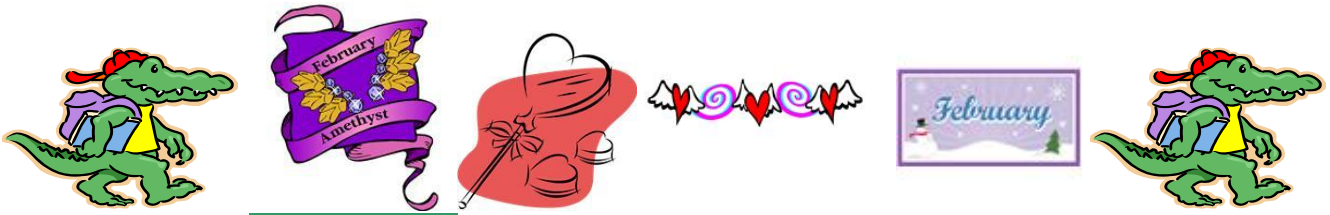


GREENWOOD
COMMUNIGATOR
 Improving Communications Between School and Home A Greenwood PTA Publication



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- Upcoming Events @ Greenwood**
- Wednesday, February 01 - Report Cards Distributed
 - Sunday, February 05 - Greenwood Variety Show starting at 1:00 PM, Movie Mania!
 - Tuesday, February 07 - PTA Meeting in Media Center
 - Tuesday, February 14 - Class Valentine's Day Parties starting at 1:45 PM
 - Monday, February 20 - President's Day, No School
 - Wednesday, February 29 - Reading Curriculum Night

CommuniGator Contacts

The CommuniGator is published monthly by the Greenwood Elementary School PTA. The deadline for submissions is the third Monday of each month.

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FEBRUARY 2012



ANNOUNCEMENTS



Our School is now subscribed to TumbleBookLibrary!

The Tumble Book Library is a collection of animated, talking picture books with fiction, non-fiction and foreign language titles, read-alongs, TumbleTV, Tumble Puzzles & Games, and TumbleResources for teachers and students.

Visit <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/greenwoodes/news/index.aspx?id=207693> or http://www.tumblebooks.com/library/asp/home_tumblebooks.asp for more information!



5th Grade Parents

We need your student's baby picture for the yearbook. Please fill out and send the form on our website (<http://www.greenwood-pta.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/Baby-picture-request.pdf>) by Feb. 10, 2012.



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Principal's News – February 2012



Greenwood Elementary...A SMART School

Quote: The illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn and relearn. -Alvin Toffler

Dear Greenwood Parents,

Health week was once more an entertaining and educational experience for our students. It was again sponsored by Mrs. Amanda Leonard. Thanks to her for her efforts in making this wonderful event possible. The week culminated in a special assembly in which the students identified healthy foods they should be using for meals and snacks.

Congratulations to Mr. Enceneat, our General Music and Chorus teacher for preparing the fourth grade students to perform at the recent concerts! Thank you to everyone who came out to support our children!

Testing Windows

If at all possible, it would be most appreciated if you do not schedule vacations or doctors' appointments during the testing windows. In order to assist you with planning, please note the following test dates:

Maryland State Assessments (MSA)

These tests will be administered to all students in grades 3, 4, and 5 as follows:

Grades 3, 4, and 6: March 12–13 (paper/pencil)

Grade 5: March 14–15 (paper/pencil)

MSA and Mod-MSA Math

Grades 3, 4, and 6: March 16 & 19 (paper/pencil)

Grade 5: March 20–21 (paper/pencil)

MSA and Mod-MSA Reading and Math (Makeup)

Grades 3–6: March 22–27 (paper/pencil)

MSA Science

Grade 5: April 30–May 4 (paper/pencil)

ACCESS for ELLs (ELPT)

Grades K–6: February 6–March 23

TerraNova

Grade 2: April 16–20

MAP-P

Grades K-2

MAP-R and MAP-M

Grades K–6: January 3–February 7, April 30–June 1

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Implementation of Greenwood's New Security System and Visitor Management System

Visitors reporting to school between the hours of 9:15 and 3:00 PM must gain entry by using the buzzer to alert the main office staff of their presence at the door. Kindly keep in mind that the door can be opened from the outside by the office staff **ONLY** after the red buzzer is activated by the visitor.

Please note the signs that have been posted instructing all visitors to report to the main office to sign-in. The system will be in full implementation starting **February 15**. All visitors except MCPS staff with an identification badge will be required to present a valid driver's license for identification purposes, and verify that the visitor has a legitimate purpose for the visit. A VMS (Visitor Management System) badge will be printed and provided to the visitor. All visitors will be required to sign-out when leaving the school.

Kindergarten Orientation

Kindergarten Orientation for incoming kindergarten students will be on **May 3 and 4**. Parents of current kindergarten students please note that there will be **no school May 3rd and 4th for your children** on those two days.

Project Change

Greenwood and Project Change will be sponsoring a Bully Prevention after school club: You Have the Power for third and fourth grade students. The club will run from March to May. Information and permission clips will be sent home with selected students on February 24.

February Features

During February students will celebrate Black History Month and the hundredth day of school. The month of February will offer many special and exciting events at school. Be sure to check your school calendars.

Movie Mania is coming to us 180 students strong with loads of volunteers on tap.

The children will continue learning about trout and conservation with our **Trout in the Classroom Project**. Our trout which arrived as eggs are now in the second stage of their life cycle and, as alevins are growing by leaps and bounds to become fry.

The TV tech crew club and Ms. Shen made Chinese Zodiac symbols to celebrate the Lunar New Year and shared their learning with the entire School. On Friday, January 27, the students in grades 3-5 enjoyed a video assembly by the Shen Yun Performing Arts - A Dynamic and Enjoyable Way to Explore Chinese Civilization brought to us by the Falun Dafua Arts Society.

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We will also celebrate **Valentine's Day** with parties on **Tuesday, February 14** starting at 1:45 PM.

On February 15 we will be having an author's assembly for all of our students. The author's name is Irene Zevgolis and she will be doing a reading of her book, *The Dreamer and the Moon* and discussing the writing process with the students. K-2 students will have a 30 minute presentation and grades 3-5 students will be with the author for 45 minutes.

Save the date **February 29** which will be our **Evening Reading curriculum Night and Book Café**. The theme for the evening is pirates and the highlight of the program will be a presentation by another one of our local children's authors, Ms. Mary Quattlebaum. We will be sending home pre-order forms in the event that you might want to order one of her books. Ms. Quattlebaum will autograph all books purchased. There will be a book swap, light refreshments and the opportunity to receive parent partnership information and sign up with a Greenwood Gator Guide Family as well on that evening. Please look for a flyer with more information that will be coming home in mid-February. Much appreciation to the PTA for funding both author visits.

As we move into the second semester, kindly update emergency contact information with Mrs. Paul in the main office if any of your contact information has recently changed. This is very important and necessary so that we are able to readily contact you by telephone when necessary.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Cheryl A. Bunyan,
Principal



Thank you Missy Malakoff for an awesome Skate Night!

News from the Art Room



Dear families,

During the first half of this year, we found ourselves up to our elbows in paint, watercolors, collage, clay, printmaking, and sculpture! One of the goals of our art program is to introduce youngsters to the wide umbrella of topics, media, and techniques of Art. The program is customized for each grade level, with many lessons that relate to, support, and extend your child's learning in their other important subject areas.

Kindergarteners have been learning about sculpture in a sequenced set of lessons. Each one of the lessons in this set focuses on a unique aspect of sculpture, and the lessons build in complexity. Your youngsters are learning that sculpture is art we build, sculpture is three-dimensional, and some sculptures are formed, shaped, or modeled. We are using a variety of materials to model and build our sculptures. Some of them are on display in the new wing's small case.

First Graders have been learning the art of map-making, cartography, in a set of lessons that supports and extends their classroom 2.0 Culture Adventure Project. We are making maps of the islands for our 2.0 families. Our maps include signature and title cartouches, compass roses, ships at sea and serpents. The islands include what we think our families will need. Like maps made hundreds of years ago, these are very interesting and visually pleasing.

Second Graders have completed their work with the translucent media of tissue paper and

watercolors. They are now making collages that are about the season. Kids love fun in the snow, and they get way into their creative minds when doing artwork about experiences, like this, that they love. The work becomes an expression of their experiences. We will be working on issues of scale and distance in two-dimensional artwork.

Third Graders are beginning to work with clay. They will learn about ancient Greek and Roman bas-relief sculptures, and they will build a relief sculpture of an animal. We will review the properties of clay, why we use slip, why we seal the pieces, how the clay dries and then changes when fired. We will also learn about glazes, and will use glazes to paint our sculptures.

Fourth Graders are happily, productively engaged with learning about clay. Our first clay lesson is based on Maria Martinez, a renowned Pueblo Indian potter.

This lesson relates to their social studies unit on Native Americans. We enjoyed learning that she is a Pueblo Indian, who lived in a pueblo building in a pueblo village named San Ildefonso. She built her pots with coils of clay, a traditional hand building method. Students are learning to build a cylindrical vessel in the same coil method that Maria Martinez used.

Fifth Graders are immersed in lessons on traditional clay hand building techniques. What we are building is not traditional. We are using pinch pot and coil building to make pots similar to ancient Japanese Jomon pots. As far as we know, these are the earliest made, surviving pots. We are using clay slabs to build shoes, in a lesson fashioned after a contemporary potter, William Wilhelmi. These lessons review the basic ways of building, giving students an opportunity to hone their skills.

Sincerely,

Ms. Newman

FEBRUARY 2012

Notes from the Music Room



Dear Greenwood Community,

Happy February! Hope the groundhog doesn't see his shadow!

The fifth graders have started rehearsing for their spring musical production, *We Haz Jazz!* This is a John Jacobson and Kirby Shaw production that introduces kids to the history of one of America's greatest exports – Jazz. This concert date is still pending due to county approval, but we hope that it will be held at the end of May at Rosa Parks Middle School's auditorium.

The fourth graders will be working towards their Spring Concert on Tuesday, May 22nd. Fourth graders will be performing as part of the instrumental music concert at Rosa Parks Middle School that evening.

The third graders have started preparation for the recorder unit. We hope to get started by the beginning of February.

The second grade, first grade, and kindergarten students will continue learning and having fun in general music. The music teachers will work with the other specialists as well as the classroom teachers to help reinforce all of our respective curriculums through curriculum alignment called Curriculum 2.0.

I am in the process of starting a web page just for Greenwood Music information. I hope to have the site up and running by February 1st. The links to the site will be:

<http://new.schoolnotes.com/students/main> for Students!

<http://new.schoolnotes.com/parents/main> for Parents!

As usual, I can be reached for questions via email or by phone. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the music program.

Thank you for your support!

Andre Enceneat

Email: andre_v_enceneat@mcpsmd.org

Phone: (301) 924-3145

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The students in Mrs. Lorei's music class have been really busy singing, playing instruments and moving to music.. We have been singing songs and chants about Dr. Martin Luther king Jr. We also sang songs that related to Dr. King and the civil rights movement. Students also have been learning about form in music and how songs are put together. Please take a moment and have your child chant the piece, "Martin Luther King."

Students in Mrs. Notaro's class have also been learning songs about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Students also learned more about rhythm notes (quarter and eighth notes). We sang, played instruments and moved to songs related to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and songs that contained a variety of rhythm notes.

Musically Yours,

Ms. Gesumaria



Bingo Night is on 10 February, 2012 at William Farquhar Middle School!

Address: 16915 Batchellors Forest Road Olney, MD 20832-2799

