

ELKRIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Debra Anoff, Principal

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Elkridge...Always providing Elkcellence!



The Elkster Examiner

**7075 Montgomery Road
Elkridge, MD 21075
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ees.hcpss.org

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRINCIPAL

What a great week this has been! Thank you to all who visited EES for American Education Week and Special Person's Days. It was such a pleasure to see the incredible turnout this past week! We are so lucky to have support from the Elkridge community for our students.

Speaking of being impressed by our students, I would like to congratulate the 5th graders on their performance of Aladdin on Wednesday and Thursday nights. It was an amazing show! A production like this takes a tremendous team of people working together. BIG thanks go to Mrs. Loughry, Mr. Washington, Ms. Meyenburg, and Mrs. Sloat for their instruction and support throughout. A special thanks to the entire EES staff and EES PTA for all your support! We would also like to thank Mr. Bill Vanurden for the beautiful photos.

Next week is Parent/Teacher conferences. Schools close 3 hours early on Monday and Tuesday and there is no school on Wednesday. I hope you have signed up for a conference with your child's homeroom teacher. If you haven't please call the school at 410-313-5006 and one of our secretaries can schedule one with you. During your conference you will have the opportunity to hear about your child's progress (academics, behavior and social) as well as ask any questions you have. It is our hope that you leave the conference knowing much more about your child's progress than you did when you entered.

I hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving. It is hard to believe that our next Elkster Examiner will be out in December!

Mrs. Anoff, Principal

Crazy Hat Bingo Tonight

Bingo tonight at EES! Join us at 6:30 in the cafeteria. Prizes include gift cards from SkyZone, Pottery Shop, Peace of Pizza, Brunswick Bowling, and Dave & Buster's. There is no fee to participate in this event. There will be pizza, chips, and drinks to purchase. Wear a hat just for fun!

Turkey Trot

Elkridge Elementary School's annual Turkey Trot is scheduled for **Monday, November 24, 2014**. The Turkey Trot is a fun activity for families, students, and staff to exercise together. A course of about a mile will be marked off for runners. The route travels around both EES and ELMS properties. Parents and other guests are welcome to run or just come to watch. The Turkey Trot is to highlight the benefits of exercise only; no awards will be given. If a rain date is necessary, we will reschedule for December 5.

Turkey Trot times are as follows:

9:30 -10:00 5th grade

10:00 - 10:30 3rd grade

10:30 -11:00 4th grade

11:00 – 11:30 2nd grade

11:30 – 12:00 Kindergarten

12:00 – 12:30 1st grade

Book Fair Starts Monday!

The Book Fair will start Monday in the media center. Parents will be able to shop during conference times on November 24th & 25th. Children will be able to shop during their media class the week of December 1st through December 5th. Look for information in your child's Friday folder for more information. Scholastic books will also be available for purchase at the PTA sponsored Holiday Shoppe December 5th. **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** Please contact EESPTA@hotmail.com if you are available to help.



5th Grade T-Shirt Orders

Attention Grade 5 Parents: Order forms for Grade 5 2015 t-shirts were sent home. On the front is the design from our t-shirt contest winner and the back features a signature from every student. The cost is \$8 a shirt. Sample sizes and colors are located in the fifth grade pod. Ask your homeroom teacher for another order form if you need it. The deadline is Dec. 5. Order your keepsake today!

Young Authors

We are excited to announce the State of Maryland Young Author's Writing Contest for grades 2-5. All entries are due no later than December 15. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to contact Sue Franckel at sue_frankel@hcpss.org or Freya Hill freya_hill@hcpss.org and they will be happy to help. Click here for more information on Young Authors Contest. If you are interested in participating, click here for entry form.

LOST AND FOUND ITEMS

Our Lost and Found Bin is overflowing! It is located on the cafeteria stage. After December 12, any unclaimed items will be donated to charity.

November Counselor Corner

The Elkridge Elementary character education trait of the month is **compassion**. There are many ways to teach your child the value of compassion. Here are a few ideas: Have your children participate in a food, or clothing drive at your church or organization. Include your children in preparing a dish to donate to a soup kitchen. Compliment your children when they show kindness to a sibling or friend.

Be on the look out for counselor connections sent home after guidance lessons are completed in your child's class. Miss Cooley primarily works with kindergarten and fourth graders. Mrs. Tacka primarily works with first, second, third and fifth grades.

Please keep in mind both counselors are available to join in with any parent/teacher conference, or you can schedule a conference with us individually via email. Miss Cooley is available all afternoon and evening on Tuesday, November 25th. Mrs. Tacka is available all afternoon and evening on Monday, November 24th and Tuesday, November 25th.

Kristen Tacka
kristen_tacka@hcpss.org

Sarah Cooley
sarah_cooley@hcpss.org

NEW HCPSS MOBILE APP NOW AVAILABLE FOR FREE DOWNLOAD

We are excited to announce that we have launched a new HCPSS mobile app in the Apple App Store and Google Play store. The app has four main components that support HCPSS communications:

- **News:** Within the app, provides parents with an easy way to read news items generated from the HCPSS website and school websites. Parents can select which schools to see news from.
- **Calendars:** Provides parents with an easy way to add system wide and school events directly to their calendars.
- **School Contact:** Provides parents with an easy way to contact their schools.
- **Connect:** Provides direct access to Superintendent information, Board of Education information, HCPSS Twitter, Facebook and YouTube.

S.T.E.M. in Our School

Here at EES, our students are actively involved in the critical areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM). We even have our own [EES STEM website!](http://stemnewsees.weebly.com/) (<http://stemnewsees.weebly.com/>) It will be updated quarterly to show what each grade level has done to implement STEM learning in their classes. It also has opportunities for STEM learning outside of the classroom as well as games your kids can play to help them. Bookmark it, and email Jennifer_wong@hcpss.org if you have any STEM information, opportunities, or resources you would like to contribute to the site. Find this STEM page link in the School Resources Section of the EES Website. To learn more about STEM in Maryland, click on <http://msde.maryland.gov/stem/>.



FROM THE HEALTH ROOM

As we enter into flu season, this is a reminder that good hand washing and covering sneezes and coughs with tissues and sleeves are essential steps to preventing the spread of "germs." Also, remember that despite concerns about school attendance, your children's health (and the health of other children) is most important of all. For this reason, we ask you to please:

- Call the school nurse to let us know if your child is absent with a contagious illness such as strep throat, or the flu etc. Please provide any documentation from your physician about diagnosis and release to return to school. (Ear and sinus infections, while often a reason for keeping a child home, are usually not contagious.)
- Keep your child home if he/she has a fever of over 100.0. A fever indicates that your child has an infection that could be passed to other students. If you give your child Motrin or Tylenol, the fever will, of course, disappear but he/she will still be contagious to others. Children must be fever-free for 24 hours (without medication) before returning to school!
- Have your children wash their hands properly after using the restrooms and prior to eating.
- If the doctor prescribes medication for your child, please make sure he/she takes it as directed-which means the right amount at the right time and without missing doses.

Thank you very much for helping keep all our students healthy!

DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday, November 24

Parent/Teacher Conferences

EES Turkey Trot

Book Fair

Tuesday, November 25

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Book Fair

Wednesday, November 26

Schools Closed for Students

November 27 & November 28

Thanksgiving Holiday~ Schools Closed for Students

Friday, December 5

PTA Holiday Shoppe 6:30 – 9:00

PTA NEWS

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 for more information! Please note: Scholastic books will also be available for purchase the evening of the Holiday Shoppe. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! Please contact EESPTA@hotmail.com if you are available to help.



COMMUNITY NOTICES

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

Glen Mar United Methodist Church

Walk to Bethlehem on Fri., Sat. and Sun., Dec. 5, 6 and 7 at the church, 4701 New Cut Road in Ellicott City. Inclement weather date is Mon., Dec. 8. Drop in anytime between 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. for this free event. See the Christmas story through this indoor/outdoor theatrical production. Visit a temple scene and a marketplace as it looked in the first century. For more information, visit www.glenmarumc.org and click on Events or call 410-465-4995 ext. 410.

Melville Chapel United Methodist Church

Melville Chapel United Methodist is asking for donations on behalf of the Elkridge Food Pantry. We would like to give each of our families in need a gift card, so the parents can personally choose gifts for their children. Contributions can be made payable to the Elkridge Love Mission/Food Pantry and mailed to 5660 Furnace Ave., Elkridge, Md. Please note that the donation is to go to towards "Christmas Gift Cards" in the memo line. We are asking that you send your donation by Dec. 5, so that we can distribute the gift cards on Dec. 12. For more information, visit: <https://www.facebook.com/ElkridgeFoodPantryAndGarden>.

SUPERSQUAD CHEERLEADING

Join SuperSquads Cheerleading today! It's not too late! Practices are once a week after school for 1.25 hours. Contact supersquadsinfo@verizon.net, www.supersquads.org or 410-796-2244 for more information. You can register online or by mail.

Howard County Government

Setting Limits Without Guilt. There are many different parenting styles. Some may be too firm and some may be too lenient. What is the right balance and how do you keep your relationship intact with your child while making sure they do the right thing? This 2 Part Series is held on Mon., Dec 1 and Mon. Dec 8, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at 3300 North Ridge Rd #240, Ellicott City Md. For more information or to register, please call 410-313-1940 or visit www.howardcountymd.gov/children

Wreaths Across America

Howard High fundraiser, this non-profit organization continues the Arlington tradition as part of its mission to Remember, Honor and Teach. To donate a wreath to adorn a veterans' grave for the holidays and help raise money for the school before Dec. 1 You can find out more about Wreaths Across America at www.wreathsassamerica.org

Savage Boys & Girls Club Basketball

Recreational Basketball League open to boys and girls ages 7 - 17. Five age divisions. All leagues are separated on the basis of age and gender. Players receive team uniform, participation trophy and tournament play. Practices/Season: Early Dec. - mid March. Registration ends Dec. 1, 2014. Register at www.eteamz.com/savageboysandgirlsclub/

Soccerdome

Attention All Soccer Enthusiasts - It's Time for Winter Indoor Soccer - Register Your Youth Soccer Team Now with Maryland Sports Services at Soccerdome. U7 through HS teams can choose from two sessions. See all the details at www.soccerdome.com or call Jody Boyer at 443-668-6019 for assistance.

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.

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 and type in your ZIP code. If you have any questions or concerns, contact Joe Azzarello, jazzarello@baltimorebsa.org.

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