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Mr. Edward Cosentino, Principal Oc

October 10, 2014

Dr. Teresa Via, Assistant Principal

Upcoming Dates to Remember

10/10 – PTA Fall Fest 6 – 8 PM 10/14 – PTA Meeting 7 PM 10/24 – Bushy Bear Dash Day! 10/31 – Halloween Parade 2:30 PM

10/17 - No School/MSEA Convention/Professional Work Day

Car Loop Safety

We would like to take this time to remind everyone of our car loop procedures. Our car loop procedures were designed so students can be dropped of quickly in the morning and picked up quickly in the afternoon. The procedures always keep the safety of our students as a first priority, and it is important for everyone to remember that during arrival and dismissal. Over the past few weeks, we have noticed a number of areas that we need your help with in order to maintain a safe arrival and dismissal in our car loop.

- Please drive slowly in the car loop, parking lot, and school driveway. Accelerated speed, even for a brief moment, is dangerous.
- Please have your child ready to exit the car promptly when staff indicates. Students may only exit the car from the passenger side onto the sidewalk.
- In order to maintain the flow and efficiency, do not get out of your car.
 - Please save your goodbyes for home.
 - If you have large instruments or projects to help unload, please park your car and walk with your child from the parking lot and across the crosswalk.
- Do not pass cars loading (p.m.) or unloading in the car loop (a.m.).
- Please do not park on the crosswalk.
- If you are parking in the parking lot, children should never walk through the parking lot alone. Parents must accompany their children through the parking lot and across the crosswalk.
- Parking in handicap spaces is for cars with a handicap permit only.

There is staff in many locations along the car loop to help ensure we have an efficient and safe car loop. Please follow their directions. We need your assistance to ensure that each child is safe during arrival and dismissal. We appreciate your help in making the car loop procedures work.

Green Note Process

We use "Green Notes" to help communicate between home and school for a variety of reasons. It is very important for parents to fill out Green Notes when there is a change in dismissal routine, an absences, or early dismissal. Please review the process below for the use of Green Notes and remember to fill them out for the appropriate situation prior to your child coming to school that day.

*Official Absence Note - Green Notes are used as absence notes to be turned in upon returning to school.

*Early Dismissal - Green Notes are used as early dismissal notes indicating the time students will leave and who will be picking them up (*that way if the person picking up is not on the emergency card, the note serves as permission from the parent for the child to leave with them*).

*Change in Routine at Normal Dismissal Time - Green Notes are used to indicate a change in the child's normal dismissal routine. If changing from bus to car for the day or vice versa, if attending an after school PTA activity, etc.

<u>A Letter From the Health Room</u> Attention Parents/Guardians: It is that time of year when head lice becomes more prevalent.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Head lice spend their life cycles on the skin of the human host. They may survive up to 2 days with access to a human host. Nits may survive up to one week. Lice are spread by direct contact (head to head) with an infested person and by contact with contaminated articles such as brushes, clothing, bedding, hair bows, etc. They cannot fly or hop, they move by crawling. The incubation period from the laying of eggs to the hatching of the first nymph is 10-14 days, but may be shorter in hot climates and longer in cold climates. Mature adult head lice capable of reproducing do not appear until 2 weeks later. Nymphs begin to lay eggs in 8-10 days after hatching. Viable nits are nits with the potential of hatching and become live lice.

POSSIBLE OBSERVATIONS / SYMPTOMS

- Tickling feeling on head/scalp and back of neck or behind ears.
- Frequent itching of scalp.
- Irritability and difficulty sleeping head lice are most active in the dark.
- Sores on the head caused by scratching these sores can sometimes become infected
- with bacteria found on the skin.
- No symptoms.

• Nits (eggs) tightly attached to hair shaft near the scalp, often near nape of neck and behind ears and appear as oval shaped, yellow or white - nits are often confused with dandruff, scabs or hair spray droplets.

• Crawling lice, rarely seen, are tiny, wingless, brownish or grayish insects that live on the scalp and cause itching.

IF LIVE LICE ARE IDENTIFIED:

• Please know that live lice must be treated with a pediculocide. Parents should follow manufacturer's recommendations with each pediculocide treatment product.

- Please remove all other nits to minimize confusion between new and old infestations.
- Parents should notify the school health room staff at 410-313-5500 prior the student's returned to school.
- After treatment and upon the return to school, the student should report to the health room.

• The parent should provide a note stating that the student has been treated with a pediculocide OR provide a health care provider's note stating the student does not have a live head lice infestation or viable nits. Proof of treatment used (box or prescription) must be provided.

GENERAL PREVENTION PRACTICES

- Avoid head to head contact in activities in classroom, sports, etc.
- Instruct students not to share combs, brushes or hair accessories.
- Use care in sharing of cots, couches, pillows, carpets or stuffed animals especially of
- someone who is infested.
- Use caution with multiple use items such as headphones, helmets, patrol hats, hats worn
- as play props.
- Do not put clothing into piles. (Please feel free to contact the Health Room at school at 410-313-5500 with any questions.)



MEETING

Please join us for the October PTA meeting on Tuesday the 14th. This month's meeting will be at 7:15 pm. And New Families don't forgot about the meet-and-greet before the meeting at 6:45 pm. Please RSVP to Tamara Westhoff at <u>bpesptapres@gmail.com</u>.

CULTURAL ARTS

What is an opera? Ask you child after school next Thursday Oct. 16! The PTA Cultural Arts Program is sponsoring a performance by New Moon Theater titled *The Adventures of the Opera Explorers*. The Explorers will transport your child into the world of opera including singing excerpts from 11 different operas. Check out the PTA website for more information.

BUSHY BEAR DASH

Have you heard the news?? Only two weeks until the annual Bushy Bear Dash!! This year's Dash promises to be full of fun while walking and running to raise money for some of our great school programs! There will be music, games, raffles, and, THIS JUST IN: If we raise more than \$10,000, Mr. Cosentino and Buddy the Bear will come to school on a fire truck! There will also be a special prize this year to all participating families as a thank you for your continued support. Check those backpacks- donation forms were sent home this week. Additional forms can be found on the PTA website www.bushyparkpta.org. We hope to see you cheering on your student on October 24!

COMMUNITY NEWS

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

Glenwood Branch of the Howard County Library

Please visit the library website at <u>www.hclibrary.org</u> to view information & register for the following October classes: Fingerpaint Fridays, The Count's Fall Spook-Tacular, Book Bingo, Fairytale Engineering, Sloppy Saturdays, and Inspiring Illustrators.

AFS USA Inc.

A student from Thailand who is a senior at Long Reach High School needs a new family through no fault of his own. His current host family agreed to host him for eight weeks to help him to get started in the US. Now his exchange organization is looking for a host family for him through the end of next June. In Thailand, he attended an English immersion high school, and he is excited to learn about US culture. He plays guitar, is interested in science, and is playing on his first youth baseball team. As a host family, you share your home -- and family life -- with the student. He has his own health insurance and spending money. This is an opportunity to learn about another country and culture -- as well as make a lifelong friend from Thailand! AFS Intercultural Programs has an active program in Howard County with support for both students and families. If you would like more information, please contact Christina McGarvey at 443-794-3264 or ckmcgarvey@yahoo.com

Howard County Recreation and Parks

Bracelet Design at Roger Carter Community Center. Design a one of a kind bracelet in this jewelry making class that teaches the basics of crimping, bead weaving, bead making. This class is held on Sat., Oct 11, 3:30-5:30 p.m. To register by phone, please call Recreation and Parks at 410-313-7275. For more information, please contact Kori Jones at kjones@howardcountymd.gov or 410-313-4609.

Howard County Recreation and Parks

Tangles Hair Styling at North Laurel Community Center. Let a licensed cosmetologist teach you proper techniques in blow drying, flat ironing, up-dos and more. This class meets for two Tues., 6-8 p.m., Oct 15. To register by phone, please call Recreation and Parks at 410-313-7275. For more information, please contact Kori Jones at <u>kjones@howardcountymd.gov</u> or 410-313-4609.

Howard County Recreation and Parks

Chess Tournament Training at Veterans Elementary School. Come and get serious about your chess game! Focus on playing slower games, analyzing past games to learn from your mistakes. This class meets for 8 Thursdays from 6-7:30 PM, beginning Oct 16. To register by phone, please call 410-313-7275. For more information, please contact Kori Jones at kjones@howardcountymd.gov or 410-313-4609.

Howard County Recreation and Parks

Necklace Design at Roger Carter Community Center. Design a one of a kind necklace in this jewelry making class that teaches the basics of crimping, bead weaving, bead making. This class is held on Sat., Oct. 18, 3:30-5:30 p.m. To register by phone, please call Recreation and Parks at 410-313-7275. For more information, please contact Kori Jones at kjones@howardcountymd.gov or 410-313-4609.

University of Maryland College of Agriculture and Natural Resources AGNR offers a FREE, fun-filled day on the farm Sat., Oct. 11, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. The College of AGNR will host an Open House at the Central Maryland Research and Education Center Clarksville Facility 4240 Folly Quarter Road, Ellicott City. It's an interactive day of fun and learning for all ages. Young kids will receive a passport and can win a prize for getting it punched at all the different stations. Middle- and high-school students can also receive prizes for successfully completing an educational scavenger hunt. Visit http://agnr.umd.edu/openhouse or call 301-596-9330 for more information.

Glenelg Marching Unit Boosters fundraiser, Lisbon Pizza Hut, 706 Lisbon Center Drive, Woodbine Mon., Oct. 13, dine in or carry out all day. Mention the fundraiser to your server and a percentage of the sale will go to the marching unit.

Glen Mar United Methodist Church

Family 5K and 1-Mile Walk on Sat., Nov. 1 at 9 a.m. The course will cover streets surrounding the church. Visit <u>http://www.active.com/ellicott-city-md/running/races/glen-mar-family-5k-and-1-mile-walk-2014?int</u> to register. The event will benefit the Howard County Food Bank.