

Spring Hill Elementary School



The Bi-Line

No. 3

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

September 7, 2011

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

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

This school newsletter will be issued every Wednesday during the school year at our website address above, under "News and Events." You will receive an e mail link to the newsletter if we have your current e mail address. Please update your contact information at <https://signup.blackboardconnect.com/fcps/Default.aspx>

Dear Parents and Students:

Congratulations on a wonderful first day yesterday. Once children arrived, teachers began teaching and learning commenced almost immediately. It was adorable to watch our All Day Kindergarten students eating lunch together for the first time since Spring Hill's creation as a school in 1965!

Also, we want to give a special thank you for the patience of the parents and students taking many of our eleven buses. I want to apologize for the tardiness or absence of a few of our buses yesterday. We endeavor to do whatever we can to make sure that transportation improves its service and we will try to communicate with you as best we can if there are further delays or interruptions of service.

Thank you again for a tremendously successful kickoff to the year.

Roger Vanderhye
Principal

See Inside this Issue:

Page 2: PTO President's Welcome

Page 3: Calendar; After School Activities; Chess Club; Junior Chess Champ; Library Volunteers

Page 4: State Softball Champions; Grocery Bonus Forms; Matching Notes; Visiting Classrooms; Physical Education Footwear

Page 5: School Picture Day and Volunteers; Science Lab; Outdoor Classrooms; Rubik's Cube Team; Science Olympiad; 5th Grade KIC; Spring Hill Grad in the News;

Page 6: Nonprofit Flyers; Riverbend Park Activities

Page 7: Kiss and Ride; Keep in Touch

Page 8: 2011 PTO Fundraising Flyer

Page 9: 2011 grocery bonus form

Page 10&11: Kiss and Ride Maps

Bi Line Submissions: Please submit to

CULTURAL ARTS September 15: "Improv 4 Kids"

This New York City touring company will kick off the school year with a high-energy, fast-paced comedy show. Through creative comedy arts, the talented artists will entertain the students with original characters, skits, songs, stories and dances based on audience suggestions. Interactive and unique! -

First Day of School Safety Patrol



Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2011-2012 school year at Spring Hill Elementary School! Over the summer, our PTO Volunteers worked tirelessly to furnish you with unique programs, events and activities that make our school extraordinary.

The Parent Teacher Organization or "PTO" is crucial to the ongoing success of our school. The PTO sponsors and funds a multitude of activities and resources to our school including: field trips, classroom supplies, Cultural Arts programs, Junior Great Books, After School Activities, classroom technology, Teacher/Staff Appreciation, Literary Magazine, Parent University, Directory, Science Courtyard and many more.

Don't forget that new and returning families must **register/update their profile for the PTO's school directory.**

Please join us in the large pod at our first **PTO meeting on Wednesday, September 14th at 9:15am.**

Mark your calendar for an exciting evening under the stars! Our second annual **Outdoor Movie Night is Friday, September 30th at 7:30pm.**

WE NEED YOU! Here's how to help:

Join the PTO. Your membership gives you a voice and allows you to vote on issues important to your child's education. *Our goal is 100% participation*, as a broad membership base enriches our PTO and school. In addition, membership **INCLUDES** a printed directory and the ability to register for After School Activities without paying a separate registration fee.

Give charitably to our "One and Done" Fall Fundraiser. *Our goal is 100% participation.* The suggested amount is \$60 per student. However, additional amounts are greatly appreciated. This Fundraiser eliminates "door-to door" or catalog sales of year's past. Furthermore, your Membership and Fundraiser donations are 100% tax deductible.

Become a volunteer. All PTO activities are staffed by volunteers.

For further information on all PTO committees and events including Directory, Membership, Fundraiser and Volunteers, **consult the detailed fliers in your Back-To School folders or go online to www.springhillpto.org.**

With Sincere Gratitude

Our PTO is fortunate to have many dedicated parents who generously volunteer their time and talents to our school. Many thanks to Merja Bjorksten, Beth Palma and Linda McElligott for treating our amazing teachers to a lovely brunch on their first day back at Spring Hill. I would also like to thank our gracious Hospitality chairs Catherine Macleod, Laura Miller and Ashley Profaizer for providing delicious refreshments at New Family Orientation. Our cordial Parent Ambassadors Simin Shakeri, Jovanna Reyes and Kathleen Vargas welcomed our new parents while Kris Chaze and Tara Vold registered our new families. Moreover, I offer thanks to all of the PTO volunteers who assisted with set up, staffing, baking, translating and clean up for these events.

I offer special thanks to Antonio Villaronga, our Web Administrator extraordinaire, who has diligently worked to update and improve our website. Karen Leyva, a Directory and Website chair, has also been indispensable to our efforts to get online and prepare the school directory. Thank you Antonio and Karen, as you are invaluable members of our PTO.

And finally, thanks in advance, to all of you. Your involvement at Spring Hill Elementary makes our school a special place for our children to learn, blossom and succeed.

Warmest regards,
Tanya Todaro
PTO President
tanyatodaro@gmail.com

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

Week of September 12, B Week:

Wednesday September 14: PTO Meeting, 9:15 a.m., big pod

Thursday September 15: Cultural Arts, Improv4Kids, cafeteria:

- Grades K, 1 and Nichols, Gismondi and DHaynie 8:50 a.m. – 9:20 a.m.
- Grades 3&4 and Romeo & Phillips 9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
- Grades 5&6 2:05 – 2:50 p.m.

Week of September 26, B Week:

Monday Sept 26, 6-8 p.m.:

Back To School Night Grades K-3

Tuesday September 27, 6-8 p.m.:

Back to School Night Grades 4-6

Friday, September 30:

- Chess Club Starts
- School Picture Day
- Family Movie Night, outdoors in the evening



PTO After-School Activities

After-School Activities (ASA) registration will open on **Thursday, September 15th** (PLEASE NOTE THE

NEW REGISTRATION START DATE) and close on Friday, September 23rd. Classes will start the week of October 3rd. Please stay tuned to the Bi-Lines and the PTO website

(www.springhillpto.org) for the upcoming list of after-school activities. A variety of classes will be offered in areas such as dance, karate, yoga, foreign language, drama, sports and art.

There is an \$8 registration fee per session if you are not a PTO member so please be sure to join the PTO in advance of registering. For PTO members, registration is free. To become a PTO Member for this school year, go to www.springhillpto.org or use the paper forms in your Back-to-School folder. This year, **all ASA registration will be offered online only** so be sure you have logged onto the PTO website and updated all of your family information.

If you have any questions, please contact Karen DeFilipps, Jennifer Jackson or Lori Gormly at ASASpringhill@gmail.com.

Chess Club Registration

begins on September 15th and the first day of Chess Club is the 30th. Registrations will be strictly online this year at www.springhillpto.org.



2011 US Junior Chess Championship in Houston

Spring Hill Student Brings Home Trophy

Tristan Ma in Mrs. Fisher's rising 3rd grade class won a second place trophy and earned the Co-Champion title in the 2011 US Junior Chess Championship Under 8 Division. The Tournament was held in Houston, TX in July. After six rounds of competition, Tristan scored 5.5/6, tied with the 1st place player, and shared the title of champion.

Tristan is very proud of be a Virginia player and a Spring Hill Elementary school student.



Library Volunteers Needed

Responsibilities include working the check-in/check-out desk, shelving books, guiding students and doing small projects.

- * weekly or bi-weekly shifts available to suit your schedule
- * shifts typically two hours
- * orientation and training provided
- * personal check-out privileges

The PTO library chairs would love to hear from you!

Liina Richardson
liinar@verizon.net
Janie Jackson
janiejackson3@gmail.com



State Champion 9/10 All Stars Softball Team

Jamie Wang, in Mrs. Bulford's rising 5th grade class, is a member of the 9/10 All Stars softball team that took the Virginia state championship title this summer. Please click here for an article from the Sun Gazette: <http://www.sungazette.net/articles/2011/07/28/fairfax/sports/sp232m.txt>



Grocery Bonus Forms

Please return the **Grocery Bonus Card Form (orange paper)** from your Back To School folder ASAP.

This is **Free Money** for our school! It costs you nothing, but you do need to re-register your cards with us **EACH YEAR** in order for Spring Hill to receive this money. Just provide the numbers on your grocery bonus card(s) from Giant, Safeway, and/or Harris Teeter, and these stores will contribute a portion of your purchase amounts directly to Spring Hill. Please have your child turn in the form to their teacher, or you can drop it off in the front office. **Each class with 100% participation by Friday, September 30, 2011 will win a donut party!** Please list all of your children on the form so they get counted. Thank you!

PTO Matching Notes Program

Please wait until **Monday October 3, to send your child home with another family**, by participating in PTO's matching notes program. Each family must send in written permission using the "bus notes" available in the office, or printed out online at http://www.fcps.edu/SpringHillES/files/parents_files/busnotes_form.pdf

Please note that the program does not operate the day before Thanksgiving (November 23), the day before Winter Holiday (December 22), nor the day before Spring Holiday (March 30), The program ends June 1.

There will be no matching notes accepted until October 3.

Visiting Classrooms

Please visit classrooms only by pre-arranged invitation of the teacher. Unexpected visits interrupt quality time between children and their teachers. You must sign in at the front office and wear a badge while in the building.

Any forgotten lunches, homework, or music instruments must be left in the front office. By request, the office will e-mail the teacher to let them know the item is waiting for your child to pick up.

Please remember our teachers' first priority is attention to your children and classroom instruction rather than checking e-mail. Encourage your children to check the office for forgotten items. Thank you!



Physical Education

In Physical Education, we would like to welcome every one to a new school year. In addition to welcoming everyone back, we would like to make sure that all students are able to participate in Physical education **The students must wear athletic shoes, tennis shoes or sneakers for Physical Education classes. For safety purposes, these shoes may not be slip-on or backless styles.**

A Fairfax County policy states that a note from home will excuse a student from Physical Education for one week. A student who will miss more than one week of Physical Education must have a doctor's note.

We look forward to working with all students and having a great year. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Thank you-Linda Shaheen, Mickey Minutoli and Dennis Michaels, PE Department



School Picture Day Friday September 30

School pictures are provided as a service to our families and are also a valuable fundraiser for the school. These portraits will also be used in the school yearbook. Picture Order Envelopes will go home with your children in mid September . If you would like to

place an order, please complete the envelope and have your child bring it to his or her teacher before picture day.

SAY CHEESE

Looking for volunteers to help with Spring Hill's Picture Day on Friday, September 30. Picture Day runs from 9 - 3 and we are hopeful that volunteers can commit to one of the following two hour shifts: 9 - 11; 11 - 1; 1 - 3. Volunteers will receive a \$15 voucher from Splendid Portraits as a thank you. If you are interested, please contact Spring Hill Volunteer Co-Chairs, Julie Hyams at jules02116@yahoo.com or Shawna Tunnell at shawna.tunnell@hoganlovells.com



Science Lab is Up and Running!

The science lab has moved to room 123, come visit! All Spring Hill students will work with Ms. Bauer at some point throughout the year. Their core science, as usual, will be taught within their classroom or grade level team. The lab schedule is very different from last year in order to accommodate all grade levels. Stay tuned!

Outdoor Classrooms News

Thanks to all the families who worked to keep the Raised Beds, Courtyard and Forest Classrooms alive and well this summer. The **Baos, McNamaras and Mears** families were life savers! Now **we need volunteers from each classroom** to help with raised bed planting lessons and/or stewardship week. **Most urgent are volunteers for kindergarten, first grade and fourth grade.** Please contact your child's teacher if you have a desire to work with students in the out of doors. Training will be provided this coming Monday, September 12 at 11:30 in the science lab. Any questions can be directed to Jen Trainor at hattrick4jen@verizon.net or Alison Bauer at ambauer@fcps.edu

Rubik's Cube Team

There will be a competition this year at the US Science and Engineering Festival to be held in the spring of 2012. So please watch here for news about Rubik's Cube mornings where we will learn how to solve the cube and learn to do it quickly!

Science Olympiad

Spring Hill will field a team again this year, but we must have a 5th grade parent to help coordinate. Please contact Lan Fan at fanlan@hotmail.com, (she was last year's 5th grade parent coordinator) for more information and to volunteer. An information session will be held soon, but we need to get the coordinator first!

Fifth Grade Kids' Inquiry Conference

Put it on your calendars now! All fifth graders will be presenting their science projects on Wednesday, November 2 from 7:00 – 8:00 PM. All are welcome, fifth graders are required!



Spring Hill Graduate Shoots and Scores for Navy Seals

Please click here for an article in the McLean Patch

<http://mclean.patch.com/articles/mclean-seventh-grader-shoots-and-scores-for-navy-seals>

DISTRIBUTION OF FLIERS/NEWSLETTERS

Non profit flyers may be sent home in Wednesday folders on the following days this school year : **September 21 and May 16.**

During the 2011-2012 school year and according to regulation 1367, the following will be in effect.

Newsletters will announce events or activities sponsored by the school, P.T.O. and governmental agencies only.

Fliers for Non-Profit Organizations:

Fliers can be displayed in the front foyer literature rack for community review and pick up.

Fliers may be distributed at Back-to-School Night via a non-profit organization's staffed table.

Fliers can be distributed via student take home folders **twice per year – September 21, 2011 and May 16, 2012.**

Directions for non-profit flyer distribution on designated weeks in September and May:

All fliers must be submitted in advance to the principal for review.

All non-profits are treated the same, regardless of the view they express.

Fliers and other community materials must be related to the school's educational mission, be directed to students, not be harmful to children, be age-appropriate, and not be violations of the current versions of Regulations 2601 and 2612 (Student Responsibilities & Rights).

At least 48 hours must be allowed for the principal to review the flier.

All fliers must contain the following disclaimer: "These materials are neither sponsored nor endorsed by the Fairfax County School Board, the Superintendent, or this school."

Fliers must be collated into 36 sets of 30 fliers.

Fliers must be delivered to the school office by 10 a.m. Monday, September 19 or May 14 for inclusion in these take-home folders.

Riverbend Park Events

Virginia Indian Festival: Saturday, September 10, 2011, 10am-4pm

Riverbend Visitor Center, 8700 Potomac Hills Street, Great Falls, VA 22066. Phone 703-759-9018

The 2011 festival includes eight Virginia and Washington, DC area tribes including the Rappahannock dancers and drummers. Indian crafts, pottery and music for sale. Enjoy live demonstrations, talks by tribe members tool-making experts and local archaeologists, plus bow and arrow shooting and spear throwing with an atlatl. Help build an authentic dug-out canoe. No reservations required. \$5/person

Animal Vets - School Holiday Camp at Riverbend Park

Riverbend Nature Center, 8814 Jeffery Road, Great Falls, VA 22066. Phone 703-759-9018.

Spend the day with our exhibit animals: turtles, toads and snakes. Check their health, weight, and size; clean and refresh their tanks; and enjoy some fun activities and games. Wear old clothes. Appropriate for children ages 8-12 years.

Date: Monday, November 7, 9-3pm, \$75, Registration code: 357 421 2201

Registration: on line <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes/> or call 703-222-4664.

Mad Science - School Holiday Camp at Riverbend Park

Riverbend Nature Center, 8814 Jeffery Road, Great Falls, VA 22066. Phone 703-759-9018.

Become a mad scientist through hands-on experiments and activities. Discover the wonders of science in nature and everyday objects. Get ready to make things ooey and gooey. Experiments change each session. Wear old clothes. Appropriate for children ages 8-12 years.

Date: Tuesday, November 8, 9am-3pm, \$75, Registration code: 357 421 2101

Registration: on line <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes/> or call 703-222-4664.



Kiss-n-Drop

In order to alleviate frustration and ensure the safety of our students, we ask that you take a look at the maps at the end of the Bi Line.

They detail the proper procedures for dropping off and picking up children from school. Whether you are a driver new to the process, or have been using the Kiss-n-Drop for years, we all will benefit from familiarizing ourselves with this information and following these guidelines. Plenty of staff and parents will be available to assist you the first several days.

Parents of children with a last name that begins with the letters A – L must drop them off at Kiss n' Ride #1, which is at the driveway entrance closest to the stoplight.

Parents of children with a last name that begins with the letters M - Z must drop them off at Kiss n' Ride #2. This area is the school entrance farthest from the stoplight. Watch carefully for buses pulling out on the right from the front driveway. Continue PAST door number 5 and pull up as far as possible between the orange cones.

Afternoon pick up at Kiss n' Ride will be through Kiss and Ride #1 ONLY, as we must leave Kiss N Ride #2 free for buses to exit.

As a reminder, to keep children out of the path of moving buses, no vehicle should enter the main driveway, in front of the school, between the hours of 8:00-8:50 am, because this area is used exclusively for buses. Please do not let your children out of the car on Lewinsville Rd. or in the bus lanes. In addition, parents are ***never*** to park where there is a yellow curb.

Safety is first and foremost in our minds and we will give this plan a try as long as parents comply with our staff direction, guidelines and procedures of dropping children off safely and in an orderly manner.

Thank you!
From the Spring Hill Safety Committee

Keep in Touch (KIT) Subscribers

Please make sure the contact information we have for you is accurate so you can be reached in case of emergency and to receive school news. If the information is not accurate, you will not receive school messages and news. Please note that long distance phone numbers are difficult for the school to reach. We appreciate local phone numbers if at all possible.

Please mark any changes in red pen on the Emergency Care Form in your orientation packet, and return the form to the office.

This is also the time to add an e-mail address so you can receive news updates from school to your e-mail account, including this newsletter.

You can also update your child's emergency care contact information via weCare@School at

<http://www.fcps.edu/kit/> .



ONE AND DONE

PTO 3RD ANNUAL FALL FUNDRAISER AND MEMBERSHIP

First, a big THANK YOU to all of the Spring Hill families who have already contributed to our newly combined “One and Done” Fall Fundraiser and PTO membership program. For those of you who have not yet had a chance to participate, there are two easy ways that you can do so:

1. Send in a check payable to Spring Hill PTO with the completed Fundraiser/Membership flyer (green form) that was included in your Back-to-School folder. A copy of the flyer may also be found at the end of this BiLine for you to print and return via your child’s backpack in an envelope labeled “PTO Membership/Fundraiser”
2. Go to <https://www.springhillpto.org>, click on the Fundraiser/Membership button at the left and you will be able to contribute online

This year, your PTO membership will allow you to register for After School Activities without paying an additional registration fee (\$8 for non-members). **Since registration for ASA opens on Thursday, September 15th, please complete your fundraiser/membership information early to take advantage of this benefit.** All PTO members will also receive a printed directory later this Fall at no additional cost.

If you would like to submit your donation/membership information in person, volunteers holding Fundraiser/Membership signs will be available from 8:00AM until 8:45AM this coming Friday, September 9th at both Kiss and Drop locations so you do not need to park! At the same time, volunteers will also be available in the front lobby of the school building to accept forms from bus riders or any parents who would like to come into the school.

Our goal is to achieve 100% participation from all Spring Hill families. Remember, every dollar we raise is used to directly benefit our Spring Hill students and teachers. All of your contributions are tax deductible and will be acknowledged.

Questions? Contact MaryAnn Rebhan at mjrebhan@yahoo.com or Jamie Loving at jamie.loving@verizon.net.



GIVING IS AS EASY AS SHOPPING!!



Harris Teeter

Every time you shop at Giant, Safeway or Harris Teeter and use your grocery card, these companies will donate a portion of your grocery total to Spring Hill! It costs you nothing. **Last year we earned over \$10,000!** You must designate our school for your cards each year to keep participating.

Signing up is easy! **Simply fill out the form below with your grocery bonus card number(s) & return it to the Spring Hill office, or have your student turn the form into their teacher.**

Each class that has 100% participation by Friday, September 30, 2011 will win a donut party!
Please include the name of your child or children below so they get counted. **Thank you!**

Not sure of your grocery card numbers since you use your phone number at checkout?
You can call the following phone numbers and they will tell you your card numbers.
Giant- 1-877-366-2668 option 2. Safeway- 1-877-723-3929 option 3.

Student Name(s)	Teacher	Grade

Giant Bonus Cards (need all info - please print)

Cardholder Last Name: _____

Card #: 4 4 0 _____
(MUST be 12 digits total)

Safeway Club Cards (need all info – please print)

Cardholder First and Last Name: _____

Address: _____

Card # _____
(MUST be 11 digits total)

Harris Teeter VIC Cards (need Last Name plus phone number OR card number – please print)

Cardholder Last Name: _____

Phone Number: (____) _____

VIC Card #: _____
(FIRST 11 digits only)

Do you wish to include other family, friends or neighbors? Just attach additional pages with the relevant information for each store. This form is also available on the Spring Hill PTO website (springhillpto.org).

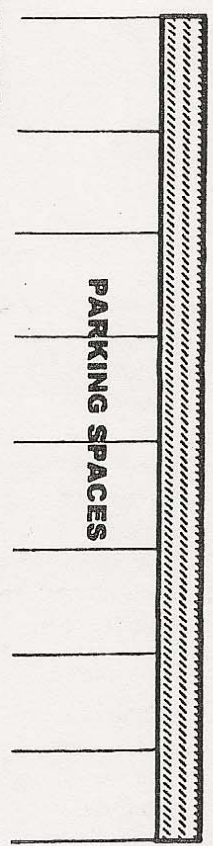
Questions? Please call Kim Saxenian at 703-442-6669 or Jill Holloman at 703-992-9841.

Morning Drop Off A-1

Afternoon Pick Up A-2

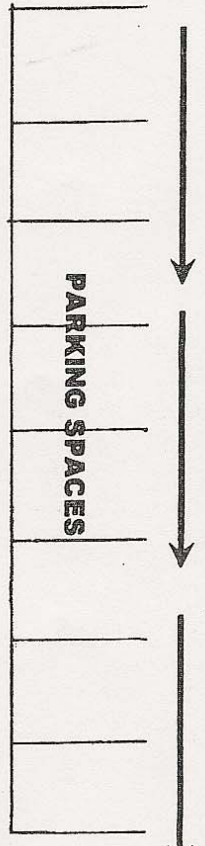
(not drawn to scale)

.....
SIDEWALK DROP-OFF ZONE
.....



PLEASE NOTE:

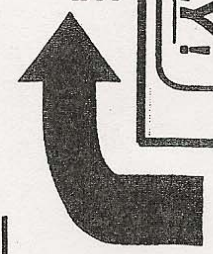
- PULL AHEAD AS FAR AS YOU CAN WHILE WAITING TO LET YOUR CHILD(REN) OUT OF THE CAR. THUS ALLOWING ROOM FOR OTHER CARS TO ENTER THE LOT IN A TIMELY FASHION.
- STAY TO THE **RIGHT** WHEN CIRCLING BY PARKING PLACES, AS TEACHERS AND OTHERS ENTER THE LOT TO PARK THEIR CARS DURING DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP TIMES.
- THERE IS **NO PARKING** ON LEWINSVILLE ROAD IN THE AREA SPECIFIED BELOW!
- FINALLY... **NO LEFT TURNS** ONTO LEWINSVILLE ROAD FROM THE KISS & DROP LOT, AS THIS SNARLS TRAFFIC THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE CIRCUIT!!!



CAUTION: NO LEFT TURN ON TO LEWINSVILLE ROAD FROM LOT: RIGHT TURN ONLY!

.....
NO PARKING ZONE
.....

LEWINSVILLE ROAD



PARKING

Playground

Morning Drop Off Only

LAST NAMES STARTING WITH M THROUGH Z

ENTER #7 ENTRANCE DOOR

PARKING

PARKING

PARKING

SIDEWALK

ENTRANCE FOR SACC ONLY

Drop off zone

SIDEWALK

#7

KISS & DROP #2

SPRING HILL EL SCHOOL

LEWINSVILLE ROAD

