



CALENDAR:

- January 9:** PTA Cultural Arts Assembly: Mad Science of Washington
- January 9:** PTA BINGO Night
- January 13:** Habitats & Life Cycles Workshop for 2nd Grade (9:00 am-2:00 pm)
- January 14:** Kindergarten Snow Day (9:00-10:30; 1:30-3:00)
- January 14:** 6th Grade Trip to the American Art Museum (10:15 am-12:45 pm)
- January 15:** Kilmer Power Team Visits our 4th Grade (12:45-1:30 pm)
- January 15:** PTA Multicultural Night (6:30-8:30 pm)
- January 19:** Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday — **NO SCHOOL**
- January 20:** Inauguration Day — **NO SCHOOL**
- January 26 & 27:** **STUDENT HOLIDAYS** (teacher workdays)
- January 29:** 4th Grade to the National Symphony Orchestra at the Kennedy Center
- January 30:** PTA Read-A-Thon Begins
- January 30:** Progress Reports Sent Home
- February 9:** PTA Meeting (7:00-9:00 pm) in the Library
- February 9-13:** Teacher Appreciation Week
- February 13:** Kindergarten Heart Day (9:00-10:30; 1:30-3:00)
- February 16:** Presidents' Day Holiday — **NO SCHOOL**
- February 19:** PTA Cultural Arts Assembly: "HOTMINUS"
- February 27:** PTA Read-A-Thon Ends

The calendar for the entire school year is on our website at: www.fcps.edu/ViennaES/

Principal's Corner

Happy New Year! I hope that each of you had a wonderful holiday. I was so blessed to have my two daughters, their husbands, and their dogs for the break. We had lots of fun playing with our new puppy, McGee, and going downtown to visit the national tree and ZooLights at the National Zoo. I knew I was breathing "rare" air because both of our daughters and our sons-in-law were able to be together at home this year. I suppose I am going to have to learn to share with the "in-laws." (I, of course, do not consider myself an "in-law".) ☺

This New Year brings such a unique blend of excitement and challenge. Regardless of our

political preferences, we can join each other in celebrating the inauguration of our first African American president. As a native of Arlington, I can so vividly remember the amber glow in the skyline as DC burned during the riots in the 1960's. In this midst of this historic event, we are simultaneously faced with the most difficult economic challenges we have encountered in decades. We, at Vienna, are celebrating our renovation and the new school our children will enjoy, while also considering the impact of the economy on our county, our world-class school system, and our school. The deficit is real and the forecast is grim. The current reality will require us to be resilient, flexible, and patient with the impending change...and with each other!

As we are surrounded by uncertainty and stress, I am reassured when I reflect on the ability of our outstanding staff and community to come together to support each other and to provide excellent instruction for our students. I have no doubt that we will pull together to use all of our resources to benefit our children. This is a reality that we should never take for granted!

Peace in the New Year,
Jeanette



PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN OUR HANDICAPPED PARKING SPACES UNLESS YOU HAVE A LEGAL RIGHT TO DO SO. YOU ARE SUBJECT TO TOWING, TICKETING, AND BEING REPORTED TO THE POLICE BY SCHOOL STAFF, COMMUNITY MEMBERS, AND PARENTS.

PLEASE BE COURTEOUS AND RESPECTFUL TO THOSE WHO NEED TO USE THESE SPACES.

It's Elementary...



The Preschool classes went to Madison High School for the annual **Tiny Tots Holiday Concert**.



Mr. Wilson's class walked to the **Patrick Henry Library** for a special visit.

On December 10th, our **Winter Concert** featured performances by the Band, the Orchestra and the Chorus.



The Kindergarten classes enjoyed their **Gingerbread Day** celebrations on December 18th — with lots of yummy treats and fun activities!



THANK YOU

Thank you to the Vienna ES community for your support in this year's book fair. Although it was a very hectic time the last few days before the holiday season, the book fair saw a large number of families stop by to get some reading materials. Once again we had a very successful book fair. I truly appreciate your support and wish you a relaxing, enjoyable new year! Thank you.

Terry A. Love



Counselor's Corner
January 2009
By Mrs. Gross



Happy New Year! I hope everyone enjoyed their winter break as much as I enjoyed mine.

Was it hard for you and your family to get back into the routine of school? I know it was hard for me. 😊

Sometimes after an extended break, it can be difficult to readjust to the demands of school and activities. Here are some tips that may help:

- *Be positive about returning to school.* If, as parents, we have a positive attitude, your child will model your behavior. Wake up with a smile and send your child out the door feeling good about the chance to be with friends and to learn.
- *Be organized!* Remember to help your child get packed up before they go to bed. Put the backpack and/or instruments, etc. by the front door. Think about what to wear after dinner and be sure all parts of the outfit are clean and ready to go. If it is a PE day, remember the sneakers.
- *Be a good listener.* Children want to share about their school day. Listen and ask questions about homework and due dates, topics of conversation in class, and friendship issues. If your children know they have a welcoming ear when they get home, they are more ready to face challenges during the day.

As always, I am available to meet with you to talk about any issues or concerns you may have. Feel free to contact me at Beth.Gross@fcps.edu or at (703) 937-6031. Take care.

**The 2009-2010 Standard School Year Calendar is now available on the Fairfax County Public Schools website at:
www.fcps.edu (under "calendars")**

If you need to add money to your child's meal card, you can: deliver it to Mrs. Yaqub in the cafeteria; send a check with your child, payable to **Vienna Food Services**, or cash in an envelope (marked with student's and teacher's name); or go to www.myLunchMoney.com to pay on-line.

EAT RIGHT — EXERCISE — HAVE FUN!

The United States Department of Agriculture's release of **MyKids Pyramid for Kids** recognizes the importance of childhood nutrition and provides families with tools to make healthy choices. For more information and activities, visit at MyPyramid.gov.



TIPS FOR FAMILIES:

EAT RIGHT

- Choose healthy foods from each group.
- Increase whole-grain foods.
- Eat fruits and vegetables especially dark green and orange.
- Include calcium-rich foods such as low-fat dairy products.
- Select low-fat meat, chicken, turkey and fish.
- Avoid foods and beverages with sugar as the first ingredient.

EXERCISE

- Be an active family.
- Exercise 60 minutes per day
- Include physical activities at family celebrations.
- Limit TV and computer time.

- Every time you shop at **Office Depot**, Vienna Elementary can receive credit equal to 5% of the qualifying purchases to use for *free supplies!* Simply give the school's ID Number (**70105111**) when you shop in the store or on-line.
- Turn in your **Box Tops for Education** to school; it's an easy way to support Vienna Elementary. You can find them on a wide array of foods and home products. **So far this year, Vienna's SCA has earned \$575.64 from Box Tops that have been submitted!**
- Do you shop at **Giant, Safeway or Target?** Register or renew your cards and designate Vienna ES:
 - Giant: <http://www.giantfood.com/aplus>
 - Safeway: <http://www.escrip.com/>
 - Target: <http://target.com> (click on: *Community, Education, Take Charge of Education*)

FCPS Accepting Applications for Elementary Magnet School Programs

FCPS is currently accepting applications for its elementary magnet school programs for students entering kindergarten through grade 5 for Bailey's Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences and for students entering grades 1 through 6 for Hunters Woods Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences for the 2009-10 school year. Selection for available magnet school spaces is based on a lottery.

More information about both programs, including on-line application forms, is available at <http://www.fcps.edu/news/magnet.htm>. Applications must be postmarked by **Monday, March 2**, and submitted to the FCPS Office of Elementary Instruction, Magnet Program, Lacey Instructional Center, 3705 Crest Drive, Annandale, VA 22003.