Digital Citizenship Week

As a school that prides itself on providing one-laptop-per-student in grades 2-6, we focus heavily on Digital Citizenship. As a county school system, FCPS provides state-of-the-art web filtering technology, dozens of age-appropriate software packages and industry-leading security when it comes to student information. However, with technology so easily accessible, our students are increasingly growing up in a world continually connected to the Internet; thus providing a walled garden for them to learn and grow in is not enough. Our students must understand that they have the power to control their digital world and that there are tangible procedures that every student can utilize to more safely navigate their digital lives.

This week, we are celebrating Digital Citizenship Week through a series of lessons designed to teach students the life skills that will help them prosper now and into the future. During the week, your child will be presented with a series of videos and subsequent teacher-led discussions with their class, illustrating safe practices that are easy to remember. The focus is on password security, keeping private information private, thinking-before-you-click, avoiding plagiarism, online etiquette (“netiquette”) and how to handle any possible cyberbullying students may encounter both in school and at home.

Please consider talking with your child about staying safe online to strengthen these messages. There are many resources to assist you, one of which is Common Sense Media’s “It’s Time to Have the Talk”, accessible here: https://www.commonsensemedia.org/educators/digitalcitizenshipweek. This site even has a school-age appropriate online curriculum made up of videos and games where students can earn a “Digital Passport” upon completion.

Thank you for helping us shape the world’s next digital citizens! If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at jlcraigkuhn@fcps.edu.

Jordan Craig-Kuhn, School-Based Technology Specialist

Stop Hunger Now – Keep Those Donations Coming In!

Do you know that 4,586 pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters can add up to $933. That is how much money we raised last week for Stop Hunger Now. Way to go Churchill Road!

This week, let’s try to beat last week’s total by bringing in even more money. If you have not donated yet, plan to bring your change on Friday. Look for the SCA executive board, with their collection buckets, posted throughout the building this Friday. Donations can also be dropped off with Jody Sterling, in the front office, throughout the week, too.

Stop Hunger Now is the Langley Pyramid schools’ annual community outreach. This year, we will be meeting on Saturday, February 6th at Colvin Run Elementary to prepare 100,000 meal packages for schools and orphanages around the world. Donations collected throughout the month of January will be used to purchase dried goods which will be packaged by community volunteers on February 6.

How to Donate

- Make your tax-deductible donation today [here](http://events.stophungernow.org/LangleyPyramid2016).
- Students are encouraged to donate loose change or money that they earn and bring it to school on Friday mornings throughout January.

Registration

Churchill Road families may register to volunteer at: [www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E0C45ABA62FA1FC1-churchill](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E0C45ABA62FA1FC1-churchill). Note to Parents: If you have children at multiple schools, please register your child with their current school (e.g. Smith family has 3 children: 1 at Churchill, 1 at Cooper, and 1 at Langley).
Need a New Year’s Resolution?
Support the CRS PTA!

It’s a brand new year, full of new choices and opportunities. We hope joining the PTA and contributing to our Armchair Fundraiser will be one of them!

We’re sure you’re aware of the big things the PTA does, like After-School Activities, Family Movie Night, and Community Outreach. But do you know that your CRS PTA works behind the scenes as well? That awesome 4th Grade Colonial Day you experienced in December? Yes, we give funds to that. The upcoming 6th Grade Party that is the highlight of CRS graduation? You guessed it—PTA supported! And what if a teacher runs out of pencils, dry-erase markers, or bulletin board supplies? Your CRS PTA will cover this, too, because we want our teachers to focus on the kids, not on incidentals.

Here are two upcoming opportunities to put on your January calendar:

1. **Join the PTA!** At 7:00 p.m. on January 20, priority registration begins for After-School Activities for PTA members only. You must join the PTA 24 hours in advance (so on January 19) to be eligible for this benefit. General registration will not begin until January 25. Don’t miss your chance to grab a slot in your child’s favorite after-school class.

2. **Donate to the Armchair Fundraiser!** The CRS PTA is able to support all the above-mentioned activities plus dozens more due to our Armchair Fundraiser. This fundraiser is designed to cover our full budget for the year; it replaces the tedious activities—like selling wrapping paper and candy bars and hosting bake sales—that we remember from our childhoods. As of today, the PTA budget is not fully funded. Please don’t make us decide which activities to fund and which to cut. **Donate today!**

**Questions?** Please contact Elizabeth Marino, CRS PTA Membership Secretary/ Armchair Fundraiser Chair: membershipsecretary1@churchillroadpta.org.
**Wellness Corner**

*Little changes make a big difference*

**Importance of Emergency Planning**

All rooms are equipped with red security folders with all information necessary to ensure student safety in the event of a fire drill or other emergency.

The commencement of a new year is known for initiating big goals, but, in addition to creating New Year’s resolutions, January is also a perfect time for reviewing your family’s emergency plans. Take time to check to insure important information, such as the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of family, friends, and neighbors is up-to-date and posted in an easily accessible location in case of an emergency. You and your family can also create or replenish supplies for first-aid or emergency kits; you will want to check to insure flashlights have working batteries and dispose of any expired supplies. You may find it helpful to go through the kits with your family and discuss how the supplies could help in different situations, antiseptic wipes and band-aids for scratches on the playground and flares or reflective road triangles to warn of a disabled vehicle. You and your family can confirm smoke detectors are operational, discuss home evacuation plans, identify alternative exit routes (perhaps evening stowing a rope ladder on a second floor), and establish an outdoor meeting location.

Engage your children in the process. Although no one enjoys focusing on disasters, by working as a team and preparing in advance everyone will feel more confident with their role and responsibilities should the unexpected occur. In addition to preparing for unlikely emergencies, you can also take time to discuss possible unplanned situations, such as what to do if a student forgets an after school activity and rides the bus home and no one is there, or if a student gets lost at a busy event. Your children may impress you with their confidence to handle emergencies—they have practiced at school. Just last week the children successfully performed their second lock-down drill of the school year.

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**Easy Ways to Earn $$ for CRS**

*Churchill Road Elementary is holding a Schoola Clothing Drive. Simply by cleaning your closets, you can raise funds for our school!* It’s easy as 1-2-3:

- Stuff a bag with high-quality, well cared-for clothes for kids, teenagers and women. Drop off bags at school from **Wednesday, January 13th to Friday, January 22nd**. Attach a sticker from the drop-off location to be sure our school to gets credit.
- Follow along and spread the word to your **friends and family** through our very own Schoola page: bit.ly/ChurchillRoadSchoola (case sensitive). They can also donate clothes to benefit our school by ordering pre-paid donation bags.
- Schoola will spiff and sell our clothes on their online shop (www.schoola.com). Forty percent of the proceeds go back to Churchill Road Elementary. How good is that?!

**Bonus Box Tops Program**

Each person can earn $12 in bonus box tops. This is a very easy way to earn money for CRS! For offer details, please see below:

1. Please set up an account at http://www.boxtops4education.com and designate CHURCHILL ROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL if you have not already.
2. Go to www.bjsboxtops.com. Enter your BTFE Email Address and BTFE Login Password along with the following code: GLKLCGCYC3YEWX
3. You will earn 50 cents for CRS each time you enter the code. You can enter this code up to 24 times per BTFE account as long as you only enter once a day per email address (so basically you need to enter for 24 days). You can note your progress in “Your Activity” section of your box tops account. Offer expires August 31, 2016.

Please email carlagilbertson@gmail.com with any questions. For details about the Box Tops program at CRS, please go to the CRS PTA website (www.churchillroadpta.org) and click on the Committee Info tab, then scroll down and click on “Box Tops”.

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Box Tops News

Our Box Tops for Education program student winners for December are Lane Hueber (357) and Kanuux Chaudhuri (327)!

In addition Mrs. Stowe’s 3rd grade class has joined Mrs. Lackey’s 5th grade, Mr. Depa’s 5th grade and Mrs. Kuhfuss’ 6th grade classes to reach 100% participation this quarter. Let’s all give them a big Bobcat cheer! Go check out the poster on the way to the cafeteria for more details.

Congratulations to all of you for helping our school earn money! You can be a winner, too – just collect Box Tops from household products and grocery items and bring them to school.

Remember, in order to receive credit for your Box Tops, make sure they are labeled with your full name and teacher’s name. Please trim them on the dashed lines and then give them to your teacher or drop them in the collection bin in the front office.

For more details about the Box Tops program at CRS, please go to the CRS PTA website (www.churchillroadpta.org) and click on the Committee Info tab, then scroll down and click on “Box Tops”.

Thank you for your support!
Carla Gilbertson, CRS Box Tops Coordinator
boxtops1@churchillroadpta.org

Superintendent Listening Tour

Superintendent Karen Garza and the Regional Assistant Superintendents invite students, parents, employees and community members to join them at an upcoming Listening Tour meeting:

January 20  Edison HS  Region 3
February 9  Madison HS  Region 1
February 17  Annandale HS  Region 2
February 23  South County HS  Region 4
February 29  Centreville HS  Region 5

The meetings will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. Dr. Garza and the Regional Assistant Superintendents will provide updates on the latest happenings in Fairfax County schools and listen to ideas, comments, and questions from the audience. For more information, visit http://www.fcps.edu/news/listening.shtml.

6th Graders Hone Speaking Skills

Students in Mr. Ericson’s science class carried on a provocative debate about global warming (above).

Students in Mrs. Ehrman and Mr. Gustavson’s US history class reenacted the Boston Massacre in a four-scene play to help bring history to life and understand some of the causes that led to the Revolutionary War (above).

Ms. Robosky’s language arts students carried on a lively debate about the pros and cons of re-gifting (above). It was a draw.

The CRS PTA is looking for a few good parents

Even though 2016 has only just started, it is time for us to start looking ahead to the next school year. If you are interested in serving on the CRS PTA Nominating Committee, please email Melissa Schwartz at president1@churchillroadpta.org. This is a great opportunity to meet other parents and learn more about how the CRS PTA makes things happen.
Wednesday, Jan 13
3:30-5:00  Minecraft Prog 1-3  Café
3:30-5:00  Prog/Scratch 4-6  Café
3:30-5:00  Public Speaking 4-6  Library
3:30-4:30  Agility Soccer  Outside/Gym
3:30-4:30  Flag Football 5-6  Gym
3:30-4:30  Acting/Storybook 1-3  Stage
3:30-4:30  3D Game Design 3-6  Staff Lounge
3:30-4:45  Scrabble 2-6  Room 216
3:30-4:30  Mad Science 1-6  Room 205
3:30-4:30  Math Enrichment 6  Room 219
7:00-8:00  PTA Meeting  EA Room

Thursday, Jan 14
3:30-5:00  Chess Club 2-6  Café
3:30-4:30  Minecraft LUA 1-3  Room 205
3:30-5:00  MTC 3-6  Gym/Stage
3:30-4:30  Tiny Chefs 1-3  EA Room
3:30-5:00  Musical Prod 3-6  Room 208

Friday, Jan 15
AAP Level IV Referral Deadline
3:30-5:00  WeDo Robotics 1-3  Café
3:30-5:00  EV3 Robotics 3-6  Café
3:30-4:30  Electronics 3-6  EA Room
3:30-4:30  Basketball 1-6  BB Court
3:30-5:00  Jazz Dance 2-5  Stage
3:30-4:30  Gourmet Chefs 4-6  Staff Lounge

Monday, Jan 18
Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Holiday
School Closed

Tuesday, Jan 19
Teacher Workday – No School for Students
Front Office Closed

Wednesday, Jan 20
3:30-5:00  Minecraft Prog 1-3  Café
3:30-5:00  Prog/Scratch 4-6  Café
3:30-5:00  Public Speaking 4-6  Library
3:30-4:30  Agility Soccer  Outside/Gym
3:30-4:30  Flag Football 5-6  Gym
3:30-4:30  Acting/Storybook 1-3  Stage
3:30-4:30  3D Game Design 3-6  Staff Lounge
3:30-4:45  Scrabble 2-6  Room 216
3:30-4:30  Mad Science 1-6  Room 205
3:30-4:30  Math Enrichment 6  Room 219

Thursday, Jan 21
8:45-3:00  Picture Day for Teams and Clubs  Gym
3:30-5:00  Chess Club 2-6  Café
3:30-4:30  Minecraft LUA 1-3  Room 205
3:30-5:00  MTC 3-6  Gym/Stage
3:30-4:30  Tiny Chefs 1-3  EA Room
3:30-5:00  Musical Prod 3-6  Room 208
7:00-8:30  Langley Pyramid  McLean
  Concert  Bible Church

Friday, Jan 22
1:00-2:00  Geo-Bee Final  EA Room
3:30-5:00  WeDo Robotics 1-3  Café
3:30-5:00  EV3 Robotics 3-6  Café
3:30-4:30  Electronics 3-6  EA Room
3:30-4:30  Basketball 1-6  BB Court
3:30-5:00  Jazz Dance 2-5  Stage
3:30-4:30  Gourmet Chefs 4-6  Staff Lounge

Will we have any snow days in 2016?

Important Reminders from the Office:

Student Holidays January 18 and 19:  If your student will be absent any additional days surrounding these days, please report the absence by calling the CRS 24-hour attendance line at 703-288-8484 or by emailing churchillattendance@fcps.edu.

CRS Front Office Closed on Tuesday, January 19
Tuesday, January 19 is a teacher workday. The CRS front office will be closed so that office staff may participate in training. The office will re-open at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 20. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

CRS PTA Draft Amended Bylaws Available for Review

The Virginia PTA requires that each local chapter formally amend and restate its Bylaws every 5 years in order to remain consistent with the governance requirements of the National PTA and the Virginia PTA. The CRS PTA Bylaws Committee has posted a copy of the proposed amendment to the CRS PTA Bylaws on the CRS PTA website at www.churchillroadpta.org for review. A vote to approve the proposed Bylaws will be held at the CRS PTA general membership meeting on Wednesday, February 10th, at 8:45 a.m. in the Exploratory Arts room. Please plan to attend this meeting. Should you have any questions concerning the draft amended Bylaws, please direct them to president1@churchillroadpta.org and parliamentarian@churchillroadpta.org.

The CRS Home Page address: http://www.fcps.edu/ChurchillRoadES/. To submit Chatter material, please email Editor Kim Moran at kmoran2@fcps.edu. Deadline for submissions is NOON each Friday. Keep In Touch (KIT) reminders will typically be emailed to the CRS community on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 4:00 p.m. Please email your brief KIT message to Kim Moran and Don Hutzel at KIT Request. All KIT messages should be sent to the school at least 24 hours in advance of their posting. Non-profit organizations may submit fliers for distribution the weeks of March 7 and May 23, 2016.