

# ELKRIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Debra Anoff, Principal

Katherine Carter & Anthony Esposito, Assistant Principals

**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)**

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### FROM THE DESK OF THE PRINCIPAL

Second quarter progress reports will be sent home today. Please check your child's Friday folder. Feel free to contact your student's teacher with any questions or concerns.

**Weather Alerts:** If you haven't done so, please sign-up for HCPSSNews to get weather cancellation notices or to listen to the radio, TV, and/or the Howard County Public School System's web site [www.hcpss.org](http://www.hcpss.org).

As our weather continues to get chillier, we find many more students arriving at school in cars. Please remember our doors open at 9:10 a.m and our final bell rings at 9:25 a.m. Promptly at 9:25 a.m. both front doors are closed and students are tardy. **Any time after 9:25 a.m. students are required to be signed into school by a parent or guardian.** Please understand this is for both student safety and record keeping. We appreciate your understanding and support!

**Recess Reminder:** Children should come to school prepared for outdoor recess every day and wear clothing that considers the season and outdoor conditions. HCPSS guidelines are for students to have outdoor recess when the wind chill is at or above 20° F.

Mrs. Anoff, Principal

### Winter MAP Testing

MAP testing begins December 15 for grades 1, 2, & 3 and December 17 for grades 4 & 5. Students will begin by taking the math assessment followed by the reading assessment. MAP testing will not impact our school wide schedule because students will take the assessment during their designated math and reading time. Below is a schedule that we will follow.

12/15 – 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 3<sup>rd</sup>

12/16 – 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 3<sup>rd</sup>

12/17 – 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>

12/18 – 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>

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.

### 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](mailto:sue_frankel@hcpss.org) or Freya Hill [freya\\_hill@hcpss.org](mailto:freya_hill@hcpss.org) and they will be happy to help.



**Health Room News:** The health room is in need of clean sweatpants (all sizes). The sweatpants are for those students in need of a clothing change. **We appreciate any donations!**

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.

Due to concerns about communicable illnesses, if your child presents to the health room with a fever we will be asking parents/guardians about any recent travel. Thank you very much for helping keep all our students healthy!

### **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.

[sarah\\_cooley@hcpss.org](mailto:sarah_cooley@hcpss.org)

[kristen\\_tacka@hcpss.org](mailto:kristen_tacka@hcpss.org)

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

Friday, December 12

Interim Progress Reports go home

Monday, December 15

MAP Testing Grades 1, 2, & 3

Tuesday, December 16

EES Chorus Concert 7:00pm

MAP Testing Grades 1, 2, & 3

Wednesday, December 17

MAP Testing Grades 4 & 5

Thursday, December 18

MAP Testing Grades 4 & 5



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Friday, December 19

1<sup>st</sup> Grade Gingerbread Houses 9:45am

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

Thursday, January 8

Kindergarten Field Trip, Elkridge Library (Jagoda /Stone & Boardley classes)

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

Kindergarten Field Trip, Elkridge Library (Herman & Petry classes)

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**

Thursday, January 29

Kindergarten Field Trip, Elkridge Library (Vannurden & Nation classes)

## **PTA NEWS**

### **Family Fun Night Cancelled!**

PTA Family Fun Night scheduled for December 19 has been cancelled.

### **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.*

### **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. Service hours may be issued.

### **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 Figure Skating Club**

The Nutcracker on Ice, Dec. 13-14. Show times on Sat., Dec. 13 are 5:30 p.m. and 7:15 p.m., performances on Sun, Dec. 14, 4:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. The production is the only ice skating show of its kind in the Baltimore-Washington area, and is appealing to people of all ages. For tickets and more information, please see the club's website: [www.columbiafsc.com](http://www.columbiafsc.com).

### **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](http://www.soccerdome.com) or call Jody Boyer at 443-668-6019 for assistance.

### **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).

### **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](mailto:supersquadsinfo@verizon.net), [www.supersquads.org](http://www.supersquads.org) or 410-796-2244 for more information. You can register online or by mail.