda (students in grades 3-5, check to make sure they have filled in their agenda book)
- Model responsible tasks such as making a grocery list/budget with your child, placing work/school items in a designated spot so they do not get misplaced, and/or pack your lunches together!

### COFFEE AND CONVERSATION with HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION



The Board of Education of Howard County regularly holds *Coffee & Conversation* sessions at schools throughout the county. These meetings provide citizens with an opportunity to share a cup of coffee and chat informally with Board members. The meetings are held in various regions of the county, but interested persons from throughout the county are invited to attend any or all of the meetings. The next *Coffee & Conversation* will be held Saturday, November 15th, 9:30-11 a.m. here at Clemens Crossing Elementary in the cafeteria.

### **ATTENDANCE NOTIFICATIONS**

You can now receive e-mail notifications from the family portal when your child is marked absent. First, log into your family portal account (the login id and password are the same as the emergency card system) using the attached link <http://hcpss.me/fp/>. Click on the top tab labeled “family”. Next click on the side tab labeled “notification”. Check the box under the label “subscribe” next to attendance. Please note that e-mail notifications are not sent out until 11:00.

### **DISCRETIONARY ABSENCES**

According to the HCPSS Attendance Policy the only lawful reasons for student absences are: death in the immediate family, illness of the student, court summons, hazardous weather conditions, observance of a religious holiday, state emergency, and suspension. If you are planning on taking your child out of school for any other reason please fill out a discretionary absence form. The first three days of the absence will be marked as lawful/ excused, any additional days will be marked as unlawful/unexcused. The discretionary absence form can be found at [www.hcpss.org/f/aboutus/absence\\_request.pdf](http://www.hcpss.org/f/aboutus/absence_request.pdf).

### **FLUMIST CLINIC AT ELKRIDGE ELEMENTARY**

On the morning of **Tuesday, November 18 2014**, the Howard County Health Department, in cooperation with the Howard County Public School system, will be offering influenza vaccinations to our students. Consent forms will be sent home, as we get closer to the date. We will need parent volunteers the morning of the school's annual FluMist clinic. If you are available for all or any part of that time and would like to help, please contact Marianne Jones at [Marianne\\_jones@hcpss.org](mailto:Marianne_jones@hcpss.org) or Jennifer Tucker at [Jennifer\\_tucker@hcpss.org](mailto:Jennifer_tucker@hcpss.org).

### **FALL INTO WORDS PARADE:**

We want to share with you some important information about our “Fall Into Words” parade scheduled for Friday, October 31<sup>st</sup>. The parade will begin at 10:00 AM with our 5<sup>th</sup> graders leading us.

As you design/buy your child’s costume, we ask that you avoid any costumes that perpetuate violence, have any blood, gore, scary masks, or contain any type of weapons. Props that come with costumes that are “play weapons” are not allowed in school. This includes but is not limited to toy guns, knives, swords, sickles, pitchforks, etc. We ask that everyone come with a creative word that describes the costume or outfit your child is wearing. No worries, we can help with that creative word if students are in need of assistance.

We also know that some of our families do not participate in this October parade. We will be hosting an alternate activity for those students. On October 31<sup>st</sup> we will have a regular school following the parade, so we are encouraging families to send their children to school! If you prefer that your child does not take part in the parade, please send a note to your child’s teacher or contact Mrs. Anoff at [debra\\_anoff@hcpss.org](mailto:debra_anoff@hcpss.org).

### **MARKET DAY – OCTOBER SALE**

NEW this month and sounds delicious, Greek Yogurt Apple Cakes, Orange Chicken dinner in 15 minutes, and Fire-Roasted Root Vegetables. FREE Chicken Gems with \$90 online purchase. Enter promo code OCTBONUS. Frequent Buyer program qualification continues through November. Give back with Baby Baked Potatoes, Market Day will make a donation to the National Breast Cancer Foundation for each order. Visit [marketday.com](http://marketday.com) by 11 PM on Friday, October 17<sup>th</sup>. If you haven’t already, don’t forget to use your welcome coupon code for additional savings. For additional information contact Jenny Whitebloom at (410) 313-5040 or [jennifer\\_eley-whitebloom@hcpss.org](mailto:jennifer_eley-whitebloom@hcpss.org). Don’t forget special Thanksgiving items coming in November!



## **MATH**

In HCPSS, elementary mathematics content is organized by grade level. Secondary mathematics content is organized by course. The goal of the preK-12 elementary mathematics program in Howard County is that every student will graduate college and career ready. <http://www.hcpss.org/academics/mathematics/>

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

**Friday, October 17**

**MSEA Convention—School Closed**

Monday, October 20

**Fall Picture Day (Individual and Yearbook Portraits)**

Tuesday, October 21

**Fall Picture Day (Individual and Yearbook Portraits)**

Wednesday, October 29

PTA Restaurant Night @ Red Robin (5 PM - 9 PM)

Friday, October 31

**Fall Into Words Parade 10:00 AM**

End of 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter

Monday, November 3

**Professional Learning/Work Day~ Schools Closed for Students**

Tuesday, November 3

**General Election Day~ Schools & Offices Closed**

Wednesday, November 5

EES PTA Meeting 6:30 PM

Wednesday, November 12

Report Cards go home today

Saturday, November 15

Board of Education Coffee & Conversation @ Clemens Crossing Elementary, 9:30 am – 11 am

November 17<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup>

American Education Week

Tuesday, November 18

Flue Mist Day at EES

Picture Retakes

Wednesday, November 19

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Musical 6:00 PM

Thursday, November 20

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Musical 6:00 PM

Monday, November 24

Parent/Teacher Conferences

EES Turkey Trot

Tuesday, November 25

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Wednesday, November 26



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### **Schools Closed for Students**

November 27<sup>th</sup> & November 28<sup>th</sup>

**Thanksgiving Holiday~ Schools Closed for Students**

### **PTA NEWS**

#### **Family Fall Festival**

Elkridge Elementary's PTA will be hosting its First Annual Family Fall Festival on Friday, October 24, 2014 from 6:30 until 8:00 pm. Please join us for a fun-filled evening. There will be: a costume parade, crafts, games, pumpkin raffles, a fall photo area, cake walks, food, chances to win prizes, and a chance to go trick or treating at our first annual Trunk or Treat competition. So feel free to come in costume (or not) and enjoy our fall celebration. Like all of our family fun nights, admission is free. Food sales and raffle tickets will also be available.

#### **PTA Restaurant Night**

Please join us for the October PTA Restaurant night. It will be held at Red Robin on Wednesday, October 29th from 5pm-9pm.

#### **EES Holiday Shoppe**

The 7th Annual EES Holiday Shoppe will be Friday, December 5th from 6:30-9:00. The PTA is currently looking for a wide variety of vendors to help make this night a success. Products can include fine art, crafts, jewelry, clothing, accessories, pottery, photography, specialty foods and more! Please email [eespta@hotmail.com](mailto:eespta@hotmail.com) for more information!

#### **Winter Coat Drive (October 1st - 29th)** for those in need in our community

HCPSS Pupil Personnel Workers (PPWs) in cooperation with PTA Council of Howard County and other community organizations are sponsoring this annual coat drive to provide students in our own school community (and their families) who are in need of winter coats, gloves, hats, etc. Please make sure any donations are clean and ready to wear! The donation box can be found in the cafeteria until Wednesday, October 29th.

### **COMMUNITY NOTICES**

*The following events are neither sponsored nor endorsed by the Howard County Public School System.*

#### **REBUILDING TOGETHER HOWARD COUNTY**

**Free Home Repairs Available**, Volunteers from Rebuilding Together Howard County work to repair homes for low-income homeowners and their families. All types of free repairs are provided to include plumbing, electrical, carpentry, new appliance installation, painting and the list goes on. A simple application is all you need to apply. Call [410-381-3338](tel:410-381-3338) or go on line at [www.rebuildingtogetherhowardcounty.org](http://www.rebuildingtogetherhowardcounty.org) to get your application. Since 1992, over 700 Howard County homes have been repaired free of charge. The deadline for applying is Dec. 31.

#### **HOWARD COUNTY GENERAL HOSPITAL**

**Annual Symphony of Lights**, Symphony Woods off of Broken Land Parkway in Columbia, Md. Wed.-Mon., 6-10 p.m. starting Nov. 17 -Jan. 4. In addition to nightly drive throughs, Symphony of Lights offers special events. Event information is available by calling the Symphony of Lights Information Line at 410-740-7666 or by visiting [www.hcgh.org/symphonyoflights](http://www.hcgh.org/symphonyoflights).

#### **CUB SCOUTS**

Sign your son up today. Now is the time to sign up your son for one of the nation's foremost youth development programs. Cub scouting is the elementary school age division of the Boy Scouts of America.

Each elementary school in Howard County has a Cub Scout Pack. If you are unsure about which pack you belong in, go to [www.beascout.org](http://www.beascout.org) and type in your ZIP code. If you have any questions or concerns, contact Joe Azzarello, [jazzarello@baltimorebsa.org](mailto:jazzarello@baltimorebsa.org).

#### **KENNEDY KRIEGER INSTITUTE**



Kennedy Krieger Institute and Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions are offering your child to take part in Brain Research. This is for children ages 8-12, with ADHD, High Functioning Autism and Typically Developing Children. Two seven-hour days of computer games, paper and pencil tasks, and a Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) scan of the brain. You choose the date in which to participate. For additional information please contact Mary Martinelli (**ADHD STUDY**) 443-923-9258; Kristie Sweeney (**ADHD STUDY**) 443-923-9254; Alyssa Tiedemann (**Autism STUDY**) 443-923-9263 and [LNIR@kennedykrieger.org](mailto:LNIR@kennedykrieger.org)

#### **MESSAGE OF HOPE FOUNDATION**

**Message of Hope Happy Hope Bags** We need your help collecting the following items. Crayons, colored pencils, playing cards, stickers, coloring books, notepads (small), Playdoh (Hasbro) Slinky (Plastic), kids toothbrushes, toothpaste, chapstick, book lights and iTunes gift cards. For more information visit <http://messageofhopefoundation.org/> or call 888-201-4673.

#### **HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**Little Known Secrets of Paying for College** for parents of college bound students. Offered at HCC's Gateway Campus on Thurs., Oct. 16, 6:30-9 p.m. Learn how college financial aid is calculated, strategies to reposition your assets and how to utilize the IRS to fund college through the "tax scholarship." Offered through Howard Community College Continuing Education Division. <http://howardcc.edu/finance>

#### **STEM FAMILY NIGHT**

Experience the amazing world of science, technology, engineering and math! See what area schools have to offer in STEM! Come to Arundel Mills, The Roundhouse Food Court, on **Tuesday, October 21, 2014, 6pm – 8pm**. The Fort Meade Alliance is hosting this free event.

#### **Healthy Howard**

Door to Healthcare, a project of Healthy Howard and we provide FREE help in choosing affordable, quality health coverage. The Door provides practical answers about new changes in health care, personal support for making the right choice and assistance with signing up for health insurance. Our certified Navigators and Assisters are available for in-person assistance and to guide you and your family through the process of becoming insured. To learn more, visit [www.doortohealthcare.org](http://www.doortohealthcare.org) or call us at [855-288-3667](tel:855-288-3667).

#### **Maryland Judiciary**

Judiciary Contest for Young Artists Helps Promote Peacemaking

The Maryland Judiciary is asking young artists to help promote peacemaking in its annual Conflict Resolution Student Bookmark Art Contest. The contest, for Maryland students, grades K-8; helps celebrate Conflict Resolution Day, which is Thursday, Oct. 16. For more information contact Alecia Parker, 410-260-3540, or [alecia.parker@mdcourts.gov](mailto:alecia.parker@mdcourts.gov).

#### **YMCA TURKEY TROT CHARITY 5K**

A walk/run benefiting the Y of Central Maryland's *Give Every Child a Chance* campaign - Thanksgiving Morning, Nov. 26, 8:30 a.m., Long Gate Shopping Center, Ellicott City. Register today at [ymaryland.org](http://ymaryland.org)