



Calverton Elementary
Beltsville, MD

October 23, 2009
Volume 1, Issue 4

Calverton Elementary School's Newsletter

From the Principal's Desk...

Dear Families,

A special thanks to the 81 families that participated in the successful fundraiser. On Monday, October 26th from 2:30-7:30pm, you can pick up your fundraiser orders in the multipurpose room. Thank you again.

The sixth graders have been at North Bay camp with their teachers this week and from reports they are having a terrific experience.

The sixth graders need to get some good sleep and good breakfasts next week as they will be making up the FAST test both in reading and math.

Next Tuesday and Wednesday will be our Hispanic Heritage Month celebration. Students will attend an assembly in the morning and then have a celebration in their classroom. We are asking families to donate food to their child's classroom.

On Thursday, October 29th, Calverton will celebrate Reading Character Day. The students will dress up like a character in their book. Make sure the book is with the students on October 29th. In addition, we will have a parade and students will share their books with their classmates.

Friday, October 30th is a teacher planning and grading day. There will be no school on October 30th.

It is not too early to start thinking about a science project for the 4th, 5th, and 6th graders. A science project demonstration will be held on November 10th at 7:00pm for all interested parents. Each person will make a mini-project.

Remember the book fair will be held November 9th-13th in the media center. Thursday, November 12th is Family Fun Night from 6:00-8:00pm.

Report cards will be sent home on November 10th. Wednesday, November 11th is parent teacher conferences. The book fair will be open all day.

Please participate in the PTA's REACH fundraiser, which was sent home with your children. The packets of information should be returned to your child's teacher ASAP.

Lastly, please remember the need to have your children wash their hands so we can all stay healthy.

As always,
Peace,
Mary M. Tschudy, Principal

From our Parent Liaison...

Men Make a Difference Day was a Success! 87 fathers attended! Mr. Gomes, our PTA Vice-president gave us a wonderful presentation about how a man can make a difference.

Data shows that when fathers and significant male role models are involved students:

- Make As and Bs
- Have greater motivation to succeed
- Have higher self-esteem
- Have less health and emotional problems
- More confidence
- Are less likely to use drugs
- Are less likely to become teenage parents

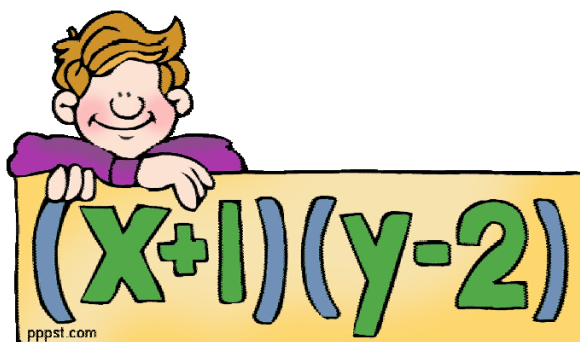
-Mrs. Lucy Santizo, Parent Liaison

Math Corner

The Math Facts bulletin board is up outside the computer room. Students in second through sixth grade are listed by class and have a sticker for each math fact test they pass. Please encourage your child to study math facts at least 15 minutes a night. They can do this by playing games, going on <http://www.firstinmath.com> (grades 3-6), or writing out the facts and thinking about the patterns. Students should record their study time on their Math Facts Calendar each day. There will be party for students who pass all their grade level math facts by December 1.

Stay and Play using First In Math will be starting in November for students in grades 3-6. Like last year, students will stay after school on Fridays until 4:00. Our focus will be on a new game during each session. Because space is limited in the computer lab we would like to invite students who do not have a computer at home before opening participation to any student who is interested. Please talk to your child about this opportunity. Permission slips will be coming home at the end of October.

-Mrs. Gale Waibel, Math Resource Teacher



Important Dates

Tuesday, October 27th

Hispanic Heritage Month Assembly
8:15am in the Multipurpose Room (Grades 1-3)

Wednesday, October 28th

Hispanic Heritage Month Assembly
8:15am in the Multipurpose Room (Grades 4-6)
9:30am in the Multipurpose Room (Pre-K & K)

Thursday, October 29th

End of the 1st Quarter
Book Character Day
Partners in Print Reading Workshop
*For Parents of students in Pre-K-2nd Grade
Free Books!*

Friday, October 30th

Teacher Planning Day
No School

Monday, November 9th-Friday, November 13th

Scholastic Book Fair

Tuesday, November 10th

Report Cards Sent Home
Science Project Demonstration
7:00pm

Wednesday, November 11th

Parent Teacher Conferences
No School

Thursday, November 12th

Book Fair Family Fun Night
6:00-8:00pm in the media center

Technology Corner

The Computer Lab continues to buzz with the excitement of First In Math for students in grades 3-6. Pre-k, Kindergarten, First and Second graders are busy working on the Reading program - www.Starfall.com.

A great site for children to explore at home to enhance reading and math skills is www.pbskids.com.

Our Second Parent Technology Night is fast approaching. Mark your calendar for Thursday, November 19th.

The November topic will include using Digital Cameras to create a Seasonal PowerPoint/Note Slide. (Cameras will be provided, but feel free to bring your own)

-Ms. Shirley Upchurch, Technology Liaison



Nurse's Corner

H1N1 consent forms have arrived and have been sent home. Complete all parts of the form and sign it. If all the answers are "no" your child may be eligible for the vaccine. If any answers are "yes" do not complete the form, as he will not be eligible for the nasal vaccine. Remember, if your child has asthma do not complete the consent form. Take him to your doctor or to another medical facility for the injection. We do not know when the Health Department will be here to administer the H1N1 Nasal Vaccination but I expect it will be within the next 2 weeks. The deadline to return the form was supposed to be 10/22/09. However, this is extended until 10/27/09.

When to Keep Your Child Home From School

Sick children need to be kept home from school. Resting at home will help them get better more quickly and will prevent them from exposing other children or the staff to their illness.

1. Has a temperature greater than 100.4°F taken with an oral thermometer
2. Has nausea (upset stomach) or vomiting
3. Has diarrhea (frequent, loose, watery stools) Symptoms may include cramps, bloating, nausea and an urgent need to have a bowel movement.
4. Has stomach pain that is constant. If vomiting starts after the pain begins (call your health care provider that day)
5. Has a headache that is interfering with activities
6. Has a sore throat that causes difficulty swallowing
7. Has yellow discharge on eye lashes in the morning that comes back after being wiped off of lashes and eyes that are red (call your health care provider for an appointment the day this is observed)
8. Has a skin rash that causes itching and/or is on most of the body
9. Has a constant cough and/or difficulty breathing
10. Is complaining of feeling ill, has a lack of energy and/or a decrease in activity

What to do if your child has these signs of illness:

If your child has symptoms for more than 24 hours or if the symptoms become worse, call your health care provider for an appointment. Follow your health care provider's advice on administering over the counter medications.

When may your child return to school?

Your child may return to school when your health care provider says he/she can (documentation from the health care provider may be needed), when symptoms are gone for 24 hours or if your child has taken the antibiotic prescribed by the provider for a full twenty-four hours. Keep your child home until his or her fever has been gone for 24 hours without medication. Please call your school nurse if you have any questions about this information.

-Ms. Kay Diggs, RN, Calverton School Nurse

Reading Corner

On Wednesday, the P.T.A. kicked off with an assembly for all students, R.E.A.C.H. Reading Education Awareness in the Child's Home. The program will begin on Halloween, October 31. Check your child's red folder for program details. Proceeds from the program will benefit Calverton Elementary in addition to improving reading stamina and reading comprehension.

Back by popular demand is the YES WE CAN READING CLUB. Last year we had over 200 students who participated in the club. We would like more members this year. You become a member by completing your monthly reading calendar with parent signature each day and by completing the daily number of required minutes per day. In addition all club members in Pre-k to second are to draw two pictures from two of their favorite books read each month. Grades 3-6 must write two book reviews from among the books read during each month. We will celebrate quarterly the success of the club.

-Mrs. JoAnn Price & Mrs. Carolyn Berngartt,
Reading Specialists/Reading Recovery

Writing Corner

Calverton's students and staff celebrated the first "National Day of Writing" on Tuesday, October 20, 2009. This day was supported by the National Writing Project in partnership with the National Council of Teachers of English and other organizations in an effort to emphasize the importance of writing in everyone's life.

One of the many ways that the Calverton family celebrates writing is the "Writers Hall of Fame". This is located on the bulletin board next to the media center. Students whose writing is displayed on the "Writers Hall of Fame" are honored during the morning announcements and receive a writers' ribbon.

The writing sample for this newsletter is written by the fourth grade poet, Angela Delcid in Mr. Hartman's class.

-Mrs. Constance Wood, Writing Specialist

For Every...

- For every teardrop, a smile begins.
- For every sprout, a beautiful flower blooms.
- For every star in the dark night, a wish comes true.
- For every baby, a mother to love.

