

# ELKRIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Debra Anoff, Principal

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



**The Elkster  
Examiner**

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

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

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## FROM THE DESK OF THE PRINCIPAL

As we approach Winter Break I have had some parents ask me about things that students can do over the break to keep their academics sharp. Clearly, we want all of our students to enjoy their break and spend time with family and friends, but even doing some school work as little as 30 minutes three times a week over the break can help ensure that students are ready for school when they return in January.

The school system has some excellent family resources. The math office has created the HCPSS Family Math Support Center - [hcpssfamilymath.weebly.com](http://hcpssfamilymath.weebly.com) and the language arts office has created the Elementary Language Arts Parent Support Website - [elaparentsupport.weebly.com](http://elaparentsupport.weebly.com). Both sites contain a wealth of information for parents and activities for students. This is our last Elkster Examiner of the year and I'd like to wish all our Elkridge Elementary families a safe and healthy end of 2014 and beginning of 2015. See you in January!

Debra Anoff, Principal

## Winter MAP Testing

MAP testing will continue in January with the reading assessments. The testing will not impact our school-wide schedule because students will take the assessment during students' designated reading times. Below is a schedule that we will follow.

1/12 – 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 3<sup>rd</sup>  
1/13 – 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 3<sup>rd</sup>  
1/14 – 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>  
1/15 – 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>

1/20 – 1/22 (Make-up Testing)

## EES Spelling Bee

The annual school-wide bee will take place on Friday, January 16, at 2:30 in the cafeteria. Students in grades 4 and 5 are eligible to participate in the bee. Each fourth and fifth grade homeroom class will send two representatives to participate in the school-wide bee: a winner and a runner-up. Students who win at the homeroom level will receive a packet by Friday, December 19.

## ENVISION PAYMENT SOLUTIONS

Envision payment Solutions has been selected by Howard County Public School System as its check service provider. Please be aware that if your check is returned, it may be re-presented electronically. Also, in presenting a check for payment, you authorize service charges and processing fee to be debited from the same account should the check be dishonored. These fees, as permitted by state law, may be debited as a paper draft or an electronic funds transfer, at our option. Each dishonored item is subject to the applicable state returned check fees. If you wish to inquire about a returned check written on Howard County Public Schools, please contact "Envision Payment Solutions" directly at: Envision Payment Solutions; (877) 290-5460 or P.O. Box 157, Suwanee, GA 30024-0157 or [customerservice@envisionpayments.com](mailto:customerservice@envisionpayments.com)



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### **December Counselor Corner**

Our Character Education focus of the month is Self-discipline (also referred as self-control and self-regulation).

Ms. Cooley and Mrs. Tacka work with students in guidance lessons, individually, and in small counseling groups to help develop self-discipline. Here are a few of the ways we teach about self-control:

- STOP, THINK & DECIDE
- TAKE FIVE when listening to directions
- SELF REGULATE CHANT
- Brainstorming and practicing coping strategies for various feelings

As a parent, you can help your child develop self-discipline by teaching them to wait patiently, by modeling how you cope with stress/anger, and to allow them time to “chill out” in a quiet place in your home before talking about their feelings.

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### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

December 24 – January 2

**Schools Closed ~ Winter Holiday**

Monday, January 5

Back to School after Winter Holiday Break

Wednesday, January 7

PTA Meeting 6:30pm

Saturday, January 10

PTA Fundraiser Breakfast @ Applebee’s in Laurel, 8-10am

Monday, January 12

MAP Testing Grades 1, 2, & 3

Tuesday, January 13

MAP Testing Grades 1, 2, & 3

Wednesday, January 14

MAP Testing Grades 4 & 5

Thursday, January 15

MAP Testing Grades 4 & 5

Friday, January 16

School-wide Spelling Bee 2:30pm cafeteria

Monday, January 19

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day ~ Schools Closed**

Thursday, January 22 & 23

**Schools close 3 hours early**



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## **PTA NEWS**

### **Applebee's Fundraiser Breakfast (January 10 from 8:00-10:00)**

Join us at Applebee's in Laurel for PTA's annual pancake breakfast hosted by EES teachers and staff. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$6.00 for children under the age of 12. Pancakes, scrambled eggs, and sausage will be served. Please look for the flyer your child's Friday folder today for more information.

### **BJ's Membership Fundraiser**

Get your BJ's membership just in time for your holiday shopping. Get a 15-month membership for only \$40. That's a \$10 savings and 3 extra months. If you are already a member, renew now at the same low rate and your existing membership will just be extended. Please turn application in by December 16th. Temporary memberships can be given out while your waiting for your card to arrive. Contact Katie at [Katie.Sappington@gmail.com](mailto:Katie.Sappington@gmail.com) with any questions.

### **Socks & Travel Size Toiletry Item Donations**

Daisy Troop 59131 here at Elkridge is collecting socks of all sizes and travel sized toiletry items of all kinds for the homeless. **Look for a collection box in the EES lobby during the month of December.**

## **COMMUNITY NOTICES**

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

### **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)

### **Columbia Association**

Columbia YouthFit gives your family the tools to create and stick with a healthy lifestyle. This 8-week program is endorsed by The American Academy of Pediatrics and includes physical activity, nutrition counseling, and life/wellness coaching for all family members. At least one family member must be between the ages of 9 and 16. For more information, contact Shawni Paraska, Community Health Director, at [shawni.paraska@columbiaassociation.org](mailto:shawni.paraska@columbiaassociation.org) or [410-715-3128](tel:410-715-3128).

### **Columbia Association**

CA's Youth and Teen Center (YTC) is collecting clothes for community members in need. Items for the entire family are needed, clothes, shoes, coats, etc., YTC is also seeking student and parent volunteers for this project. Folks interested should contact Safire Windley at 410-992-3726.

### **CrossLife Community Church**

Christmas Eve Candle Light Service, Dec. 24, 6-7 p.m. Grace Episcopal Parish Hall, 6725 Montgomery Rd., Elkridge, MD, 410-960-6301. [Crosslifeonline.com](http://Crosslifeonline.com)

### **Misako Ballet Company**

Free Studio Concert "Winter Wonderland" Sat., Dec. 27, 1p.m., Harpers Choice Village Center, 5485 Harper's Farm Road, Suite 203, Columbia. With questions or for more information, please contact [410.884.9690](tel:410.884.9690) or [443.805.1350](tel:443.805.1350). [www.misakoballet.com](http://www.misakoballet.com) or [misakoballet@gmail.com](mailto:misakoballet@gmail.com)

### **Candlelight Concerts**

Momenta String Quartet, Sat., Jan. 10, 8 p.m., Smith Theatre, Horowitz Arts Center, Howard Community College, 10901 Little Patuxent Parkway, Columbia. Anton Webern: Langsamer Satz ;Leoš Janáček - String Quartet No. 1, 'Kreutzer Sonata' ;Julian Carrillo- Dos Bosquejos "Two Sketches") Brahms: String Quartet Op. 51 No. 1 in C minor. 410-997-2324, [info@candlelightconcerts.org](mailto:info@candlelightconcerts.org) [www.candlelightconcerts.org](http://www.candlelightconcerts.org)



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**Howard County Concert Orchestra (HCCO)**

"African Heritage" on Jan. 11, 4 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 9120 Frederick Road, Ellicott City. Celebrating the music of composers of African heritage from Africa, Europe and America. For more information, please visit: [www.hococo.org](http://www.hococo.org) or call 888-921-7230.

**Oakland Mills Community Association**

"Lively Arts for Little Ones presents: "Mr. Gabe and the Circle Time All-Stars" on Fri., Jan. 16, 10 a.m. at The Other Barn, 5851 Robert Oliver Place, Columbia. Mr. Gabe and the Circle Time All-Stars perform nursery rhymes, folk songs, and modern favorites. Tickets are \$5.00 (ages 2 and up). To purchase, visit The Other Barn, visit <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/712791>, or buy at the door. For more information, call 410-730-4610 or visit [oaklandmills.org](http://oaklandmills.org)

**Glen Mar Church**

Day of Service: Mon. Jan. 19, (MLK Day), 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Family oriented short-term service opportunities at Glen Mar Church and off-site locations. Free to the public. Come for an hour or come for the day. Glen Mar UMC, 4701 New Cut Rd., Ellicott City, MD 21043. For more information, contact D.C. Veale at 410-465-4995 or visit us at [www.glenmarumc.org](http://www.glenmarumc.org).

**Slayton House**

Rainbow Theatre presents "Little Red Riding Hood" on Fri., Jan. 23, 10 a.m. The puppet show is at 10:00am in the Slayton House Theatre in the Village of Wilde Lake in Columbia. For information call 410-730-3987. Sponsored by Wilde Lake Community Association.

**Recreation and Parks**

Send your child Snow Tubing with Recreation and Parks this winter! Zoom down the perfectly carved lanes and make some new friends on early dismissal and school's out days in Jan and Feb. Families welcome and transportation provided from select locations. Makes a great unique present! Info: Matt Medicus, 410-313-4719. Register: 410-313-7275. For more info, visit [www.howardcountymd.gov/schoolsoutadventure.htm](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/schoolsoutadventure.htm)

**SPORTS****Howard County Recreation and Parks**

The Howard County Lacrosse Program (HCLP) is currently accepting registration for the spring season. This program offers the opportunity for children ages 5-14 to learn and play the game of lacrosse. Children from the same schools are teamed together while keeping talent levels even. Because of this, practices will be located close to where you live. If your 5-8 year old does not have equipment, we will provide you with all of the pads they may need for the low cost of only \$40 for the entire season. The price is \$155 per child before Jan. 16, and \$185 per child after that date. For any more information please visit [www.hclacrosse.com](http://www.hclacrosse.com) or contact Derrick Thompson at 410-313-4736 or [dethompson@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:dethompson@howardcountymd.gov) for more information.

**HCYP**

Spring Recreational Baseball. Our recreational baseball program is one of the largest in Maryland with almost 1500 kids participating each Spring. We offer programs for all ages and skill levels, from instructional coach pitch to kid pitch programs. Rookie (Ages 5-6) - \$105 early bird; Pinto (Ages 7-8) - \$165 early bird; Little League (Ages 9-12) - \$200 early bird; Pony (Ages 13-14) - \$200 early bird; Colt (Ages 15-18) - \$200 early bird. [www.HCYP.org](http://www.HCYP.org)