

ELKRIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Debra Anoff, Principal

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Elkridge...Always providing Elkcellence!



The Elkster Examiner

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Elkridge, MD 21075
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ees.hcpss.org

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRINCIPAL

I would like to wish all our Elkridge Elementary families a very Happy and Healthy New Year! I hope everyone had a wonderful winter break and 2015 has started well for you and your family. Here at Elkridge the students and staff are right back into the swing of things, and I have been very impressed with the quality of teaching and learning that have been taking place.

I want to highlight a few events that are coming up in the next couple of weeks. Tomorrow, Saturday, January 10th there is a PTA Restaurant event at the Applebee's in Laurel from 8:00 am to 10:00 am. The staff and I look forward to serving up a delicious pancake breakfast to our students and their families! Our winter stings concert is on Monday, January 12th at 7:00 pm. and our winter band concert is Tuesday, January 13th at 7:00 pm. On Monday the 19th schools and offices are closed for the observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. On Thursday, January 22nd, we will have a three-hour early dismissal for a Professional Work Day. Students will be dismissed at 12:55 pm. Finally, Friday, January 23rd is the end of the second marking period with a three-hour early dismissal at 12:55 pm.

With many more cold days ahead of us, I want to remind everyone to check the weather forecast daily to ensure that our children are appropriately dressed. Please make sure your child has a winter coat, hat, gloves, etc. Outdoor recess occurs daily with the exception of inclement weather. In the event of unexpected delays and/or closings due to inclement weather, please remember that information will be shared with the community through the following: the school system's website (www.hcpss.org), HCPSS News emails alerts, and the school system's cable TV Comcast 95 or Verizon 42.

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 – 1st, 2nd, & 3rd

1/13 – 1st, 2nd, & 3rd

1/14 – 4th & 5th

1/15 – 4th & 5th

1/20 – 1/22 (Make-up Testing)

Music News

Dear Parents of 3rd, 4th, and 5th Grade Students,

This is a reminder that all students are required to have a recorder to use in music classes and the deadline for ordering them was today but we are extending the deadline to Friday, January 16. Recorders are \$4.

Students who are using one from home should bring them into school as soon as possible to keep in music class for the next several weeks.

If you have questions or need assistance purchasing a recorder, please contact Ms. Carrie Loughry at school or by email at cloughry@hcpss.org.

Thank you,
Ms. Carrie Loughry
General & Vocal Music Teacher



Notes from the Nurse:

We are currently in 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.**

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

Medications in School:

- The health room must have a doctor's order and parent signature for all medications (even over the counter). The medication must be kept in the health room and be in the original container and have the pharmacy label (if a prescription med) on it. All medications should be transported to school by a parent, the students are not permitted to carry the medications.
 - Medicated cough drops are considered a medication and must have a doctor's order and follow same policies as above.
 - Non-medicated cough drops (pectin based like Halls Breezers) should be limited to no more than 3 per day for no longer than 5 school days. They may be administered at school with parent permission and specific instructions in writing that include the name of the product, reason for administration, amount and frequency of administration. Product must be provided by parent and stored in the health room.
 - Other non-medications such as (food supplements, lotion, sunscreen and contact lens solution) may be administered at school with parent permission and specific instructions in writing that include the name of the product, reason for administration, amount and frequency of administration. Product must be provided by parent and stored in the health room.
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Clothing:

Parents - The Health Room no longer is able to stock extra clothing for accidents or spills. Please provide a seasonal change of clothes for your child to keep in school (either in their backpack or cubby in homeroom).

January Counselor Corner

In January, Elkridge Elementary is promoting the Character Trait of Acceptance. Acceptance means to recognize, and appreciate the many ways that people are different and alike.

We teach students that learning about differences with an open mind and an open heart can mean making new friends and trying out new things. We teach students that no matter what religion you practice, language you speak, what you look like, and any other way we are different... ALL people have feelings, want friendship, and deserve compassion.

One influential leader that spoke about accepting others is Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. We remember Dr. King on January 19, 2015. All HCPSS will be closed. An engaging family activity could be to answer the call to the MLK Day of Service.



What is the MLK Day of Service?

Each year, Americans across the country answer that question by coming together on the King Holiday to serve their neighbors and communities. The MLK Day of Service is a part of *United We Serve*, the President's national call to service initiative. It calls for Americans from all walks of life to work together to provide solutions to our most pressing national problems. Please see the below web page for ideas of community service projects for your family.

<http://www.nationalservice.gov>

Kristen Tacka, Grades 1, 2, 3 & 5

Sarah Cooley, Grades K & 4

Kindergarten Registration and New 1st Grade Registration

Kindergarten registration and new 1st Grade registration, for the 2015-2016 school year, will be held March 2nd - March 6th. Students must be 5 years old by September 1st, 2015 to register for kindergarten. More information will be posted at a later date.

After School Activities

Take the time to check out the variety of afterschool programs being offered at EES this winter!

Bricks 4 Kidz Brand NEW Theme: Pirate's Quest! Bricks 4 Kidz Lego-Building class begins this Monday, January 12th from 4-5pm. Please register prior to Friday (tomorrow!) so we can insure there are enough students signed up for the class to move forward. Register online here: <https://my.brick4kidz.com/index.php?action=location&location=194>

AbraKadoodle begins Tuesday, January 20th from 4-5pm. Register online: <http://www.abrakadoodle.com/md-howard-county-register/>

KidzArt - Winter session begins Monday, January 12th. Register online: <http://centralmd.kidzart.com/programs/kidz/classes>

Howard County Recreation and Parks also has many after school activity offerings (see below). Register online: https://apm.activecommunities.com/howardcounty/Activity_Search?txtActivitySearch=afterschool&clear=true

Science Club After School with Club Scientific Grades K-3 / 8 classes starting Jan 9 / \$139
RP3355.203 4-5:15 PM Fridays

After-School Basketball 8-13 yrs / 8 classes starting Jan 12 / \$63
RP6081.208 4-5 PM Mondays

After-School Indoor Soccer 8-10 yrs / 8 classes starting Jan 13 / \$63
RP6701.206 4-5 PM Tuesdays

After-School Dodgeball 7-10 yrs / 8 classes, starting Jan 14 / \$63
RP6200.203 4-5 PM Wednesdays

LEGO® Robotics After School with The Great Adventure Lab Grades 2-4 / 7 classes starting Jan 28 / \$139
RP3330.201 3:55-4:55 PM Wednesdays

Chess Club Before School with Silver Knights Chess Company Grades K-5 / 14 classes starting Feb 11 / \$185
RP3323.205 8:10-9:10 AM Wednesdays

NEW! Disney's Aladdin Jr.! by Columbia Center for Theatrical Arts 6-11 yrs / 11 classes starting Feb 24 / \$185
RP1041.201 4-5:15 PM Tuesdays

Bus Safety

The safety of your child/children is of utmost importance to us. Recently it has been brought to the attention of our staff that the behaviors of a number of students on several busses are not conducive to the Howard County Code of Conduct, or the expectations of the students at Elkridge Elementary. Please talk to your child/children to remind them of their responsibility to keep themselves, and others, safe while riding the bus. Thank you for your support!



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 o 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

DATES TO REMEMBER

Saturday, January 10

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

Monday, January 12

MAP Testing Grades 1, 2, & 3

EES Strings Concert 7-8pm

Tuesday, January 13

MAP Testing Grades 1, 2, & 3

EES Band Concert 7-8pm

Wednesday, January 14

MAP Testing Grades 4 & 5

Thursday, January 15

MAP Testing Grades 4 & 5

Kindergarten Fieldtrip to Elkridge Library

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 Fieldtrip to Elkridge Library

Friday, January 30

EES Family Fun night

Friday, February 27

EES Talent Show 6-9pm

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. Check or cash only. Pancakes, scrambled eggs, and sausage will be served.

Applebee's address: 13600 Baltimore Avenue #1600 Laurel, MD 20707



COMMUNITY NOTICES

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

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 www.candlelightconcerts.org

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 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

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.

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

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 or contact Derrick Thompson at 410-313-4736 or 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