



Spring Hill Elementary School



The Bi-Line

No. 12

Website: <http://www.fcps.edu/SpringHillES/>

November 9, 2011

Office Hours 7 a.m. until 4 p.m. Monday through Friday

Absent? Tardy? Sick? 24-hour attendance line at (703) 506-3434

Our Japan Visit Updates and Do You Have a Plan for Inclement Weather Delays and Closings?

Dear Parents,

We are very excited that we currently have eleven children, two staff members (including yours truly) and several parents/siblings who have signed up for our trip to visit our sister school in Totsuka, Japan this summer. Yabe Elementary School is very excited to have us over for a visit and they will reciprocate by sending students/parents from their school early next school year in October over the Columbus Day week. This summer, our plans are to leave on June 21st, just a couple of days after school lets out, and return either July 1st or July 2nd. We still have a few spaces available for children and their parents to come with us and we are getting close to booking the airline tickets so please send in your request by the deadline of Monday, November 14th. For more information please look at our website and click on the Yabe link.

Now for some more current news, we ask that over the Thanksgiving holidays you discuss with your child (ren) what they should do if school closes early due to bad weather and no one is home. Do your children have a plan and know where to go if you're not home in case of an early school closing?

The decision to cancel school and after school activities is not made by Spring Hill Elementary School, but rather by FCPS central offices. As soon as we are notified, an announcement will be broadcast through several media outlets but we are asked to **not** send out individual school Keep in Touch messages. Again, we ask that when weather is questionable, please watch TV, especially FCPS cable channel 21, or listen to the radio, for timely information. **Calling Spring Hill, though perhaps convenient, is generally not the best way to ascertain information on a timely basis.**

If you are not home, your child should know what to do. Once school activities are cancelled, and children are dismissed, they become your responsibility. We feel it is very important for every family to have an emergency plan in place with your child and to discuss it often and practice the procedures.

We wish a safe winter season for us all!

Best regards,

Roger D. Vanderhye
Principal

Student-Parent Survey is Due Now

Please return your completed, signed and dated student-parent survey to school no later than today. We are required to have a completed survey for each child at Spring Hill School. Extra copies are in the office, or available at the following link: <http://www.fcps.edu/it/forms/fs57.pdf> Thank you for your participation.



See Inside this Issue:

Page 1: Principal's Message ; Parent Student Survey;

Page 2: Book Fair; Picture Make Up Day; Coat Drive;

Page 3:Calendar, Thanksgiving Early Release;

Page 4: Community Coffee and Parent University; Night Sky Festival; Yearbook Photos;

Page 5: Fun Fair Kickoff

Page 6:Fall Book Fair Flyer

Bi Line Submissions: Deadline Tuesdays at noon; Please submit to Susan.Chait@fcps.edu

Spring Hill Book Fair



The Book Fair is coming! This year's event, **Fall For Books**, will run from **Monday, 11/14** through **Friday, 11/18**, so start making your holiday gift list! The PTO is again partnering with Bookworm Central to offer a fabulous selection of books for all ages, games, craft kits and gifts. Classes will visit the Book Fair to preview the selection and return again to make purchases.

Book Fair Hours:

Mon., 11/14 – Thurs., 11/17 – 8:00am-4:00pm

Fri., 11/18 – 8:00am – 12:00pm

Volunteers – We are still seeking help with Book Fair! If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Amy Prewett, acprewett@yahoo.com.



Wed, 11/16 – Family Night, 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Family Night Ice Cream Social – Join us on **11/16, from 6:00pm-8:00pm** for a fun-filled evening of shopping and **FREE** ice cream, served up by your favorite teachers and staff!

We welcome donations of ice cream toppings – sprinkles, Oreos, Skittles (no nuts please). Please drop off contributions in the Front Office.



Picture Make Up Day:

November 17 for re-takes and for those absent on September 30.

For retakes, bring your original picture to the photographer.

Extra order forms are in the office.



Coat Drive

Thank you, Spring Hill Community! Through your generous contributions we were able to give over 200 coats to a very appreciative Belvedere Elementary. We received thank you notes from the administration, the PTO and the students.

Time Out of School

Please schedule your family vacations during FCPS designated holidays / breaks, which you can see at this link: <http://www.fcps.edu/about/11-12cal.htm>

Be aware that missing school for extended periods of time negatively impacts your child and your child's teacher.

Calendar

See a full school calendar at our website:

http://www.fcps.edu/SpringHillIES/calendar/WebsiteCalendar9_2010.htm

Week of November 7, B Week:

Wednesday, November 9: Vision & Hearing Screening, gym

Thursday, November 10: 2nd Gr. Field Trip, Alden Theater, 9:15-11 a.m.

Week of November 14, A Week:

Book Fair Week, big pod

Wednesday, November 16:

1st Grade Field Trip; Mrs. DeOrnellas & Ms. Peters; Rust Nature Sanctuary; 9:15 a.m.—1p.m.

Book Fair Ice Cream Social, 6-8 p.m.

Thursday, November 17:

- Picture Day Make-up and Retakes
- 1st Grade Field Trip; Ms. Ciullo, Mrs. Falkler & Ms. LaCaria; Rust Nature Sanctuary; 9:15 a.m.—1p.m.

Friday November 18:

- SCA Spirit Day, Wacky Hair Day
- Community Coffee and Parent University, "Saving for College," 8:30-10:15 a.m., cafeteria
- Thanksgiving Lunch, cafeteria

Week of November 21, B Week:

Monday, November 21: Area Orchestra Rehearsal, 12:50-2:30 p.m., cafeteria

Tuesday November 22:

- 6th Grade Author visit, Laura M Elliott
- 2nd Grade Thanksgiving Feast, large pod, 11a.m.-noon.

Wednesday November 23: Early Release at 1:20 p.m.

Thursday and Friday, November 24 and 25: No School, Thanksgiving Holiday

Plan Ahead for Thanksgiving Holiday

Early Dismissal at 1:20 p.m. on Wednesday, November 23

Office Closes at 2 p.m.



Please note that the Matching Notes program does not operate the day before Thanksgiving (November 23) There will be no after school activities on Wednesday, November 23.

Please be sure that your child is aware of any special arrangements you have made for early dismissal. Children should know where to go if it differs from their normal routine.

Does he/she have a key to get inside if you are not home?
Should he/she go to a neighbor's home if you are running late?

If your child will be absent around the Thanksgiving holiday, please call the 24-hour attendance line at 703-506-3434 , to report the absence.



Save the Date: Community Coffee and Parent University:

Saving for College: the Virginia 529 Plan

Friday, November 18, 8:30-10:15 a.m., cafeteria

HOW ARE WE GOING TO PAY FOR COLLEGE?!?! Does this question sound familiar? JOIN US on November 18 at 9:00 a.m. in the Spring Hill Cafeteria, as Parent University hosts an informational seminar on the Virginia 529 College Savings Plan.

Led by Becky Robinson and Ruth Intress, Education Coordinators with the Virginia 529 College Savings Plan, many aspects of Virginia's 529 and saving for college will be discussed, including: What is the 529 Plan and is it right for my family? Is it ever too late to start investing in a 529 Plan? How much do I need to save annually for my child's college? What are the different approaches to college funding? These and other important questions will be answered and discussed. We invite you to attend along with friends and neighbors who may be interested in this important topic.

Join us for a cup of coffee before the seminar at 8:40. Parents with small children are welcome to attend. Activities and snacks will be provided for the youngsters. For questions, please contact Pamela Fox (pamela.fox@cox.net), or Susan Poliquin (sbpoliquin@cox.net).



Night Sky Festival at Riverbend Park

Saturday, November 19, 6-8pm

\$5/person, no reservations required

Enjoy activities including the moon phase game, guided star gazing, looking through the telescope and listening to ancient stories about the constellations around the campfire. Jupiter is the featured planet. Other activities and games ongoing throughout the evening. Hot chocolate and snacks available for purchase. Canceled if raining or snowing. Riverbend Park is located at 8700 Potomac Hills Street, Great Falls, VA 22066. 703-759-9018



Please send photos for Yearbook

Please send photographs of the fall festival parade, Thanksgiving feasts, class parties, outdoor classrooms and field trips and submit them for the yearbook to shyrbook@gmail.com. Photographs should be identified with the student's grade and class teacher. We regret that cell phone photographs are not acceptable. -Spring Hill Yearbook Committee

Spring Hill 2012 Fun Fair Committee Kickoff Planning Meeting

Friday, December 2nd from 7:00-9:00pm
NEW and PAST Fun Fair Volunteers, please join us on Friday, Dec. 2nd at the home of Michelle Reed for brainstorming and Committee planning.
We have opportunities for several new parents, so please consider attending. All are welcome, RSVP to Michelle at 703-862-4009 or michelleareed@yahoo.com

Spring Hill Fun Fair Saturday, March 24th, 2012

WE NEED YOU!!! We are working hard to get all our committee positions filled for the 2012 Fun Fair. We have several chair positions open and are looking for volunteers to help out. Each position has instructions for success and past chairs are willing to help you learn the ropes! Below are the committee vacancies and general descriptions.

1 Volunteer for the Bake Sale – promote the bake sale in the bi-line, collect baked goods on the Friday before the Fun Fair and work the bake sale during the Fun Fair.

2 Volunteers for the Cake Walk – promote the cake baking and contest in the bi-line, decorate the cake walk room, organize the cakes and the contest on Friday, work in the Cake Walk room during the Fun Fair.

4 Volunteers for the Games Committee - We need 4 volunteers to take the lead on fixing up the games, setting up on Friday, March 23rd after school and working the games during the Fun Fair. We are also interested in new ideas!

1 Volunteer to help Nancy Rau with Arrangements – Nancy has been doing arrangements for the Fun Fair for years. She knows the ropes but needs someone to help her out!

1 Volunteers for Middle School Volunteers – Help coordinate the middle school students that volunteer to help at the Fun Fair. They are often anxious to help as they earn community service hours.

1 Volunteer for Beverages – Place the order for beverages, coordinate delivery of beverages, set up on Friday March 23rd after school and sell beverages the day of the Fun Fair.

1 Volunteer for International Foods – Please join Julia Leigh in coordinating the flyers for donations in Thursday folders before the Fun Fair, set up on Friday March 23rd after school and sell the International goodies on the day of the Fun Fair.

2 Volunteers for Sporty Spa – Spend the day of the Fun Fair in one of the most popular rooms doing awesome, creative hairstyles.

2 Volunteers for Volunteer Coordinators – This position is in need of two people to shadow Mary Welch and Betsy Shomaker who have done this position for several years. Learn the ropes for 2013's Fun Fair!

Thanks so much for considering these positions. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call or email Michelle Reed, Fun Fair Co-chair at 703-862-4009 or michelleareed@yahoo.com .



Fall For Books!

2011 Book Fair

Do Your Holiday Shopping Early! We Offer a Wide Selection of Books and Gifts!

Virginia Readers

Best-Sellers

Craft Kits

Teacher "Wish Lists"

Games & Puzzles

Bookmarks & Pens

We accept - Cash, Check or Charge - Visa, MasterCard, American Express & Discover

FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Wednesday, November 16

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Join us for **FREE ICE CREAM SUNDAES** dished up by your favorite Spring Hill teachers and staff! We appreciate donations of toppings, sprinkles, Oreos, chocolate chips, and Skittles in the Front Office by 11/11. No Nuts Please!

POSTER CONTEST

Make a poster advertising the Book Fair, and our theme, *Fall For Books!* Gift Certificates will be awarded to one Grand Prize Winner and the 1st Place Winner for each grade. All entries will be displayed. Posters are due Wednesday, 11/9, and winners will be announced on Monday, 11/14. See Poster Flyer for details.

BOOK FAIR HOURS:

Monday, 11/14	8:00 AM to 1:30 PM	Class Preview** & Shopping
Tuesday, 11/15	8:00 AM to 4:00 PM	Class Preview** & Shopping
Wednesday, 11/16	8:00 AM to 4:00 PM	Class Shopping
	6:00 PM to 8:00 PM	Ice Cream Social & Shopping
Thursday, 11/17	8:00 AM to 4:00 PM	Class Shopping
Friday, 11/18	8:00 AM to NOON	Final Day!

**** Students will bring home a "wish list" after their Class Preview Day. Parents are welcome to come in and shop during all Book Fair hours!**

