

Veterans Elementary School

4355 Montgomery Road

Ellicott City, MD 21043

Robert Bruce, Principal

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

Eagle Express Volume 40, June 5, 2014

June 11 School Improvement Team meets at 8:35 am.(Media)

June 12 End of Year Picnic, 6:00 – 8:00p.m.

June 13 Marlene Waddy Day at VES

June 17 Grade 5 Closing Assembly

June 18, 19 & 20 School closes at 12:55p.m.

June 20 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!!!!!!!

FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

Next Friday June 13th is a very special day at Veterans Elementary School. After 22 years in public education we will recognize Mrs. Waddy's retirement. Mrs. Waddy is very modest and of course does not want us to make it a big deal. For us, it is a big deal. Mrs. Waddy helped to open Veterans thanks to her long-standing relationship with many students from St. John's Lane, she was a natural. Since 2007, she has established wonderful ties with so many of our families. Her work ethic has inspired so many of us. Further, Marlene truly cares about every student in our school. Her compassion and role as a problem solver makes her a superior guidance counselor. This would be a great day for your children to bring in notes of thanks and congratulations on her fantastic career. We all want to wish her the best in her well-deserved retirement. I declare that Friday June 13th is Marlene Waddy Day at Veterans Elementary School.

On Tuesday June 17th we will hold our Closing Assembly for our fifth grade students and their parents. Due to space concerns, siblings will not be able to attend. This event is not for extended family and is consistent with the school system position that there is only one graduation exercise and that is at the end of 12th grade. It is simply an assembly to recognize our fifth graders for time well spent at VES. The event will begin at about 9:45 am. Parents are asked to wait outside the school until all students have entered for the day. At 9:35 we will allow parents inside to line up outside the cafeteria. The cafeteria will not be ready right away due to our breakfast program and set up. Parents will be allowed into the seating area once the area is declared "ready" by Mr. Bruce. There will be no reserved seating except for staff involved with the assembly. Parking will be at a premium,

please car pool and park at the Long Gate Shopping Center and walk over to the school. We appreciate every one of you and invite you to enjoy this closing assembly with us.

REMINDER FROM THE HEALTH ROOM:

If your child has medication in the health room, please remember to pick it up by the end of the school day on June 20th. Medications cannot be sent home with students. Any medications left by the end of the school day on June 20th will be disposed of.

If you have any questions, please call the health room -410-313-1704.

PLEASE GO TO OUR WEEBLY PAGE FOR OVER 20 PAGES OF SUMMER ACTIVITIES,

www.VESCommunityNewsandActivities.weebly.com.

ENTERING THE BUILDING:

When visiting our building during school hours please follow the directions stated here. When entering the building, please ring the bell by pushing the button in the black box located on the side wall closest to the office. Wait until after the door releases to pull it open. **PLEASE DO NOT PULL ON THE DOOR UNTIL IT RELEASES. Please read the directions that are posted on the doors.**

[OUR SUPPLY LIST CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEEBLY PAGE.](#)

MEDIA CENTER NEWS:

The last day for students to check out media books is Friday, June 6th. All media books are due no later than June 13th, so we can complete our inventory of over 21,000 books by the end of the school year!

Overdue notices are being sent home frequently as a reminder to please return all books as soon as possible. If the media book is lost, we ask that you send in payment, so we may purchase a replacement.

KINDERGARTEN PLAY DATES:

Do you want to meet some friends (both students and parents) before the school year starts? Come to the Veterans Elementary School Play Dates. All play dates are on the VES playground located on the right hand side of the building. Monday, June 30 - Tuesday, July 15 - Wednesday, July 30 - Thursday, August 7, start time is 6:30 p.m., Siblings can attend, parents must stay, bring a water bottle.

ELLICOTT MILLS' PARENT/STUDENT ORIENTATION TIME HAS CHANGED, SEE BELOW:

Who: Incoming 6th grade students & parents

When: Thursday, August 21, 2014

Where: Ellicott Mills Middle School

Time: 1:00-2:30 P.M.

***Please mark this date on your calendar. At this orientation you will be able to meet teachers and staff, walk through your schedule, and practice opening your very own locker. We look forward to seeing you!**

FROM THE PTA PRESIDENT:

At last week's General Membership meeting, next year's Executive Board was elected:

President: Wendi Loraine

1st Vice President: Tara Pinkler

2nd Vice President: Suzanne Rothrock

Treasurer: Gerrie Bost

Recording Secretary: Deeanna Franklin-Campbell

Corresponding Secretary: Amy Noggle

Delegates: Jennifer Whang and Haiyan Chen

Thank you to our outgoing officers for their outstanding service – Sharon Boone (2nd VP), Haiyan Chen (Treasurer), Julie McClure (Corresponding Secretary), Laura McCanna (Recording Secretary), and Rosalind Brooks (Delegate)!

COMMITTEE CHAIRS FOR 2014-15:

The PTA still needs to fill some Committee Chair positions. Many of these needs are for popular activities, if we are unable to fill the chair positions, we won't be able to offer them. A few of the committees in need are Scholastic Book Fair, After School Activities, Staff Appreciation, Community Outreach, and Reflections. Go to our website (<http://ves-pta.weebly.com/>) for more information (you may need to copy and paste the link into your browser). Email VeteransPTA@gmail.com if you are interested or have questions.

END-OF-YEAR VES PARTY: JUMP, JIVE, JAM!!!

It's hard to believe that it's already the end of the school year! Bring the entire family to celebrate the end of school on THURSDAY, JUNE 12 from 6-8pm as we jump, jive, jam, and have tons of fun on the playground (rain or shine). Feel free to bring a picnic dinner, or pick up a pizza at Bella Mia on Rt. 103. (They're offering a special price on pizza on 6/12 if you mention VES when you order.) We'll supply the traditional VES snow cone dessert! We'll need lots of help to put on this celebration for our students, please go to VolunteerSpot to sign up <http://vols.pt/ehS6wh> (you may need to copy and paste the link in your browser).

THANKS TO THE YEARBOOK TEAM:

Yearbooks will be distributed next week! Thank you to everyone who helped make them a success, especially Asiya Ibad, Rosalind Brooks, Theresa Stubbs, Lisa Kuta, Heather Hartman-Hall, Deverie DuVal, Tara Pinkler, Denise Veres, Sharon Boone, and our wonderful secretarial staff and administrators. And a very big thanks to Vicky Chiei, our Yearbook Creative Chair and Cheryl Cudzillo, our Yearbook Business Chair, who made this happen!

PTA SPONSORED A FUN ASSEMBLY FOR OUR STUDENTS:

On June 3 and June 4, our students enjoyed an explosive and dynamic display of a high-energy art called “stepping” thanks to our PTA from Step Afrika! This critically acclaimed group has traveled all over the world, sharing the culture and history of this dance form. Hope everyone had a great time!

NOMINATE AN OUTSTANDING ARTS EDUCATOR:

Each year, the Howard County Arts Council (HCAC) awards a Howie Award to an Outstanding Arts Educator who has made a difference at school or in the community through exceptional contributions in arts education. Nominations are due by October 30, 2014, but fall is such a busy time, SO why wait? For additional information about the nomination process, visit the HCAC website at www.hocoarts.org and click “Getting Involved” to find the “Howie Award” link, or contact the VES PTA Awards and Recognitions Committee at hartmanhall@gmail.com.

5TH GRADE YEAR-END ACTIVITIES CONTINUE:

June 6 Awards Breakfast, 9:45am

Students will be treated to a light breakfast while they receive their final awards. (a student-only event).

June 6 Talent Show, 2:45 – 3:45pm

Parents are welcome to come see our talented 5th graders perform!

June 17 Closing Ceremony at 9:45am

Parents are welcome to come to the cafeteria for a special ceremony. Afterward, there will be a short reception with cookies and juice in the student’s homeroom classroom. Due to limited space, each student is limited to 2 guests

June 18 Class picnic on blacktop and field, all morning

A fun filled half-day of school for the students

June 20 Bowling Party, 2:00 – 4:00pm

A flier went home last week for the students to sign up and purchase advance tickets, which are half price (\$4). Siblings of 5th graders are welcome to come too, but they cost the full price (\$8), and the parent must stay and chaperone the sibling. Anyone coming the day of the event will also have to pay full price (\$8). Contact Sharon Moore at Sharon.Moore@allenbank.com with any questions.

END-OF-YEAR VOLUNTEERS MUST COMPLETE TRAINING:

This is a reminder to all parents who would like to volunteer at the end-of-year class picnics. If you have not yet done so, you **MUST** complete the Child Abuse Training, which is mandated by Howard County. You can find the PowerPoint presentation at <http://ves.hcpss.org/>. On the right hand side, in the Helpful Information section, click on “Parent Volunteer Training”; Once you have read the seven slides, print the certificate on slide 8, fill it in, and send it in to your child’s homeroom teacher. It’s so simple!

COMMUNITY NEWS:

DUNLOGGIN PTA STILL NEEDS A 2ND VICE PRESIDENT:

This position will work closely with the rest of the PTA board to determine how the PTA wants to raise funds for the coming year and then work with committee chairs on the coordination of any fundraising events that the PTA decides to sponsor. Most of the work can be done over email and by phone and requires an average of 4 hours each month. If interested, please contact Rachel Drohat at rdrohat@gmail.com or Jackie Crispell at jcrispell@verizon.net.