Welcome to the 2015-16 School Year!

We are pleased to welcome our new families and returning families to Mosby Woods for a new, exciting school year! It was wonderful to meet so many parents at Open House. All of the children are so excited to be in school and are eager to learn.

We appreciate your support in preparing your child for the school year. You can help us by adjusting bedtime and purchasing supplies. Thank you also for encouraging reading throughout the summer.

We are looking forward to an outstanding school year!

Mosby Woods’ New School Hours

Students are required to be in their classes at 8:25 a.m. when the bell is sounded. Dismissal is at 3:10 p.m.

The doors will be closed until 8:00 a.m. every morning, so please don’t drop off or send your child to school before 8:00 a.m.

Being on time for school is very important because tardy children miss the detailed directions given by the teacher for the morning activities. Please help us by assuring that your children are at school prior to the bell ringing at 8:25 a.m. We appreciate your support!

Fall Picture Day

Get ready for picture day on Tuesday, October 6 and Wednesday, October 7. All students will have their pictures taken for the yearbook, so encourage your child to participate. Flyers will go home soon. We need volunteers to help on both days. The hours are from 8:45 am – 3:00 pm.

Back-to-School Night

We are looking forward to seeing all parents at one of our two Back-to-School nights. Wednesday, September 16th, at 7 pm is our Back-to-School night for parents of students in grades K-3 and Monday, September 21st, at 7 p.m. for grades 4-6. Back-to-School night is a wonderful opportunity for you to meet your child’s teacher, hear about our high expectations for achievement and behavior and learn ways we can be partners in your child’s education. We ask that you make child care arrangements so that you can give your full attention to the information that will be shared. We look forward to seeing you then.

Bus Riders

Bus transportation is provided to students who live within the boundaries of our school. Schedules for bus riders are mailed to students prior to the first day of school. Students are expected to cooperate with safety patrols and bus drivers, behave in an orderly manner, obey safety rules, remain seated and talk quietly after boarding the bus. Students who persist in disruptive behavior can be denied the privilege of riding the bus temporarily (or permanently in extreme cases). All students will receive a copy of REGULATIONS FOR PUPILS RIDING SCHOOL BUSES contained in the STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES booklet. All parents are requested to review the information with their child/ren and return the signed portion to school. Bus regulations govern field trips as well as daily transportation, so all students must submit the signed form. The transportation department has notified MWES that students are not permitted to switch from their assigned bus to ride a friend’s bus. Our buses are very full and do not have room for extra students.
Kiss and Ride

We always prefer students to arrive by walking to school or riding a bus. Significant traffic approaching the school always raises safety concerns. Should you need to drive your child to school however, please use the Kiss and Ride lane. **PLEASE DO NOT PARK** at Kiss and Ride.

Parents are asked not to use Kingsbridge as a Kiss and Ride because of safety risks. We have over 100 students that cross Kingsbridge and this would put many children at risk by parents creating more traffic.

FCPS Family Life Education Instructional Program

Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) provides a comprehensive, sequential Family Life Education (FLE) program for kindergarten through grade twelve. Instruction is seen as a partnership among parents and guardians, the school, and the community in supporting the learning essential to the development of strong families, positive relationships, and a healthy community.

Parents/guardians may choose to opt their child out of all or part of the Family Life Education program. Students who are opted out are provided with age-appropriate, nonpunitive alternative health instruction, and every effort is made to foster respect for family choices. If you wish to opt your child out of all or part of FLE for this school year, opt out forms will be included in your child’s back-to-school/orientation packets and are available online at [http://www.fcps.edu/is/hpe/fle.shtml](http://www.fcps.edu/is/hpe/fle.shtml). Please fill in the opt-out form and return it to your child’s school prior to Family Life Education instruction.

Detailed grade-level program descriptions are available online at [http://www.fcps.edu/is/hpe/fle.shtml](http://www.fcps.edu/is/hpe/fle.shtml) and FLE grade level-specific lessons are available for parents online in FCPS 24-7 (Blackboard) Parent View.

Parents/guardians will need the new SIS account to access FCPS 24-7. Account information is available at [http://www.fcps.edu/is/instructionaltechnology/247help/parents.shtml](http://www.fcps.edu/is/instructionaltechnology/247help/parents.shtml). Grade level-specific lessons are also available at the Fairfax County Regional Library in the City of Fairfax (this location does not have media). Grade level-specific lessons and media are also available for review at your child’s school library. Due to copyright permissions, we are unable to stream media online.

Program questions may be addressed at your child’s school or by contacting Instructional Services at 571-423-4550 or by contacting Elizabeth Payne, Health and Physical Education Coordinator at [etpayne@fcps.edu](mailto:etpayne@fcps.edu).

Library News

The year is off to a great start and by the end of this week, all students will have been to the library for orientation and book check-out. We’re happy to see their smiling faces as the hundreds of new books and thousands of old favorites reach their hands.

As a reminder to parents, library books are officially due back two weeks after they are checked out. Kindergarten through 2nd grade and many of the upper grades will be checking out each week, though, so keep those books coming back on the day your child has library. If you are not sure when your child has library, you can check with me or with the classroom teacher.

Please note that there are no overdue fines in FCPS elementary schools, but students are financially responsible for lost and badly damaged books, so keep books in a safe place at home when they are not being read. Besides book check-outs, I will be working with all students over the course of the year on age-appropriate information literacy skills. Kindergarten through 2nd grade will have regular library classes. Third through 6th grade will be on a flexible schedule in collaboration with classroom teachers and student research/inquiry projects.

If you have any questions, please contact me at [cmjay@fcps.edu](mailto:cmjay@fcps.edu) or 703-937-1619.

Mrs. Jay

**Needed:** Volunteers to help re-shelve books! If you have an hour or two free each week and would like to help out in the library, please contact Mrs. Katzman (Library Assistant) at [mgkatzman@fcps.edu](mailto:mgkatzman@fcps.edu) or 703-937-1619.

**Save the Date:** The Fall Book Fair will be Nov. 16th-20th. More info and volunteer sign-ups will be coming in October.

Dates to Remember

- **September 16th** – Back to School Night K – 3rd Grade 7 pm
- **September 21st** – Back to School Night 4th – 6th Grade 7pm
- **September 22nd** – PTA Meeting at 6:30 pm
- **October 6th & 7th** – Picture Day