

Fairland Flyer

Flying Far With Education

Fairland Elementary School

October 10, 2007

President's Letter

Dear Fairland Families and Friends,

We are off to a great start with our PTA activities for the 2007-2008 school year. Our book fair, welcome back picnic and Burtonsville Day Parade were all a tremendous success. We owe a debt of thanks to our community of parents, guardians and school staff who gave of their time and talents to make these events as successful as they were.

I ask for your continued support in time and talents for the activities and events still to come. A small commitment of your precious time will show your child that you care about his/her school and community and will leave a lasting impression. When you volunteer, your child will learn the importance of giving to others selflessly. It is then likely, that one day your child will follow in your footsteps to become a volunteer and experience the intrinsic joy of giving without always expecting something in return. Please come out in support of your PTA. I hope to see you at our next PTA meeting on November 6, 2007.

I bid you and your children this October, the joy of the first bite into a crunchy caramel apple chock full of crushed nuts; or of finding the very largest, brightest orange colored pumpkin perfect for carving. For those of you who celebrate Halloween, may you have an infinite number of knocks at your door and the sound of excited children chiming "trick or treat?"

Best wishes for a month of October that is as peaceful as a pumpkin patch at midnight for all Fairland families and those they love!

Carla Austin

Fairland Elementary School,
PTA President
caustin@enllc.net



Special Points of Interest:

- Parents Building Connections
Oct. 11, 2007
7:30—8:30 p.m.
- No School
Oct. 19, 2007
- Gym Dedication & Fall Dance
Oct. 27, 2007
2:00 — 6:30 p.m.
- Diversity Meeting
Oct. 30, 2007
7:00 p.m.
- Halloween Parade and Classroom Parties
Oct. 31, 2007
2:15 p.m.
- No School
Nov. 1, 2007
- Next PTA meeting
Nov. 6, 2007
7:00 p.m.
- Check us out on the Web:
www.mcps.k12.md.us/schools/fairlandes/

Pre-Kindergarten Press

Mrs. Laub

Your students are working very hard! Please continue to empty your child's backpack every day and send the folder to school the next morning. If your child is sick and is vomiting or has a fever, he is not permitted in school for 24 hours. We all want to stay healthy so we can learn!

Please encourage your child to keep practicing writing his/her first name. We are continuing to learn our alphabet, letters and sounds. Please use the practice sheet that was sent home if your child does not know his or her letters yet, but don't worry, we practice every day! You are great about returning homework! It makes your children so proud when you praise them and help them complete it together! Also, practice counting to at least 20 out loud. Your child should also be able to recognize numbers at least up to five and be able to count out at least five objects correctly.



We will be working on same and different soon and are learning to recognize all of our colors!

Most important:
READ WITH YOUR CHILD
EVERY DAY!!!

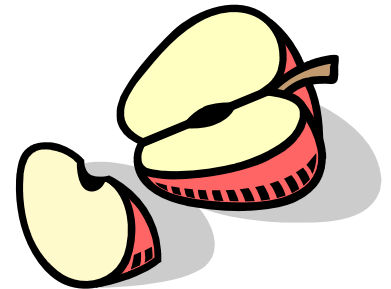
ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT THE
STORY AND PICTURES!

We will be sending Halloween information in a separate note! We would love parent volunteers to help that day, so please send me a note if you are available.

Kindergarten Communications

We have been very busy! We have just finished our first round of reading assessments. As a result, we have grouped children according to their strengths and needs with other students for reading instruction.

We have been studying apples as part of our living things unit in science, however, we have enjoyed activities with apples across the curriculum. We have made apple patterns in math, read nonfiction apple books, celebrated Johnny Appleseed's birthday and even created an eatable apple tree for snack. On Friday, October 5th, we will do an apple rotation with all five classes. Students will visit each teacher to take part in a different apple activity. During the second part of the month we will be studying pumpkins and fall.



We will be taking our first field trip of the year to Sharp's farm on October 26, to observe a working farm and pick pumpkins. We will end the month celebrating Halloween.

Have a great month!

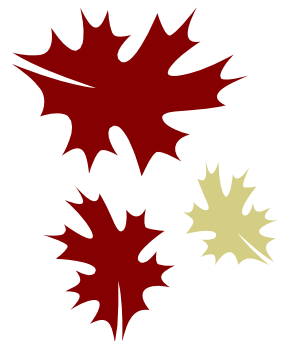
First Grade Flash

Our first graders are learning new things each day. This month we will be visiting Maydale Nature Center to observe nature at its best. The students will hike through the forest to see the changes in the trees and the grass. They will study living things in the pond, record and compare water, air, and ground temperatures, and examine the soil in and around the stream. This will be a great outdoor experience for the students.

We are reading and discussing literary texts, with emphasis on story elements. When you and your child are reading together ask questions about the characters, setting (when and where), problem, and the solution. This questioning will help develop better comprehension. The students are building their sight vocabulary when they are practicing their old and new Word Wall words. Thank you so much for helping your child with these words at home.

The students are learning new problem solving strategies, using counters, number lines, drawing pictures, and counting on. Making and identifying patterns has been fun for the students. Finding and identifying pattern units at home is a way to get the entire family involved in what your first grader is doing at school.

Thank you for checking your child's backpack for homework assignments, letters, notices, and corrected papers. It is so appreciated that the backpacks and folders are emptied of these papers each day. Thank you for coming to visit us during Open House. We look forward to seeing you for our Parent/Teacher conference.



Second Grade Scoop

It's hard to believe the first quarter is more than half way over. Interims have been sent home with all students. If you have not received one for your child, please contact your child's teacher. Please keep reminding your student to read nightly. Statistics prove that this helps the student achieve later in life as well as right now.

In science, we have been watching our caterpillars go through the stages in their life cycle. They came to us, just a little over three weeks ago, as little caterpillars and are already chrysalids! We are anxiously waiting for them to become butterflies!

In math we will soon be finishing our first unit. The students will be taking a county assessment on unit one objectives towards the end of this month. The test will cover all the objectives taught this marking period, including expanded notation, place value, odd/even numbers, graphing and patterns. Please remind your student that while the test may come and go, the information must stay in their minds forever!

A second grade tradition is Pumpkin Day. We will be celebrating Pumpkin Day on Wednesday, October 31st this year. On this special day each student will receive a pumpkin from our magical "pumpkin patch". Please continue to send in donations to cover the cost of this special activity. Please note that all activities (during the morning of the 31st) have nothing to do with Halloween.

Third Grade Tidings

The third grade teachers are very impressed with the students' learning this year; the students are working on good citizenship and character. The students have settled into the routines of the classroom and come to school eager to learn. We are progressing well in all subject areas. Parents are encouraged to stay highly involved with what their children are learning by asking questions and reviewing what is being studied in class.



In Math, patterns, trends, data and graphing, subtraction, estimation, and place value are the focus of the first unit. Basic math facts must be memorized and mastered for instant recall if the children are to continue progressing well. Please practice these facts (multiplication, addition, and subtraction) daily.

Social Studies time is occupied with the study of maps, cartography, and the globe. Please try to incorporate these skills in the family's routine.

Reading and Writing are incorporated in all of the subject areas of school. The students are making connections, learning vocabulary, writing extended paragraphs, and learning essential reading skills. Parental questioning that requires students to retell, explain connections, and summarize reinforces these skills.

In Science, the students' brassica plants are growing rapidly; many have flowers and will soon be setting seed. Autumn is a perfect time to take your child on a local field trip to look for plants in flower or for those that have already set seed. Discussions of pollination, pollinators, and parts of the plants are very helpful.

Field Trip: Each class will be going to Maydale Nature Center this month. The students will engage in environmental studies and orienteering. Parents are also encouraged to attend this trip.

Third Grade Team
David DiFonzo
Cathy Jones
Patricia Ysern

Fourth Grade Findings

We wish Mrs. Clary a fond goodbye and many happy returns to Fairland. Welcome back, Mrs. Julian!

The students are working hard to successfully complete their first 4th grade marking period.

In Math, we are studying geometry and graphs/data analysis. Parents can help their children with these units by playing a version of the "I Spy" game. Locate a pair of parallel lines in the room and say, "I spy a pair of parallel lines." As your child guesses, provide feedback such as "warmer" and "cooler." Check the glossary of geometry terms in your child's reference book for vocabulary words.



In Reading, students are learning about the Fables or Fantasy genres. Ask your child to summarize his/her favorite fable! Please remind your child to read for at least 30 minutes every night to meet the Independent Reading Goal of 6 books by October 30th.

We are publishing our Personal Narratives in Writing – ask your child to read you his/her descriptive memory!

In Science, we are observing the snails, crickets, roly polys, and grasses in our ecosystems.

Continued on the next page.

Fourth Grade Findings (continued)

In Social Studies, we are busy studying the history of Maryland to prepare for our field trip to historic St. Mary's City on October 24th. Please return your permission slips and field trip money as soon as possible. Remember to have your child at Fairland by 7:45 a.m. and to pick him/her up at 4:30 p.m. For lunch, please pack a bagged meal and a boxed drink.

Happy Reading!!

Fifth Grade Footnotes

In reading, the fifth grade students are studying historical fiction. We are in the process of reading novels such as Number the Stars, Sign of the Beaver, Night Journeys and Sign Painter's Secret. At home, the students should be spending time each evening working on their Independent Reading assignments. There are two more assignments due this marking period on October 18th and October 31st, last day of the marking period.

In math, Mrs. Hester's Math A class has been working on decimal operations and metric measurements. The math classes of Mr. Blake and Mrs. Collins have been studying divisibility rules, prime factorization trees and prime/composite numbers in Unit I. Unit I also includes algebraic expressions, greatest common factors and number patterns. As always, students should continue to review the basic multiplication facts until they have mastered the skill.

One month of school is already in the books!

The Fairland Falcon Fifth Graders are hitting their stride as we enter the second half of the first marking period.

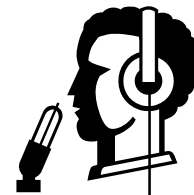
Mrs. Hester's fifth grade scientists have been working on astronomy comparing and contrasting earth to the other planets. Meanwhile in Mr. Blake's social studies class, our historians have been busy learning about the rights and responsibilities of being a good citizen. "Grammar Time" with Mrs. Collins has been a lot of fun with the students reviewing common and proper nouns as well as making their written work more "colorful"!

On Wednesday, October 31st, Fairland will have its annual Halloween parade beginning at 2:15 pm followed by in-class celebrations. Students may bring school-appropriate costumes to school to change into. Please do not have students wear their costumes to school.

Parent/Teacher conferences are coming up! They will be held during the week of November 5-9 and 12th. Look for a conference date/time in the coming weeks. We look forward to meeting with you to discuss your child's progress during the first quarter.

A special thanks to the students who acted as our morning announcers during the past month and in the first few weeks of school. Each student did a terrific job!

Please remember to check your child's agenda book for their daily homework assignments and the Friday Folder for important announcements and graded papers. Homework will be a very important part of the learning process for each and every student and completion of the homework assignments on a daily basis is vital to their academic success. As we stated at "Back to School Night", homework is being assigned on a daily basis. Independent reading due dates can be found in your child's independent reading folder or on the fifth grade link to the Fairland website.

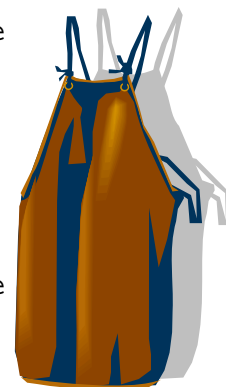


Art Attack

This is just a reminder to all families regarding smocks in the art room.

The Art Room will no longer keep smocks because of health reasons. All of the materials we use in the art room are water soluble and should come out in the wash, if treated promptly.

If you would like for your child to wear a smock to art, please send one in to his/her homeroom teacher. The smock must be placed into a large Ziploc bag with your child's name on it. The smock will be kept in the Ziploc bag in your child's homeroom class and be worn to art.



I strive to create a dynamic artistic experience for your child and I truly appreciate all of your support.

If you have any questions regarding the smocks, I can be reached at Ivette_M_Burgess@mcpsmd.org or at (301) 989-5658 after 3:30 p.m.

PROJECT QUALITY TIME

The purpose of Project Quality Time is to provide families with an organized date to go to the National Gallery of Art. The dates are organized by school clusters. The event is voluntary and transportation is not provided. Fall and spring dates have been designated for our Northeast Consortium cluster. The Fall date is Saturday, November 10, 2007 and the Spring date is Saturday, March 1, 2008. More information will follow.

Thank you to all of the parents and or Guardians who have already provided smocks for their children.

All classes are having a great time in art.

Head Start has been focusing on color mixing.

Kindergarten has been focusing on trees as a subject matter for a variety of art mediums.

First Grade has been working on paper Masks and will begin creating books.

Second Grade has begun working on contour drawings of butterflies.

Third Grade has begun working on weaving wall hangings.

Fourth Grade has begun focusing on textiles from Panama and will be creating paper Molas.

Fifth Grade has begun working on color mixing and color wheels.

I enjoyed seeing everyone at open house!

Fairland Elementary
Media Center
Newsletter

Welcome Back!

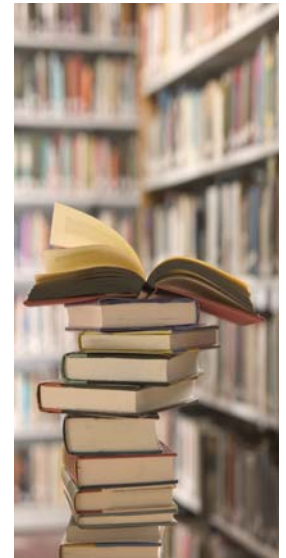
I would like to take this time to welcome back all returning students and welcome those who are new to Fairland. I am Ms. Thomas, the Media Specialist and Mrs. Wallace is our Media Assistant.

The media center has lots to offer to teachers and students this year.

The media center has received new books to add to our collection.

That's why it is important for students to return their books on time so that others

may have the opportunity to check them out. The policy is if a student has lost a book, the book needs to be paid for in cash to the media center. If the book is overdue, the student may not check out another book until that book is returned. If you find a book that has been paid for we will be glad to refund your money.



Reminders:

- Please return all books on time.
- Students with overdue books will not be allowed to check out books until they have cleared their record.

Black Eye Susan Program

This year students will have the opportunity to participate in the Black Eyed Susan Reading Program. The program is sponsored by MEMO (Maryland Education Media Organization). Students will be able to read many different picture books and chapter books that have been nominated this year. By the end of April, students who choose to participate will get the opportunity to vote for their favorite book.

Students will not only have media lessons this year but technology lessons as well. Head Start, Kindergarten, and First Grade classes will have their media lessons in the media center for the first & second quarter and grades 2-5 will have technology lessons in the computer lab for first & second quarter. Third & fourth quarter the classes will switch from computer lab to media center and from media center to computer lab. It should be a fun and exciting year.





Counselor's Corner By Felicia Hart



Red Ribbon Week Plans 2007

This year we will celebrate "Red Ribbon Week" from October 23rd to October 31. This is a week in which we will once again promote a drug-free lifestyle for our students.

Our theme this year will be "Drug Free from A to Z." The students will participate in activities that have them wear different articles of clothing each day. Each class will make a poster with a letter of the alphabet and corresponding "healthy choices" to make instead of doing drugs.

Red Ribbon Week Activities

Tuesday, October 23rd: "Hats Off To Healthy Habits" Day: Fairland wears hats.

Wednesday, October 24th: "Fairland is a Drug Free Land" Day: Fairland wears blue and yellow.

Thursday, October 25th: "Give Drugs the Slip" Day: Fairland wears slippers.

Friday, October 26th: "Living Drug Free Is No Sweat" Day: Fairland wears sweat suits.

Monday, October 29th: "Rally in Red" Day: Fairland wears red for assembly.

Tuesday, October 30th: "Blackout to Drugs" Day: Fairland wears black.

Wednesday, October 31st: "Say 'Boo' to Drugs" Day: Fairland wears Halloween costumes.



Become a Fairland Volunteer

[We need your help!](#) There are many ways that you can volunteer your time and/or skills to benefit the Fairland school community. One way is to call the school at 301-989-5658 to ask your child's teacher if they need your help. Another way is through the PTA. The following positions currently are unfilled :

- Cluster Rep (2)
- Audit committee Co-chair
- International Day Co-Chair
- Printer/Cartridges cell phone recycle person
- Diversity Rep (2)
- Special needs person
- Help with beautification day

If you would like more information please contact Cathy: CNMackelPTA@aol.com. Remember, the success of Fairland E.S. depends on everyone's support.

The PTA thanks the following individuals/groups for their help with the spirit wear and other PTA-related things at Back to School Night..

Carla Austin
Linda Dicken
Naja Gamble-Wheeler
Anne Lehan
Cathy Mackel
Sherri Totaro
Nabiha Ettiyyabi
Susan Meyers

**Thank
You!**

Burtonsville Day Parade

Thanks to Ken Salins and Linda Dicken for coordinating the kindergarten and 5th grade patrols who marched in the parade. Len Newman and the Burtonsville Volunteer Fire Department also deserve a big thank you for giving our students a chance to ride in the antique fire truck during the parade.

Fall Book Fair

Andrea Cuellar and Suzie Friedman organized a wonderful book fair again this fall. Many thanks to them and their dedicated team of volunteers for all their hard work.

Any digital artists out there?
Help! Your PTA has a website, newsletter, flyers, and posters. We constantly struggle with creating attractive graphics that can be used to make these items appear more professional, appealing, and especially fun. Would you like to volunteer your creativity to help us from time to time? Are you interested in finding out what we need? If so, drop an email to Ben Kassel at kasselb@comcast.net.

Fundraising Advisory Committee

The PTA is starting a Fundraising Advisory Committee to go over fundraising ideas and make recommendations to the rest of the PTA at our November meeting. If you would like to be a part of the Fundraising Advisory Committee, please contact Cathy Mackel at CNMackelPTA@aol.com.

PTA Student Directory to be Distributed Soon

The 2007-2008 Student Directory will be coming out before you know it. Make sure you get a copy by joining the PTA today. Dues for the school year are only \$10 and you get a free student directory too! PTA Membership applications are in the school office or can be found on our website at:

http://www.mcps.k12.md.us/schools/fairlandes/fairlandPta/memberApplication_20070817.pdf

Membership questions?

Contact Simona Haver at simona.haver@gmail.com

MCPS Parent Academy Workshops

A series of workshops for parents is being held at Banneker Middle School this year. Call to register by phone: 301-517-5940. Childcare is available. For additional information visit www.mcpsparentacademy.org. All meetings start at 7:00 p.m.

- 11/7/07 Reading Matters in Middle School
- 1/3/08 Helping Your Child Get the Most Out of Homework
- 2/4/08 Transitioning to Middle School and High School
- 3/12/08 Gang Awareness and Bullying Prevention
- 4/17/08 Internet Safety
- 5/7/08 What is the School Improvement Team?

More families are still needed to be part of our Someone Special Program for our school staff.

Each staff member is assigned a Fairland Family to shower them with gifts once a month for the school year. The gifts can be dropped off in the front office by you or your student to be given to your assigned staff member. The gift is anonymous until the last month of the year when you announce who you are. The gifts can be as simple as a plate of homemade goodies or something small from the store. The staff members fill out a survey to give you some ideas of their hobbies and what they like. We are in desperate need of more families to give all interested staff members a special family. PLEASE consider being a someone special for one or two staff members.

Contact:

Annette McVey at amcveigh1@verizon.net

or

Alison Klumpp at aklumpp93@yahoo.com

October News from the Music Department

****Congratulations 4th/5th Grade Chorus****

The Fairland Chorus has been invited to provide musical selections at the dedication ceremony for the new gymnasium.

Saturday, October 27, 2007 2:00 p.m. (in the gym)

You are cordially invited to come out to support the efforts of our wonderfully talented songbirds.

All Chorus members should report to the music room no later than 1:15 p.m., dressed in concert attire, on the 27th.

*Refreshments
will be provided.*

Upcoming Events

October - November

- 5th Grade MCPS Elementary Honors Chorus Auditions
- 3rd Grade students will receive information on materials needed for the recorder program beginning January 2008

December

- December 13: Winter Chorus Concert
7:00 p.m.
- December 21: All-School Holiday Sing
10:00 a.m.

Parents of Fifth Graders and Third Graders



Middle School Magnet Consortium and Middle School Magnet Application Programs are hosting open houses in November - all meetings start at 7:00 p.m. Parents are encouraged to bring their 5th grade students.

- Nov 1 A. Mario Loiederman Magnet School for Creative and Performing Arts
- Nov. 7 Eastern Middle School — Humanities/ Communication
- Nov. 14 Takoma Park Middle School — Math/Science
- Nov 19 Parkland Magnet School for Aerospace Technology
- Nov 27 Argyle Magnet School for Information Technology

The Elementary Center Programs for the Highly Gifted provide a learning environment for Grade 4 and Grade 5 students that enriches, accelerates, and extends the MCPS curriculum. Information meeting:

- Oct. 29 7 p.m. meeting at Wheaton High School about the center program at
Dr. Charles R. Drew Elementary



Fairland PTA's Welcome Back Picnic A Great Kick off of the New School Year!

A Special Thanks goes to the following volunteers who played a key role!

Alfiya Akhmed
 Anne Cook
 Anne Lehan
 Ben Kassel
 Cathy Mackel
 Damian Roberts
 Donna Kassel
 Dorrett McFarlane
 Erica Smith
 Jessica Rodriguez
 Jonathan Keiffer
 Alison Klumpp
 John Neely
 John Niedermair
 Kids After Hours
 Kim Gibbs
 Kristina Aabel
 Linda Dicken
 Lynn Mason
 Marissa Thomas
 Mike Gamboa
 Mrs. Dawson
 Rachel Hackenberg
 Sean Ford
 Simona Haver
 Steven Carballo
 Susan Brunsell
 Tim Smith
 Vanessa Crotzer
 Vaughn Bennett
 5th grade helpers for their face painting skills

Attended by many familiar and new faces, our Welcome Back Picnic on September 15 was a big success and reminded us that Fairland's PTA is not just a group of committee members, officers, and endless meetings. The PTA is all of us, and we succeed by working together with our great Fairland staff and by combining our different talents, interests, and resources for the benefit and well-being of all our children.

Our sincere thanks go to ALL the volunteers and Fairland staff for their valuable time and creative ideas, their critical assistance with grills and pickup trucks, their generous food contribution, and their cheerful help throughout the evening.

We would also like to thank KAH staff for graciously giving us access to some of their most popular equipment and for their precious help with picking up grills and face-painting activities.

It was a wonderful evening, and we look forward to seeing you at other Fairland PTA events.

The Welcome Back Picnic Committee

Lee Calloway
 Renee Gamboa
 Sheri Melvin

Congratulations to the winners of the Ice Breaker challenge at the Welcome Back Picnic:

Sue Brunsell
 Wendy Carballo
 Linda Dicken



Other Items of Interest to Parents:

- √ **Parent T.I.P.S.** (Parents using Technology to Improve the Performance of Students)
The MCPS HIAT team is offering free parent training sessions designed to help parents use universally designed learning strategies to support students at home. The next meeting is Nov. 12, 2007, 7-9 p.m. on "Finding internet-based material to support school assignments." Meetings take place at the Center for Technology Innovation computer lab, 4 Choke Cherry Road, Rockville, MD 20850. To register or for more information call HIAT at 301-657-4959.

- √ **Parent's School Box** — packed with information to help your child succeed. From the U.S. Department of Education: www.ed.gov/parents/academic/involve/schoolbox. To order contact ED Pubs and ask for product number ED003651K.
Online: www.edpubs.ed.gov
Phone: 1-877-4-ED-PUBS
Mail: ED Pubs, P.O. Box 1398, Jessup, MD 20794-1398

- √ African American/Black Residents are invited to **Community Meeting and Issue Forums:**
Oct. 16, 2007 Montgomery College Health Science Center, Silver Spring
Oct. 20, 2007 Lincoln Park Community Center, Rockville
Join your neighbors to talk about issues important to you including economic development, education, health, housing, criminal justice.... and more.
For more information please call Tina Clarke, 240-777-2500

- √ **The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development** seeks children ages 8-11 years to participate in a research study of eating habits. Participation involves eating a meal at the NIH on three separate weekdays and a blood draw. Children who qualify to participate in this study will be compensated for their time and inconvenience. For further information please call 301-451-3782.

Babysitters Needed!

We are looking for middle-school and high-school students over age 13 to earn Student Service Learning (SSL) hours by babysitting at our monthly Fairland Elementary PTA meetings.

Our monthly meetings are usually the first Tuesday of the month from 7:30-9:00 p.m.

If you know someone who is interested in helping out at one or more meetings,



please contact Alfiya Akhmed at aalfiya1000@hotmail.com

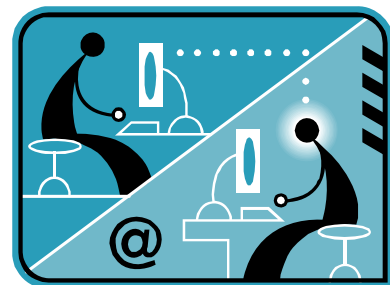
Fairland E-mail Group

Welcome new families and returning families!

If you are not already signed up for our PTA email group, please send your email address to Kim Gibbs at

kim_a_gibbs@hotmail.com.

The Yahoo group distributes valuable information about what is happening in and around our school.



Fairland Elementary School PTA International Day Parade!



On Saturday December 1, 2007, Fairland's International Day celebration will commence with a Flag and Traditional Dress/Costume Parade. The children will carry Flags from all over the world, wearing comfortable clothing in keeping with the colors of the flag they carry.

All Children and/or parents are welcome to participate.

Flag Banners will be provided by the PTA FREE of charge for all children.

Please detach and return the slip below to your child's teacher!

◇ Yes I give permission for my child to participate in the International day Flag and costume parade

◇ Yes I have a traditional cultural dress/costume child or parent will wear in the parade (please provide country and contact info below)

◇ No, I do not have a traditional costume, but I agree to dress my child in the designated colors of the flag he/she is carrying (PTA will provide flag)

My child wants to carry the flag for (choose 3 countries)

◇ I will like to volunteer to share a cultural tradition, artifact or performance from the following country: _____

Please provide contact information if you/your child will participate:

email _____ **phone** _____

Countries we will celebrate include:

- | | | | |
|----------|-----------|----------|---------------------------------------|
| Bahrain | Gambia | Jamaica | Peru |
| Barbados | Ghana | Jordan | Portugal |
| Cambodia | Guatemala | Korea | Sri Lanka |
| Cameroon | Guyana | Nigeria | Trinidad & Tobago |
| China | Haiti | Pakistan | <i>Countries you will like added:</i> |
| Ethiopia | India | Panama | _____ |
| | | | _____ |

FIRST ANNUAL PTA-SPONSORED INTERNATIONAL DAY

DECEMBER 1, 2007

2:30PM – 6:30PM

Let's celebrate the ethnicities of our Fairland Family by hosting an International Day! We will be serving foods, have entertainment, a craft show, a parade of children, and lots of fun! To make this day a success, we need all the help we can get. Please sign up by writing your name and number to donate your time and energy for any/all of the following:

Donations of foods from area ethnic restaurants

Donations of area stores for frozen foods

Donation of services by area bands and/or music-groups

Handmade and/or imported craft participants to sell their wares at \$20/table

Volunteers to help usher children and families to their appointed areas during Day

Other suggestions

Let's celebrate this day as the best of the county.

Please email me at Simona.haver@gmail.com, letting me know how you will be adding to this magnificent day.

Let's get this party started!

Simona Haver

Fairland Elementary School International Day Co-Chair

Simona.haver@gmail.com



Fairland Diversity Meetings

Please mark your calendars.....

October 30, 2007

January 17, 2008

April 17, 2008

All meetings to be held at 7:00 p.m.



Creating Partnerships with Parents, Montgomery County Public Schools and PTAs

We would like to welcome you to Fairland and remind you of our upcoming diversity meetings. As advocates for our children, we encourage you to become more actively involved in your children's education. Come to the meetings and learn how you can network and keep your children on the right track in order to help them succeed and have a wonderful learning experience here at Fairland.

We are your Diversity Representatives – Sheri Melvin (301-674-2706) and Kristina Aabel (301-680-0911). Feel free to contact us at any time.

WHO WE ARE?

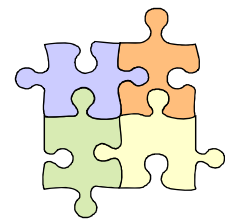
The Parents' Council of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) was formed as an outgrowth of ideas put forth during the 1995 and 1996 NAACP Youth Summits. The Parents' Council began in 5 clusters and now proudly boasts a Parents' Council in every school cluster in Montgomery County. The Council is the largest minority parent organization in the state. Its members are parents, guardians, and grandparents of minority children enrolled in the Montgomery County Public School System (MCPS). The Parents' Council invites everyone who shares the goal of equal education for all children, to join with them as we advocate for quality education for minority children.

MISSION

The mission of the Council is to provide a forum through which interested citizens may offer assistance, guidance and support to minority parents and students of Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) using encouragement, information sharing, training, positive motivation, critical evaluation and advocacy as they pursue the highest quality education possible.

VISION

The Parents' Council envisions a system where children are encouraged to excel to the extent of their abilities; their strengths are recognized and cultivated; discrimination and hate crimes are not a threat and where the staff reflects the diversity of the community.



Fairland Elementary School

14315 Fairdale Road
Silver Spring, Maryland 20905

Phone: 301-989-5658
Fax: 301-989-5769

Mrs. Tillie Garfinkel, Principal
Mrs. Stacey Dunn, Assistant Principal

● Flying Far With Education!

● **The Fairland PTA**

The Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) at Fairland Elementary School is a non-profit volunteer organization which strives to improve the education, socialization and community action of its students, teachers and families. Membership in the PTA is \$10 per adult and entitles a paid member to voting rights in the PTA. All parents, however, regardless of membership, are invited to participate in meetings, discussions and events. Our meetings are typically on the first Tuesday of each month, beginning at 7:00 p.m. with social time. The business meeting starts one half hour later in the school's All Purpose Room. Reminders will go home on flyers in your child's backpack. Membership monies are used to support the fun and educational events planned throughout the school year for our students and their families.

The entire PTA welcomes you to volunteer your time to assist with a committee, an event or a position in the PTA. Please contact Carla Austin, PTA President, if you are able to volunteer an hour, a day or commit to a year-long role on the PTA.

caustin@enllc.net or 301-879-3190.

We're on the Web!

www.mcps.k12.md.us/schools/fairlandes/

Missed the October PTA Meeting?

Notes from the last PTA meeting.....

- The gym dedication will be held on Saturday October 27th at 2:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed to iron the choir uniforms, bake cookies and to help with decorations.
- The Fall Dance will follow the gym dedication from 4:30 until 6:30 p.m. Admission is free, tickets will be sold for pizza, drinks and baked goods.
- Many fundraising ideas were discussed, including ice skating, Domino's pizza, Scratch off cards, flea markets, reading timers, Verizon referrals and the possibility of doing a Kidsfest/Silent Auction again this year. A fundraising advisory committee was formed to look into the feasibility of doing these fundraisers.
- International Day will take place on December 1 at 2:30 p.m. This will be a day of celebration of the different ethnic groups represented in our school. The day will start with a Flag parade, and there will be demonstrations, food, etc.
- Report from MCCPTA: priorities are the operating budget, safety in our schools, playgrounds, and school buses, interpreters for meetings, better maintenance for our portable classrooms, and training for substitutes.
- Cluster report: looking at safety on our buses. There is a new online system for PTA membership.
- Diversity reps: We now have a second rep from our school. Our first Meeting will be October 30, 2007. The NAACP council will also be holding meetings on such topics as gang awareness and bullying.
- The Someone Special Program is looking for families to take on ten additional staff members. Please consider helping out with this.