



Issue #35  
May 27, 2009

# Churchill Chatter

Churchill Road Elementary  
7100 Churchill Road McLean, Virginia 22102  
Office (703) 288-8400 24-Hour Attendance (703)288-8484  
<http://www.fcps.edu/ChurchillRoadES/>



## Technology at CRS

It has been another exciting and busy year on the technology end of things here at CRS. I had the pleasure of speaking to the PTA several weeks ago, and wanted to share the information I presented to the whole community, to give everyone a better idea of where we are and where we're going technologically-speaking.

Originally, we had planned to purchase additional LCD carts and SmartBoards for the current school year. However, several factors caused those plans to change. First, our existing LCD carts and SmartBoards weren't as heavily used as anticipated, so acquiring more became less of an immediate priority. Also, centrally-funded county replacements of our older computers have been in limbo – the 14 laptops we were promised last year have yet to even be ordered. Additionally, an inventory review revealed that many of our existing PCs were low on memory. Finally, the large color laser printer in our upstairs teacher workroom had become very problematic, and needed to be replaced. So, with the money from the PTA Tech Line Item, I was able to buy 14 refurbished laptops (which were used to create another mobile lab), additional memory for all of our existing PCs (bringing each to at least 1.5GB of RAM), and a brand new color laser printer for the upstairs workroom.

Looking ahead, our long-range technology goals are to: (1) replace our remaining Mac computers with Windows laptops, (2) equip each grade level with their own mobile labs, (3) equip each classroom with an LCD presentation cart; and (4) equip each classroom with a SmartBoard interactive whiteboard.

Officially, the replacement of older computers is done through the county – but we may need to explore other options, such as purchasing refurbished equipment or accepting donations. With the purchase of three additional mobile lab carts and by re-allocating our existing laptops, we should be able to equip 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grades with two 16-laptop mobile labs each by next year. An additional 16 LCD carts and 28 SmartBoards will be needed in order to get one in every classroom, which is something we hope to accomplish over the next five years.

One way parents can help out the technology program here at CRS is by donating equipment. For detailed

information on minimum specifications for donated computers (Windows format -only!), go to: <http://tinyurl.com/q7kuc5>. As our goal at CRS is to transition all of our aging Mac desktops to Windows laptops, so we would mainly be interested in laptop donations. However, we would also consider desktop PCs. So, if you, or perhaps your business, might be able to help us out, please feel free to contact me directly at [Erik.Dahlin@fcps.edu](mailto:Erik.Dahlin@fcps.edu).

Once again, thank you to the PTA for the continued support of technology programs here at CRS – your contributions in the past have been invaluable, and we know that we can continue to count on you in the future!

*Erik Dahlin*  
*School-based Technology Specialist*

## CRS Families Show Their School Spirit in D.C.!



Our CRS families showed their school spirit this past weekend! More than 300 members of our CRS community came on Memorial Day for the opening weekend of *Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian* at the IMAX theater in the National Air and Space Museum in D.C. It was an amazing experience, because some of the movie had been filmed right there at the museum! According to the IMAX staff, we were the largest group the IMAX theater has had to date! Thanks to all who came to this fun event, and also to Lee Peterson, a CRS 1st grade student, who came up with the great idea. If you have any fun ideas like this too, you can contact the PTA Family Activities Committee or the PTA president.

## Adjustments to 2009-10 Bell Schedules for Churchill Road Elementary



As part of its adoption of the FY 2010 final budget, the Fairfax County School Board has adjusted some school start times to save \$4.6 million in transportation costs. These adjustments are separate and apart

from the proposal to change school start times that the Fairfax County School Board considered and voted to reject in March 2009. The adjustments focus on achieving efficiencies within the current bell structure, which the Fairfax County School Board voted to retain. The bell schedule changes will be implemented in the 2009-10 school year.

For the 2009-10 school year, Churchill Road students' official start time each day will be **8:10 a.m.** The daily school schedule will be:

### Grades 1-6

**Monday** 8:10 a.m.- 12:20 p.m.  
**Tuesday-Friday** 8:10 a.m. – 2:50 p.m.

### AM Kindergarten

**Monday** 8:10 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.  
**Tuesday-Friday** 8:10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

### PM Kindergarten

**Monday** 10:25 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.  
**Tuesday-Friday** 11:40 a.m. – 2:50 p.m.

For more information, visit the FCPS website:  
<http://www.fcps.edu/news/start.htm>.

## IMPORTANT REMINDER: “Go-Home Notes” to End *THIS* Friday, May 29

Due to the many activities occurring at Churchill as we close out the school year -- for both students and staff -- CRS will only allow matching go-home notes for play dates through May 29<sup>th</sup>. This includes bus notes and notes for picking up a student other than the driver's own child. As of Monday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, notes requiring a match will not be accepted. We thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter!

## Become a Library Volunteer

Do you like books? Want to find out what the students at CRS are reading? Then



volunteer in our own Churchill Road library next year. If you have 1-2 hours per week or 2 hours every other week, we would love to have you join us. You can even get your own library card and check books out of the library too! If you are interested, please contact Terri Markwart [LTMarkwart@gmail.com](mailto:LTMarkwart@gmail.com)

## SOL Testing Continues

Spring 2009 SOL testing continues through June 4, 2009. Testing begins at 9:00 a.m. each day. Please try to avoid scheduling appointments which may take your child out of school during this time period. Also, it will help your child perform his or her best if he or she has a good night's rest, a healthy breakfast, and comes to school with a positive attitude.

Please note that state regulations mandate that electronic devices, including cell phones and iPods, are **not** allowed in backpacks or the classroom during testing. There are **no** exceptions. If a child brings these items to class on SOL test days, they will be confiscated and returned to the child at the end of the day. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

The remaining SOL dates are:

Thursday, May 28 Grade 3: Math  
Friday, May 29 Grade 3: Science  
Monday, June 1 Grade 3: History/Social Science

Tuesday, June 2 Grade 5 Math (Newman, Brody, Drye)  
Weds., June 3 Grade 5: Science  
Thursday, June 4 Grade 5: Reading



## CRS Human Relations Award



Do You Know  
Someone Special?

This is your last chance to nominate this individual for the CRS Human Relations Award!! It can be given to: a CRS staff member, parent, or student who has had a *positive impact* on our entire school. This person makes a difference and goes above and beyond our daily citizenship responsibilities to enrich the lives of everyone at Churchill Road! Please take a moment to let us know who you think would make a worthy recipient of this wonderful award. All nominees will be acknowledged. Please submit the nominee's name along with a brief statement outlining the reason you are nominating him/her via email to [Katie.Griffith@fcps.edu](mailto:Katie.Griffith@fcps.edu).

All submissions are due by 9:00 a.m., Thursday, May 28.

# CRS Calendar of Events -- May 27 - June 5, 2009

## Wednesday, May 27 (A Week):

9:00-11:00 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Reading SOL  
 3:15-4:00 Flag Football 5/6 Gym  
 3:15-4:30 Scrabble Club Room 219

## Thursday, May 28 (A Week):

8:00-8:25 Running Club Track  
 9:00-11:00 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Math SOL  
 3:15-4:00 Flag Football 3/4 Gym  
 3:15-4:30 Artist Trading Club Room 219  
 3:15-5:00 LAST Chess Club Café

## Friday, May 29 (A Week):

**Bobcat Spirit Day – Back to the Future –  
 Dress like you're from another decade!**  
 9:00-11:00 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Science SOL  
 3:15-4:00 Flag Football 5/6 Gym  
 3:00-4:00 Plant Sale Greenhouse

## Monday, June 1 (B Week):

8:00-8:25 Sports Club Gym  
 9:00-11:00 Grade3 History SOL

## Tuesday, June 2 (B Week):

9:00-11:00 Grade 5 Math SOL (Brody,  
 Newman, Drye)  
 3:15-4:00 Flag Football 3/4 Gym  
 3:15-4:30 Artist Trading Club Room 219

## Wednesday, June 3 (B Week):

9:00-11:00 5<sup>th</sup> US Grade Science SOL  
 3:15-4:00 Flag Football 5/6 Gym  
 3:15-4:30 Scrabble Club Room 219

## Thursday, June 4 (B Week):

9:00-11:00 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading SOL  
 3:15-4:00 Flag Football 3/4 Gym  
 3:15-4:30 Artist Trading Club Room 219

## Friday, June 5 (B Week):

3:00-4:00 Plant Sale Greenhouse  
 3:15-4:00 Flag Football 5/6 Gym

**The next Spirit Day is Friday, May 29**

**Back to the Future Day -- Dress like you're from the '70s, '80s or '90s.**



## Cheers of the Week...!



Congratulations to our Churchill Cheer winners for the week of May 18th: **Bethany Pascual** (Kindergarten); **Lee Peterson** (1<sup>st</sup>); **Rachel Kan** (2<sup>nd</sup>); **Kelly McCormick** (3<sup>rd</sup>); and **Tim Murray** (4<sup>th</sup>). Great job!

Remember, at CRS we follow the three R's. We respect ourselves, we respect others, and we respect property.

## TIPS FOR A HEALTHY SUMMER!

During the “fun” time of summer vacation it is very easy to forget our healthy school year practices. Remember to make the following healthy tips a part of each day.

- Eat Breakfast
- Limit consumption of soft drinks and candy.
- Eat at least five servings of fruits and vegetables.
- Drink at least eight glasses of water.
- Make wise snack choices such as crackers, cheese, milk shakes, yogurt and pudding.
- Exercise at least 60 minutes each day.
- Wear sunscreen.



The Langley High School Choral Department will present their annual Spring Show, the capstone of the choral year, entitled **"Hooray for Hollywood!"** on Thursday, May 28 and Friday, May 29 in the Langley Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. The show will feature choral students singing and dancing to medleys from popular American movies including *The Sound of Music*, *Hairspray*, *Enchanted*, *The Princess Diaries*, and *The Music of M-G-M*. Also included will be Academy Award winning songs like "Moon River" from *"Breakfast at Tiffany's"* and classics like "As

Time Goes By" from *"Casablanca."* Tickets may be purchased in advance from an LHS choral student for \$5 and will also be available at the door for \$8. Questions? Please call the Langley Choral Office at 703.287.2822. Don't miss this exciting tribute to Hollywood movies and the emotional senior send-off that always ends the Spring Show!

The CRS Home page address: <http://www.fcps.edu/ChurchillRoadES/>. To submit Chatter material, please email Editor Kim Moran at [Kathleen.Moran@fcps.edu](mailto:Kathleen.Moran@fcps.edu). **Deadline for submissions is the end of school each Friday.** Keep In Touch (KIT) reminders will typically be emailed to the CRS community on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 3:00 p.m. Please email your brief KIT message to Kim Moran and Don Hutzel at [KIT\\_Request](mailto:KIT_Request). All KIT messages should be sent to the school at least 24 hours in advance of their posting.