

The “Friday” September 18th, 2009



Mark Your Calendar:

Sept. 24th – Early Dismissal 1:00 p.m.

Sept. 25th – No School

Sept. 28th - Oct. 1st – Book Fair

Sept. 30th – 3rd Grade to St. Mary’s City

Farm to School

This week our students enjoyed fresh, local produce during their lunch periods. Each day different produce was made available to students. We enjoyed **watermelons, apples, corn, cherry tomatoes, and red peppers** this week. We also planted our winter garden. Many classes planted their beds with **seeds compliments of Even’ Star Farm**. Thanks to Tara Duarte and Ms. Haight for orchestrating the planting!

A special thank you to **Ms. Calabro** for assisting with this program. In addition, Ms. Calabro enlisted the help of **her parents, Becky and Fred, as well as her daughter Trinity!** Special thanks to our **parent volunteers** this week for cutting, preparing, and serving these delicious offerings!

On Thursday, children were offered zucchini to bring home. What did you do with yours? We've heard about them being eaten raw with dip, added into a stir fry, made into bread, and sautéed with garlic! On Friday (and finishing Monday), **Ms. Funya made zucchini bread with many of the classes.** The school was filled with the wonderful aroma!

During the week, our **students also enjoyed a visit from a flock of chickens,** compliments of the Ganzell family!

Produce: Russell Farms, Even’Star Farm, Nob Hill Orchard, Sivak Farm, and Christina Allen.

Student Arrival and Dismissal Times:

Please remember that all students are to be in **the building no later than 8:30 a.m.** Students arriving after this time must be escorted to the main office and signed in as tardy.

Book Fair Volunteers Needed:

Our first Book Fair of the year will be held **Sept. 28th – Oct. 1st.** Volunteers are needed to assist with this event. **Two volunteers are needed per shift!** The following are the available shifts:

8:30-10:30a.m. M-F

10:30-12:30p.m. M-F

12:30-3:00p.m. M-F

To volunteer, please contact Cynthia Chan at kchanfamily@aol.com

Back To School Luau:

Special thanks go to the **Naluai and Gagnard families** for their amazing coordination of our Back to School Luau! Thanks also to the many families who prepared food, set up and cleaned up for the event! It was a great evening and we had a fantastic turnout!

Staff in the Spotlight:

Introducing **Holly Calabro** (Cal-a-bro). Ms. Calabro joined the CPCS staff in August as our PE teacher. She has eight years experience teaching PE to all different grades. **She {loves} her job and thinks it's the most fun job at CPCS!** She is so excited about our new gym, slated to open after the October break. Her focus is teaching our students to enjoy team sports and to encourage them to play them at home and recreationally. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family and loves spicy foods!

Volunteers:

A special thanks to all of our volunteers these last two weeks! We've had an amazing response to our pleas for assistance assembling media carts, unpacking and hanging bulletin boards and white boards, Planting our winter garden and arranging for farm visitors! Thanks to the following people for their dedication:

Michael Sams, Maribeth Boeke Ganzell, Laretta Pranzo, Jeffrey Pranzo, Steve Wall, Kent Chan, Cynthia Chan, Brenda Songy, Jennifer Delisio, Lynn Hunt, Mike Funya, Tara Duarte, May Cooper, Andora Rruka-Stanton, and Andrea Quirk.

Special thanks also to the many parents who have been assisting in the classrooms, helping in the Café and at recess, chaperoning field trips, and working behind the scenes!

Cafeteria Notes:

We welcome parents and other family members to join their students in the Café for lunch. **If you plan to purchase a hot lunch, please contact the front office by 9 a.m. the day of to notify them.** In order to reduce waste, our Café prepares just enough food for those students, staff, and family members who have selected a hot lunch first thing in the morning.

Counselor Comment:

We are currently having issues with the voicemail on the phones in the counseling office. **If you need to leave a message for a counselor, please do so with the secretary,** Ms. Jaster. We apologize for the inconvenience.

Author to Visit Middle School Students:

Tom Kirkbride, author of the popular young adult, sci-fi adventure series, **Gamadin**, will be visiting CPCS on Sept 23rd. He will be speaking with our 6th and 7th grade students. To learn more about Mr. Kirkbride, check out his website <http://gamadin.com/author.htm>

Volunteers Needed – Fair Display:

We need a few parents to assist with the set up of the CPCS display at the **St. Mary's County Fair**. Set up will take place on **Sept. 21st after school**. Take down will take place on **Sept. 28th at 1 p.m.** If you are interested in helping, please contact Ms. Primack at eyprimack@smcps.org

Fall Walk:

The Fall Walk is a wonderful family activity! This is a major fundraiser for CPCS! **Last year we raised \$10,000!!!** Our goal this year would be for each grade to raise \$2000; that would raise \$16,000 to help support CPCS! Some of **the fun activities planned are Bounce House, Face Painting, Arts & Crafts, Carnival Games, and lots of food!** Students should have written their letters. A letter you can use was sent home electronically last week and is also available on the website for downloading as well.

The following teachers are planning some special classroom fun if their class meets the \$2,000 goal:

- **Ms. Snyder** – the class voted for their incentive. They chose a pizza party (along with applesauce, veggies, yogurt sticks, and water).
- **Ms. Simonds** - will wear her hair **bright pink** to school!

Many volunteers are needed to assist in this fun event! To volunteer, please contact Michelle Gagnard at gagnard@md.metrocast.net

Drop Off & Dismissal Safety:

- **No children should be walking to and from the building by themselves.** The parking lot is very busy and several children have been seen walking by themselves far from adults. It only takes a moment for an accident to occur.

- **Parents may NOT drive through the bus lanes at any time**

Dismissal changes:

Please make any dismissal changes for that day to the main office no later than 2:30 p.m. Children may not be picked up in the office after 2:45 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings:

Community meetings are open to the CPCS Community as a whole. **We strongly encourage active parental involvement** in these meetings, either by serving on the committee or participating as an attendee.

- There are no meetings scheduled next week.