

Veterans Elementary School

4355 Montgomery Road

Ellicott City, MD 21043

Robert Bruce, Principal

<http://www.hcpss.org/ves>

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- Nov. 7** Picture Retake Day
- Nov. 8** PickATime opens for parents at 12:01 a.m.
- Nov. 11** Chick-Fil-A Restaurant night.
- Nov. 12** PTA Board Meeting, 7:00p.m. , Media Center.
- Nov. 17-21** American Education Week
- Nov. 23** PickATime closes for parents at 11:59 p.m.
- Nov. 24-25** Parent-Teacher conferences, **ALL SCHOOL CLOSE 3 HOURS EARLY.**
- Nov. 26** Parent-Teacher conferences, **SCHOOLS ARE CLOSED FOR STUDENTS.**
- Nov. 27-28** Thanksgiving Holiday, **ALL SCHOOLS ARE CLOSED.**

FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

We administered the Measures of Academic Progress to all students in Grades 1-5 over the last few months.

In a few weeks, you will be receiving your child's scores. This test is just **ONE** measure of your child's performance in school. As with all assessment scores, it is one consideration when looking at student program and placement. In a few weeks we will also have our Parent Teacher Conferences. This is an informative time when the teacher can share your child's progress in their classroom on other measures of classroom growth. **During American Education Week, we will give parents two opportunities to learn a little more about the assessment results. On Wednesday November 19th, our school visit day, we will run a session on the test results in the Mini-Auditorium from 9:45-10:15 and again that evening at 7:00-7:30 pm. in the Media Center.** We will also send home some explanatory materials with the assessment results.

November 17-21 is **American Education Week**. The theme this year is once again **“Great Public Schools-A Basic Right and Our Responsibility**. While this week is set aside for parents to visit, the main visit day is **Wednesday November 19th**. Parents do not have to call this week, just sign in at the office. Again, normal visiting rules apply. We ask parents not to take photographs of any children while in the school building. We also ask that you not use your cell phone while in the building. If you must use your cell phone please use the area outside the main lobby at the front door. Parents may not bring young children with them during their visit, it is still an instructional day for our students and we want as few distractions as possible. We look forward to celebrating a great week with you. There is so many great things happening here.

FROM THE FRONT OFFICE:

IF YOU SEE THAT YOU HAVE RECEIVED A CALL FROM OUR SCHOOL, PLEASE LISTEN TO YOUR ANSWERING MACHINE OR VOICE MAIL PRIOR TO RETURNING THE CALL. WE HAVE MORE THAN 170 EMPLOYEES IN THE BUILDING AND HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING WHO CALLED YOU.

PLEASE GO TO www.hcpssnews.com AND REGISTER TO RECEIVE OUR NEWSLETTER AND OTHER IMPORTANT EMAILS FROM OUR SCHOOL.

OUR HEALTH SUITE HAS IT'S OWN LINE. FOR HEALTH RELATED ISSUES PLEASE CALL 410-313-1704.

THE LAST EARLY DISMISSAL IS 3:40 P.M.

TRYING TO BE GREEN:

IN AN EFFORT TO SAVE PAPER, TONER, AND ELECTRICITY THE FRONT OFFICE WILL ONLY BE SENDING FLYERS HOME TO THE PARENTS THAT REQUESTED A PAPER COPY. FROM NOW ON ALL NON-PTA SPONSORED COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES CAN BE FOUND THROUGH A LINK UNDER “LINKS” ON OUR WEB PAGE OR VISIT <http://www.VESCommunityNewsandActivities.weebly.com>. ALL PTA SPONSORED AFTERSCHOOL ACTIVITIES CAN STILL BE FOUND ON THE PTA WEB PAGE.

FROM THE PTA PRESIDENT:

Periodically the Board of Education holds informal chats called "Coffee & Conversation". The next one will be on Saturday, November 15, 2014, 9:30 to 11am at Clemens Crossing Elementary School Cafeteria (10320 Quarterstaff Road in Columbia). This is a great opportunity to ask questions of our BOE one-on-one.

Have PTA questions? Check our website at <http://ves-pta.weebly.com/> or email VeteransPTA@gmail.com. If you have difficulty with links in the newsletter, please copy and paste them in your browser.

FALL PLEDGE DRIVE THANK YOU!

A big thank you to everyone who supported the Fall Pledge Drive. While we fell short of our \$7000 goal, we did raise \$5400 to support our programs. If you'd still like to contribute, please send a check or cash to school in an envelope marked "PTA Pledge Drive." Contact Andrea Solan at asolan@gmail.com or Jen Gerrity at jengeritty2002@yahoo.com with any questions.

STAFF APPRECIATION CONFERENCE DINNER: NOV. 24TH (MON):

To: Parents of 3rd, 4th & 5th graders

Every November and February during parent teacher conferences, the VES PTA Staff Appreciation Committee prepares and serves a Big Dinner for our wonderful Teachers and Staff. This year the Big Dinner day is Monday, November 24th. And we are asking you, parents of 3rd, 4th & 5th graders to help. (In February, we will ask lower graders to help) Upper grade parents, please remember and save the date and energy for showing your appreciation to our teachers and staff! The Volunteer Spot link will be coming soon. Questions? Please contact Jae Ahn (yyyy7000@gmail.com) or Jane Pak (janepak114@gmail.com). Thanks!

VES SPIRIT NIGHT FUNDRAISER:

Come Join Us for Spirit Night to benefit Veterans Elementary School PTA at the Chick-Fil-A at Executive Park Drive & Route 100 (4905 Executive Park Drive) on Wednesday, November 12th 5:00pm-9:00pm. Flyers will go home in this week's Thursday Folder. Present this flyer to the cashier and our school will receive 20% of all sales generated by Veterans Elementary School families/friends. The flyers work at the drive-thru, as well. Thank you!

FIFTH GRADE ACTIVITIES:

November 14: Last day to place Fuji Apple orders

November 24 & 25: Pick up Fuji Apple orders during Parent Teacher Conferences at school

- 1. Congratulations 5th Grade Fuji Apple Fundraiser Poster Contest winners!** The 5th Grade Activity Committee from the PTA are pleased to announce the following 5th grade student winners! **Susanna Han** won the 1st place prize; **Mackenzie Veres** won the 2nd place prize; and **Krystal Wu** won the 3rd place prize. The following students received honorable mention: Alex Scott, Laruen Peng, Devanshi Mistry, Emily Xu, Paris France, Ben Schirmer, Alice Shin, Alina Babu, Jennifer Yoo, Raina Zaman, Tina Sung, Karen Peng, Jeffrey Liu and Eddy Qiu. Thank you for all students who participated and designed such wonderful posters. Winning posters are displayed at the school lobby, cafeteria, media center or the 5th grade hallway until November 26.
- 1. 5th GRADE FUJI APPLE FUNDRAISER UPDATE:** The revolutionary 5th grade Fuji Apple Fundraiser has just begun! Our soaring 5th grade students are conducting Fuji Apple sales to raise fund needed for 5th grade activities. A bag of 15 fresh-picked and locally grown quality Fuji Apples is only priced at \$10. To help our 5th grade students reach their goal of 300 bags of apple sales, place any generous orders online via <https://sites.google.com/site/2015ves> or fill in the paper orders forms. Return order forms (if any) and all payment to 5th grade homeroom teachers or the front office no later than Friday November 14th. Pick up orders on Nov 24 & 25 during parent teacher conference at school or contact ves5thgrade2015@gmail.com for any special need. Super Apple Bowl will be awarded to the top selling 5th grade classroom and various awards will be given out to students who sell 10 bags of apples, top sellers from each classroom and top seller teams in the 5th grade on Nov 24. Happy selling, well eating and positive supporting!
- 3. SHARE YOUR AWESOME 5TH GRADER'S PHOTOS:** Did you capture an awesome moment with our 5th graders or their classmates? Share that photo with the 5th Grade yearbook liaison and it might be included in the dedicated 5th grade section in the school yearbook. Share your photos all year long by sending them to Stephanie Jurkovic steph.jurkovic@gmail.com Please provide the students' names (if more than one, list all if possible), teacher's name, approximate date/time when the picture was taken and the event name (if any). Photos captured from school events such as classroom activities, field trips and any PTA sponsored events are preferred. If you have any questions or would like to be part of the 5th Grade Yearbook Team, please contact ves5thgrade2015@gmail.com.

SUPERSQUADS:

Join SuperSquads Cheerleading today! It's not too late! Practices are once a week after school for 1.25 hours. Contact supersquadsinfo@verizon.net, www.supersquads.org or 410-796-2244 to register online or by mail and start next practice.

KID'S DINNER AND MOVIE NIGHT!

Our business partner, the Okinawan Karate Dojo (and hosts of the PTA after-school program - More Than Karate) has been working to instill life-changing, Super-Hero qualities in our kids! To that end, they have decided to host a **Parent's Night Out - Kids Movie and Dinner Night on Friday November 7th from 6-9pm at the Okinawan Karate Dojo** - 8001 Hillsborough Rd (less than 2 miles from Veterans). The theme of the event is: **I am a Superhero!**

Kids will celebrate the empowering qualities of karate training; while having fun watching a movie, eating pizza/popcorn/Chick fil-A, enjoying karate games, and more! **Parents are free** to enjoy 3 hours of time...alone!! \$20 per child. \$10 for siblings. RSVP to (443) 574-8999 or email - okinawankaratedojo@gmail.com for more information/registration. Sign up soon! The last movie night reached maximum capacity!!