Thank you Mrs. Stewart!

Congratulations to Mrs. Jill Stewart, our Assistant Principal, for her wonderful promotion! Mrs. Stewart will be the new Principal at Lake Anne Elementary School in Reston, Virginia!!! We will miss her energy, love and diligence. We thank her for the memories and the years of outstanding work at Mosby Woods. Mrs. Stewart’s last day at Mosby Woods is December 7th.

Musical Performances

The month of December is filled with music in so many ways. Please join us for one of our holiday musical performances. This is a great opportunity to see the wonderful musical gifts and talents of our students and to celebrate Mosby Woods. The concerts will be a great way to ring in the holiday season.

December 10th – 6th Grade Band/Strings Concert at 7 p.m.

December 16th – Zoo Lights- Chorus performs at National Zoo at 6:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Come and support our Mustangs!

Michael & Son Sing-Off Competition

The heat is on (literally!). Michael and Son Services has invited local elementary schools to participate in their Second Annual Jingle Sing-Off Contest for a chance to win up to $5,000 for their school! Mosby Woods has entered the competition, and at a staggering 9,000 votes, Mosby Woods stands in second place! But REMEMBER…It is a popularity contest so please spread the word and vote; your vote really counts! Send the link to your friends and family too. You can vote once on every device.

Let it snow, Let it snow, Let it snow!

The FCPS website has information about how weather-related school opening/closing decisions are made. The weather decision process website address is: [www.fcps.edu/news/weather.htm](http://www.fcps.edu/news/weather.htm). Weather-related announcements will also be available from local radio and television stations, the Channel 21 bulletin board and through the Keep in Touch email notification service. PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE SCHOOL.
**Advanced Academic Program Level IV Identification Process**

The Level IV Advanced Academic Program for students in grades three through eight offers identified students a full-time, highly challenging instructional program that follows the FCPS Program of Studies. Differentiation in the depth, breadth, and pace of instruction is designed to meet the needs of advanced learners with a strong emphasis on problem solving, independent and group research, investigations, and higher level thinking skills. Each spring FCPS uses the results of the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) and the Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test (NNAT) to select a second grade pool of candidates for the Level IV Advanced Academic Program. Parents of these students receive a letter of notification stating their child will be screened for possible placement in Level IV AAP. Parents of students in grades 2-6 may also submit a Level IV referral for eligibility consideration to the Advanced Academic Resource Teacher, Mrs. Linehan. Testing is only one component of the screening and selection process. Mrs. Linehan prepares a screening file for each student that is being considered for AAP Level IV services. The file consists of the student’s ability test scores, achievement test scores, progress reports, work samples, and a Gifted Behavior Rating Scale with Commentary (GBRS) completed by teachers who work with the student. Parents may also submit a Parent/Guardian Questionnaire, up to four samples of student work, and/or up to five awards (all must be no larger than 8½ x 11).

Parents and guardians of students currently in grades 2-6 are invited to learn more about the Advanced Academic Program screening process and parent referral deadlines for the 2016-2017 school year. Detailed information will be provided during a meeting on January 7th, 2016 from 6:30-7:30 pm in the library.

Referrals for Level IV/Full-time AAP services are due on January 15, 2016 and eligible students will begin receiving services in the fall of 2016.

Additional information is available on the FCPS AAP web site: [http://www.fcps.edu/is/aap/index.shtml](http://www.fcps.edu/is/aap/index.shtml)

To download the parent information packet: [http://www.fcps.edu/is/aap/forms/fcps.shtml](http://www.fcps.edu/is/aap/forms/fcps.shtml)

For more information please contact:
Carole Ann Linehan, Advanced Academic Resource Teacher at calinehan@fcps.edu

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**Healthy Eating for the Holidays**

Plan for balance, variety and moderation during the holiday season. Eat your favorite baked goods and other holiday specialties but be reasonable about your portion sizes and number of servings. Always choose a variety of foods following the MyPlate guidelines.

**Healthy Tips**
- Fill up on vegetables and fruits first.
- Fix vegetables by marinating or sautéing in broth instead of adding butter.
- Avoid oversized portions. Use a smaller plate, bowl, or cup for meals and snack.

Focus on family and friends instead of food. Include a family activity such as a brisk walk around the neighborhood.

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**Dates to Remember**

- **December 10th** – 6th Grade Band/Strings Concert at Mosby Woods 7 p.m.
- **December 12th** – 17th – PTA Restaurant Night at Teriyaki Madness in Fairfax, Virginia
- **December 16th** – Zoo Lights- Chorus performs at National Zoo at 6:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
- **December 18th** – 2 hours early release - 1:10 p.m.
- **December 21st** – January 3rd – Winter Break
- **January 7th** - 6:30 p.m. Parent Information Meeting about AAP Screening Process
- **January 15th** - AAP Level IV Referrals Due

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**Holiday Office Hours**

The office will be CLOSED during the winter break, from December 21st through January 3rd.

Happy Holidays!