Dear Garrett Park Families,

We hope you find this weekly email user-friendly and beneficial for staying informed and planning for upcoming school events. If there is information you would like us to share in upcoming editions, please let us know. You can either call the school at 240-740-0700 or email Dan at Daniel\_K\_Tucci@mcpsmd.org or Melanie at Melanie\_S\_Bachrach@mcpsmd.org

**Updates from GPES Administration:**

We enjoyed seeing you at our Donuts with Dads event this past Wednesday morning. What a wonderful response as we welcomed close to 150 dads. There were so many participants we had to make two additional donut runs during the event!! A huge thank you to Erin Rehman, PTA president, our school counselors, Ms. Catucci and Ms. Kemp, building services and so many others who supported this event and helped make it enjoyable for parents and children. This initiative’s intent was to highlight the significant difference fathers and father figures can make by taking an active role in their children’s educational experience. When fathers and significant male role models play an active role in a child’s education, children perform better academically; have fewer discipline problems; and become more responsible adults. Check out [https://twitter.com/D\_Tucci](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__twitter.com_D-5FTucci&d=DwMFaQ&c=fgAH0TEak9hSJygxoVsafg&r=-H88A-nqVig4iJU0dnj9DZdbRw670-V-qbBcDiUgz1s&m=FJJWoDOMtFKscVhhesM9U_km86DE9nIiN88o4bfysNY&s=rB4zrwERAQXh8s5rup-zPZFF6xcOzRIUsmDBgmEKKTg&e=) for pictures of the event. Thank you again for your participation!

**Teaching and Learning:**

As you know, when a child feels good about being at school, he or she are more available to learn. We have been working on ways to help students feel comfortable in their learning environment this year. Class meetings are one structure we use to gauge the “temperature” of our classrooms. Students are able to share feedback with their teacher and classmates regarding their learning environment and this is very empowering for students as it helps them understand they play an important role in maintaining a positive classroom environment. Our school counselors support the process by helping to model class meetings at staff meetings and in classrooms.

**Safety and Security:**

Please remember to walk your bikes around the school grounds. We have noticed many families with young students continue to ride bikes through pedestrians, walkers, near cars and bypass buses. This is very dangerous for both pedestrians and bike riders. Walking along side your bike is the safest way for everyone. Thank you for your cooperation!

**Important Dates:**

October 3                    PTA Meeting                                                              6:30pm

October 6                    Early Release                                                              Dismissal at 1:20 pm

October 9                    Open House Visitation                                               9:30-11:30am

October 9-13               PTA Scholastic Book Fair                                          9:05am-4:30 pm

**MCPS Updates:**

**Come to the World of Montgomery Festival!**

The World of Montgomery Festival celebrates and displays the rich cultural heritages of Montgomery County and the Washington, D.C., area. The festival will be held Sunday, October 15, at Montgomery College’s Rockville Campus, 51 Mannakee Street in Rockville, from 12 noon to 4:00 p.m. MCPS is proud to be a partner in this year’s festival. The free event includes an international village, a global kitchen with chef demonstrations of traditional ethnic food, a craft market, a Parade of Cultures, two performance stages of traditional dance and music, connections through service, traditional arts, and fun interactive activities for the whole family. For more information, visit [www.worldofmontgomery.com](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__www.worldofmontgomery.com_&d=DwMFaQ&c=fgAH0TEak9hSJygxoVsafg&r=-H88A-nqVig4iJU0dnj9DZdbRw670-V-qbBcDiUgz1s&m=FJJWoDOMtFKscVhhesM9U_km86DE9nIiN88o4bfysNY&s=WmCpLEhLSVmfjZoPVqnH8qmC20W-xyvK7V6vi6SBYuM&e=).

**¡Venga al Festival del Mundo de Montgomery!**

El Festival del Mundo de Montgomery celebra y exhibe las ricas herencias culturales del Condado de Montgomery y del área de Washington, DC. El festival tendrá lugar el domingo, 15 de octubre, en el campus de Montgomery College en Rockville, 51 Mannakee Street, de 12 del mediodía a 4:00 p.m. MCPS se enorgullece en ser colaborador en el festival de este año. El evento es gratuito e incluye una villa internacional, una cocina global con demostraciones de comidas étnicas tradicionales preparadas por chefs, un Desfile de Culturas, dos escenarios que presentarán música y danzas tradicionales, conexiones a través de servicio, artes tradicionales y actividades interactivas y divertidas para toda la familia. Para más información, visite [www.worldofmontgomery.com](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__www.worldofmontgomery.com_&d=DwMFaQ&c=fgAH0TEak9hSJygxoVsafg&r=-H88A-nqVig4iJU0dnj9DZdbRw670-V-qbBcDiUgz1s&m=FJJWoDOMtFKscVhhesM9U_km86DE9nIiN88o4bfysNY&s=WmCpLEhLSVmfjZoPVqnH8qmC20W-xyvK7V6vi6SBYuM&e=).

**Walk and Bike to School Day (English and Spanish)**

**Walk and Bike to School on October 4!**

Looking for a healthy way to start the day? Jump start it by walking or biking with your child to school! Join hundreds of students and parents in Montgomery County in celebrating International Walk to School Day on **Wednesday, October 4**. International Walk to School Day was founded in 1997 as a way to bring community leaders and children together to build awareness for communities to be more walkable. It is celebrated by thousands of schools across the nation and in more than 40 countries worldwide.

Walking and biking to school are great ways to promote health, identify safe routes for walking and biking, and improve air quality. International Walk to School Day is a great opportunity for you to help your child learn and practice safe walking or biking skills. If you live too far from your child’s school to walk, drive part of the distance, then park and walk the rest of the way!

For more information, visit [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/saferoutestoschool](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__www.montgomerycountymd.gov_saferoutestoschool&d=DwMFaQ&c=fgAH0TEak9hSJygxoVsafg&r=-H88A-nqVig4iJU0dnj9DZdbRw670-V-qbBcDiUgz1s&m=FJJWoDOMtFKscVhhesM9U_km86DE9nIiN88o4bfysNY&s=NkpLOKWBPioSFPVg2m4hOw0GYmWQXj_6USFfunMaOJ0&e=).

**¡El día para ir a la escuela caminando y en bicicleta es el 4 de octubre!**

¿Está buscando una forma sana de empezar el día? Empiécelo yendo a la escuela caminando o en bicicleta con su hijo/a. Únase a cientos de estudiantes y padres de familia en el Condado de Montgomery que estarán celebrando el Día Internacional de Ir Caminando a la Escuela, el **miércoles, 4 de octubre**. El Día Internacional de Ir Caminando a la Escuela se fundó en 1997 como una manera de unir a los líderes de la comunidad y los niños para elevar la concienciación para que las comunidades sean lugares más propicios para caminar. Es una celebración compartida por miles de escuelas de toda la nación y en más de 40 países en todo el mundo.

Ir a la escuela caminando o en bicicleta es una excelente manera de promover buena salud, identificar rutas seguras para caminar y para ir en bicicleta y mejorar la calidad del aire. El Día Internacional de Ir Caminando a la Escuela es una excelente oportunidad para que usted ayude a su hijo/a a aprender las destrezas de caminar y montar en bicicleta de manera segura. Si usted vive a una distancia que está demasiado lejos de la escuela como para ir caminando, ¡conduzca su vehículo parte del camino y luego estacione y camine el resto del camino!

Para más información, visite [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/saferoutestoschool](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__www.montgomerycountymd.gov_saferoutestoschool&d=DwMFaQ&c=fgAH0TEak9hSJygxoVsafg&r=-H88A-nqVig4iJU0dnj9DZdbRw670-V-qbBcDiUgz1s&m=FJJWoDOMtFKscVhhesM9U_km86DE9nIiN88o4bfysNY&s=NkpLOKWBPioSFPVg2m4hOw0GYmWQXj_6USFfunMaOJ0&e=).

Have a great weekend!

Dan