



Calverton Elementary School's Newsletter

From the Principal's Desk...

Dear Families,

I hope you had a joy filled Thanksgiving. We are all back working hard.

Thursday, December 10, 2009 will be the 4th Grade Family Math Night from 6:30-8:30pm. Thank you parents who have been helping your children with their homework, the Reading and Math Calendars, and First in Math.

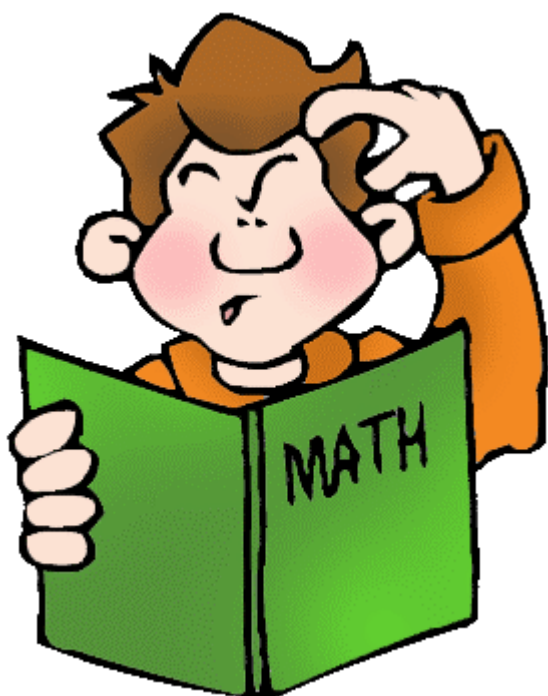
Progress reports will be coming home on December 18, 2009.

Please help us by getting your children to school on time. We have many students tardy each day. When children are tardy, they get behind in their work.

The Holiday Concert will be performed Tuesday, December 15, 2009 at 7:00pm in the multipurpose room. All are invited to celebrate with us.

Winter break begins December 24, 2009 until January 4, 2010.

Happy Holidays,
Mary M. Tschudy, Principal



Math Corner

As a Title I school, Calverton is in a position to offer various special programs to students. For fourth graders there is America Counts. Imagine having your own University of Maryland tutor twice a week to help you complete your math homework and also plan fun activities that deepen your understanding of math. Twenty University of Maryland mentors tutor thirty-four students in the program and we are very appreciative of their support. Several of these tutors are volunteers while others are part of federal work-study, which helps them pay for college. On December 9 the students will be thanking their mentors during a recognition and celebration. Tutoring will continue with Mrs. Waibel and Mrs. Gibson while the mentors are on Winter Break

-Mrs. Gale Waibel, Math Resource Teacher

Reading Corner

The holidays are coming and we thought you might want some suggestions for book giving. Throughout PGCPSS, we test reading aptitude twice a year using the Scholastic Reading Inventory also known as the SRI. Results from this test are given to each classroom teacher. Student performance is measured by assigning a Lexile score to every student. Teachers and parents can then find books appropriate to each child's Lexile score. Please visit the Lexile website for books which your child might be interested in reading. The website is www.lexile.com. In addition to books, you will also find more information regarding how to use Lexile scores. Below you will find approximate Lexile levels per grade level.

Grade	Text Measures
1	200L to 400L
2	300L to 500L
3	500L to 700L
4	650L to 850L
5	750L to 950L
6	850L to 1050L

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

Important Dates

- Saturday, December 5th**
 Calverton Roller Skating Party
 4:30pm
- Thursday, December 10th**
 4th Grade Math Family Night
 6:30-8:00pm
- Tuesday, December 15th**
 Holiday Concert
 7:00pm in the Multipurpose Room
- Thursday, December 17th**
 3rd Grade Math Family Night
 6:30-8:00pm
- Friday, December 18th**
 2nd Quarter Progress Reports Released
- Thursday, December 24th-Friday, January 1st**
 Winter Break
 Schools Closed
- Monday, January 4th**
 Return to School

Writing Corner

Parents may request a Write-A-Book information packet from Mrs. Wood or Mrs. Cavallo to help their children think of ideas for a book. Teachers are having students write books in class, and parents are encouraged to help their children write books at home. Parents may request a Write-A-Book information packet from Mrs. Wood or Mrs. Cavallo.

Please remember that the website listed below is an excellent method for children, as well as adults, to improve their vocabulary while helping feed those who are hungry in the world. (www.freerice.com)

Students who are participating in a literature circle/book clubs with Mrs. Wood should be prepared for their group discussion once a week. The meeting days are as follows:

- Mondays – Mr. Hartman's group
- Tuesdays – Mrs. Gibson's group and Ms. Njoku's group
- Wednesdays – Ms. Levin's group and Mrs. Bravo's group
- Thursday – Mrs. Fulcher's group

-Mrs. Constance Wood, Writing Specialist



Writing Sample The Moon's Feelings

Written by the poet Jenaya Molina
in Mr. Cohen's class

The Moon's Feelings

Have you ever wondered how the moon feels?
Is she full of joy because the stars are her friends?
Is she sad because she wants to be a human?
Or is she happy being where she is.
Or does she wonder what it is like on Earth?
What are the moon's feelings?

Technology Corner

Ms. Upchurch and Mrs. Freeman hosted our Second Parent Night at the Computer on Thursday, November 19, 2009. Parents used a digital camera to take a picture, save the picture, and then download the picture into their slide. Everyone seemed to have an enjoyable time.

The STEM Fair is coming!!!! Ms. Upchurch and Ms. Levin will be hosting several "STEM Nites @ the Computer". Mark your calendars for January 18, February 1, and February 16, 2010. The teachers will be here from 6-7:30p.m. The Computer Lab will close

promptly at 7:30pm. Come type, print, and assemble your STEM Fair backing board. Parents must accompany their student. It is not too early to start the project NOW!

I would also invite you to browse the websites on my Google site at <http://sites.google.com/a/pgcps.org/ms-upchurch-s-computer-lab/>.

-Ms. Shirley Upchurch, Technology Liaison

Physical Education

On November 27th and 30th, Calverton held their 3rd annual Turkey Trot. Congratulations to the following students who captured 1st place: 3rd Grade---Jose Santos and Angie Gonzales, 4th Grade--Mohamed Barry and Milto Tasissa, 5th Grade--Jenny Bo and Tayron Hamilton, 6th Grade--Jacari Ramsey and Beatriz Marantal. Also, congratulations to all participants including staff and parents. Thanks to all for helping to make the Turkey Trot a huge success.

-Mrs. S. Albert & Mr. A. Hankey, Physical Education



Calverton Roller Skating Party

When: Saturday, December 5th
4:30 pm – 6:30pm

Where: Laurel Skating Center
9890 Brewers Ct.
Laurel, MD 20723
301-725-8070

Why? Another PTA fundraiser
for our school!

Admission is \$5.50 and skate rental is \$2.20

Come skate with your friends at school, bring other friends and family and have a great time! Hope to see you there!