

# Mosby

Mahri Aste, Principal  
Gregory Brotemarkle, Asst. Principal

**PARENT NEWSLETTER**  
December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011



# Matters

Office Phone Number: 703-937-1600

Attendance Phone Line: 703-937-1661

## MOSBY WOODS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

### A Fabulous Concert!



What a great night! Our fifth and 6<sup>th</sup> grade members of chorus, band or strings performed their holiday concert last night to a packed house. It was a wonderful opportunity to highlight the musical gifts and talents of our students and to celebrate Mosby Woods as a CETA (Changing Education Through the Arts) school. The concert was a terrific way to ring in the holiday season!

### Advanced Academic Program Identification Process

The Advanced Academic program for students in grades three through eight offers identified students a full-time, highly challenging instructional program that follows the FCPS Program of Studies. Differentiation in the depth, breadth, and pace of instruction is designed to meet the needs of advanced learners with a strong emphasis on problem solving, independent and group research, investigations, and higher level thinking skills. The AAP serves approximately 12% of the students in grades three through eight. Each spring FCPS uses the results of the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) and the Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test (NNAT) to select a second grade pool of candidates for the AAP or Level IV

Advanced Academic services. Each year the benchmark score for students in the second grade pool is 132 or higher on any subtest of the CogAT or 132 or higher on the NNAT. Parents of these students receive a letter of notification that their child will be screened for possible placement in an AAP. Each year, approximately 67% of students in the second grade pool are found eligible.

Testing is only one component of the screening and selection process. The AAP resource teacher, Mrs. Carmack, prepares a screening file for each student that is being considered for AAP placement or Level IV services. The file consists of the student's ability test scores, achievement test scores, progress reports, and a Gifted Behavior Rating Scale with Commentary (completed by teachers who work with the student). Parents may also submit a *Parent/Guardian Questionnaire* and/or up to five samples of student work and/or up to five awards (all must be no larger than 8 ½ x 11).

**Parents of students currently in grades 2-6 are invited to attend a Parent Information Night Thursday, January 19, 2012 7-8 PM Mosby Woods Library**

Learn more about the procedure for referring your child to be screened for the Advanced Academic Program Level IV and recommendations for additional documents that may be included in the screening file.

Deadline for submitting a parent referral is **February 3, 2012**. Additional information will be provided for the parents of students in the second grade pool of candidates who will be screened for full-time AAP placement.

For more information please contact Mary Lou Carmack, AART

[Marylou.carmack@fpcs.edu](mailto:Marylou.carmack@fpcs.edu)

## Inclement Weather



The FCPS website has information about how weather-related school opening/closing decisions are made. The weather decision process website address is: [www.fcps.edu/news/weather.htm](http://www.fcps.edu/news/weather.htm).

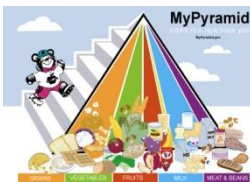
Weather-related announcements will also be available from local radio and television stations, the Channel 21 bulletin board and through the Keep in Touch email notification service. Please **DO NOT CALL THE SCHOOL.**

## Holiday Office Hours



The office will be **CLOSED** during the winter break, from December 23<sup>rd</sup> through January 2<sup>nd</sup>. Happy Holidays!

## Healthy Tips for the Holidays



- Choose a variety of foods from MyPyramid.
- Start the day with breakfast and energy to tackle all projects.
- Eat plenty of fruits and vegetables.
- Eat lighter meals at night.
- Remember to exercise 60 minutes per day.
- Eliminate night-time, stress-related grazing.
- Go to bed feeling light not “full.”
- Limit portion sizes of favorite holiday foods, especially desserts.

Enjoy your feast, family, and friends!

## Keep Learning



The Winter break is a great opportunity to keep your kids learning by using the many great websites on our “Learning Links” tab on the school website. You’ll find electronic books, math games, science and social studies review and other fun ways to learn. Check it out!

## Dates to Remember



- **December 15<sup>th</sup>** – Chorus performance at Lockheed Martin
- **December 16<sup>th</sup>** – Crazy Hat Day
- **December 21<sup>st</sup>** – Band and Strings concert at 9:00 am
- **December 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Sing Along Assembly at 2:00 pm
- **December 23<sup>rd</sup> – January 2<sup>nd</sup> – Winter Break**
- **January 12<sup>th</sup>** – Family Literacy Night at 6:00 pm

**Thanks to all who volunteered and attended our Thanksgiving lunch on November 17<sup>th</sup>!**

