In honor of the Thanksgiving holiday, all students will be dismissed at 1:20 today. The Spring Hill office will be closing at 2pm. We hope you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Thank you to everyone who attended Spring Hill’s Thanksgiving Luncheon. The children enjoyed having lunch with parents, grandparents and other family members.
See Inside this Issue:

Page 1: Early Dismissal, Thanksgiving Luncheon
Page 2: Calendar, Kiss & Ride, Level 4 AAP @ Cooper MS, Transportation Changes Procedure
Page 3: SCA Food Drive, LHS Choral
Page 4: Support the Dennis Family, FLE
Page 5: Inclement Weather Information
Page 6-8: PTO News

Thank you!

We want to thank everyone for your patience and understanding with Kiss & Ride and the permanent closure of the entrance to the school at the stop light during arrival and dismissal.

Level 4 AAP at Cooper

Arlene Randall, Principal at Cooper MS will be at Spring Hill ES on Tuesday, December 9, 2014 from 9-10 am in the Cafeteria. The topic will be about the Level 4 AAP program at Cooper. All 6th grade parents are invited to attend.

This school newsletter will be issued every Wednesday during the school year on our website, under “News and Events.” You will receive an email link to the newsletter if we have your current email address. Deadline for submissions are Mondays by Noon. Email nelda.hirji@fcps.edu Please include Panther Press in the subject.

Calendar

Please schedule your family vacations during FCPS designated holidays / breaks, which you can see at this link: http://www.fcps.edu/cal.shtml Be aware that missing school for extended periods of time negatively impacts your child and your child’s teacher.

Wednesday, November 26:
2 hr Early Release

Thursday & Friday, November 27 & 28:
Thanksgiving Holidays

Week of December 1:
Tuesday, December 2: FLE Curriculum Preview for parents of 5th & 6th Grade, 6th GR, Room 200, 9:00-9:40 am
5th GR, Room 112, 10:00-10:50 am
Evening preview for both, Library, 6-7 pm
Thursday, December 4: 6th GR FR (Burns,Ginsberg & Papathanassiou), American Art Museum, 9:45-11:35
4th GR Orchestra Concert, Cafeteria 7-8pm
Friday, December 5: Fun Fair Planning Meeting, Cafeteria, 9:00-10:15 am
6th GR FT (Smith, Seagraves & Minutoli) American Art Museum, 9:45-11:35 am


Important Reminder:
Transportation Changes Procedure

This is a reminder that any changes to your child’s normal mode of transportation home must be sent to the office in writing, either by the transportation change request form, or by fax, no later than 2pm.

Emails or last minute phone calls will not be accepted.

We want to reiterate the policy Spring Hill has in place is for your child’s safety.
LANGLEY HIGH SCHOOL CHORAL DEPARTMENT TO PRESENT RENAISSANCE FEASTE DECEMBER 5-6

The Langley High School Choral Department will present its annual Renaissance Feaste on Friday, December 5, and Saturday, December 6, at 7 p.m. at Capital Church, 10233 Leesburg Pike, Vienna, Virginia. Tickets for adults are $30; student tickets are $20.

Langley High School’s award-winning choirs, including the Madrigals and the Women’s Chamber Choir, present the lively, Renaissance-style dining and musical event each December. The holiday celebration features costumed servers, jesters, minstrels, and musicians in a festive “Greate Hall” environment. Fashioned after a 16th-century gathering of landed gentry, the event offers entertainment and traditional Madrigal songs such as “Masters of This Hall,” “Glouchestershire Wassail,” and “Deck the Halls.”

For more information on the Langley choirs and tickets for the Renaissance Feaste, visit www.langleychorus.com.
Show your Love for Megan Dennis and her Bravehearted Lions!

As many of you know, our fabulous kindergarten teacher, Megan (O'Brien) Dennis is away from Spring Hill on maternity leave. Her twin boys, James and Leo, were born 10 weeks early on 1/28/14, defying all the odds given by "experts" around the country. Her littlest Lion, Leo, fights on in the CICU at Children's National, proving every day that he is braver and stronger than anyone could ever have imagined. James is at home, crawling and smiling and full of joy. And we can't forget their parents - who split their time between home and the hospital to make sure both their boys know, every hour of every day, just how much they're loved.

To support Megan, Bernie and their bravehearted Lions, a Luau is being held in Philadelphia and raise funds to help support them. In conjunction with this event, a website has been set up and prizes will be raffled off to allow those outside the Philly area to reach out and share in the fun and in sending support. Head over to teambravehertedlions.com where you can purchase raffle tickets for items being given away for the Luau for Love, catch up on Megan and Bernie's blog entries about the boys, or make a secure donation via PayPal.

Thank you for your ongoing love and support of this amazing family!

Family Life Education (FLE)

Fifth and Sixth grade students will soon be taking part in lessons on Human Growth and Development (HGD) as part of the Family Life Education (FLE) Program. These lessons address the many changes that students will experience as they go through puberty and provide them with important information that will help them make positive choices as they grow and change in the next few years. The five lessons will be taught for both grades the week of Dec. 15-19th.

In addition, sixth grade will be teaching the four Emotional and Social Health (ESH) lessons in January. Topics included in ESH instruction include positive self-image, contributing positively to a group or community, child neglect and abuse, and human trafficking.

There will be a daytime and a nighttime curriculum preview for 5th and 6th parents on Dec. 2nd. The daytime preview for sixth grade will be in Room 200 from 9:00-9:40 a.m. The daytime preview for fifth grade will be in Room 112 from 10:00-10:50 a.m. The evening preview for both fifth and sixth grades will be from 6:00-7:00 in the library.
Are You Prepared? Make Plans Now!

Inclement Weather and Emergency Closing Plans
Make Arrangements Now in Case of an Unforeseen Schedule Change

Due to inclement weather or other emergency situations, it may be necessary to close schools for the entire day, to open schools two hours late, or to close two hours early. The procedures used in school closings are detailed below. Keep this information in a convenient location for future reference.

Parents are urged to make arrangements now for the care of their children when schedule changes are made (and to provide for the rare situation when it is necessary to close an individual school because of a power failure or other circumstances). Children should know where to go or what to do if a parent will not be or is not home.

FCPS has several schedules set up to deal with inclement weather. These are put into effect when conditions threaten the safety of children and FCPS staff who are walking, driving, or riding buses to schools. These schedules are:

(1) Keep schools closed. (2) Open two hours late. (3) Close two hours early.

As soon as a decision is made to implement one of these changes, we post the information on:

- FCPS cable Channel 21
- www.fcps.edu.
- Facebook and Twitter.
- Email notifications will be made through our Keep in Touch (KIT) system.
- Called in to local radio and television stations.

We try to make a decision by 4:30 a.m. when schools will be closed all day or will open two hours late. This gives us 30 minutes so that the public announcement can be posted and reach all media outlets by 5:00 a.m. On some occasions, it is not possible to make these time frames as weather can change unexpectedly. On some other occasions, the school system has been able to make a scheduling decision the day before so that parents, staff members, and students know what will happen the following day. This usually happens when precipitation is already on the ground and the temperatures are such that the precipitation on the ground is frozen or will refreeze.

For more information, go to [http://www.fcps.edu/news/weather.shtml](http://www.fcps.edu/news/weather.shtml)
Grocery Bonus Forms Still Needed
As the holidays approach and you start thinking about all the food shopping you have to do, please make sure that you turn in your grocery bonus form or submit your grocery card numbers online. You can use the form attached or submit online at www.springhillpto.org. Remember, signing up costs you nothing and Spring Hill earns a portion of everything you spend at Giant or Harris Teeter. Last year we collected almost $15,000...let's try to beat that this year!

Colonial Day Costume Exchange
All 4th graders participate in Colonial Day! If you have a Colonial Day costume that you no longer need, please consider passing it along to another Spring Hill family. There is a box to collect CLEAN costumes in the office (please include hats or mob caps if you have them). Please put the costumes in a bag labeled for a boy or girl and about what size (S, M, L). For those looking for a costume, they will be in the box for first come-first served to claim.

First Fun Fair Organizational Meeting
The first Fun Fair organizational meeting will be held on December 5th at 9:15 in the cafeteria. Sue Cardenas is the lead for Fun Fair this year and can be contacted at suecard@me.com.

Staff Chili Lunch
Our annual Staff Chili Lunch is coming up on December 10th! We would appreciate donations of chili in crockpots as well as side like sour cream, cheese and bowls, etc. You can also sign up to help set up or clean up. Please contact Lynne Emmanuel at evangelineemmanuel1014@gmail.com or Maile Ramzi at maileramzi@me.com if you would like to help.

Thank You!
Each week there are so many volunteers that take time to make our school a little better. Many thanks to:

Jen Dzwonczyk for selling directories in the lobby on Friday.
Margaret Smith and Holly Piper for doing Bus Notes last Friday.

Save the Date

Early Dismissal Wednesday, November 26th at 1:20 p.m.

No School on Thursday and Friday, November 27th and 28th for Thanksgiving holidays.

First Organizational Fun Fair Meeting: December 5th at 9:15 a.m. in the cafeteria. Committee chairs are requested to attend, all others are invited.

Chili Lunch for Staff: December 10th. Stay tuned for a Sign Up Genius or contact Lynne Emmanuel at evangelineemmanuel1014@gmail.com or Maile Ramzi at maileramzi@me.com if you would like to help.

December 19th – NO BUS NOTES. All after school play dates cancelled due to early release.
Please help us earn FREE MONEY for our school!

Every time you shop at Giant or Harris Teeter and use your grocery card, these companies will donate a portion of your grocery total to Spring Hill! It costs you nothing. Last year we earned more than $15,000!

Signing up is easy and now you can do it online at the PTO website! Simply go to www.springhillpto.org and enter your information. You must designate Spring Hill to receive the funds every year, so if you leave or graduate, Spring Hill will not continue to be your designated school year after year.

Or fill out the form below and return it to the Spring Hill office or your child’s teacher.

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<tr>
<th>Student Name(s)</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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Giant Bonus Cards (need all info - please print)

Cardholder Last Name: ____________________________

Card #: 4 4 0 ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ (MUST be 12 digits total)

Not sure of your card number since you use your phone number at checkout?
You can call the following phone number and they will tell you your card number.
Giant- 1-877-366-2668 option 2 (Mon. - Fri. 9 am - 5 pm).

Harris Teeter VIC Cards (need Last Name plus phone number OR card number – please print)

Cardholder Last Name: ____________________________

Phone Number: (___) ____________________________

VIC Card #: (FIRST 11 digits only) ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ 

Do you wish to include other family, friends or neighbors? GREAT! Just provide additional information on the back of this sheet for each store. This form is also available on the Spring Hill PTO website (springhillpto.org).

Questions? Please contact Susan Dooley at susan.dooley@verizon.net or Jennifer Jackson at jejackson97@gmail.com. Thank you for your support!

More Free Money News!
TARGET has a REDcard program called Take Charge of Education. Please link your Target REDcard to Spring Hill Elementary for us to receive this free education money!
1-800-316-6142 https://www-secure.target.com/redcard/tcoe/home
Let’s start planning some FUN FAIR fun!

Spring Hill’s Fun Fair Planning Meeting

Friday, December 5, 2014

9:15 -10:15 am in the School Cafeteria

Everyone is welcome to join!

Our Fun Fair will be held on Saturday, March 21, 2015 from 10am to 3pm. It is truly a day filled with FUN for the kids and the community. We need your help to make that all happen!!! Get involved now and let’s start planning.

Mark your calendars and come join us in the cafeteria on Friday, December 5 at 9:15 am to start the preparations for this year’s Fun Fair. We will be discussing some new ideas, themes, t-shirt designs and more.

If you have not been able to find the right volunteer sport, this is a great event to get involved with. There are small jobs, large jobs, jobs that can be done from home and/or jobs just the day of the Fun Fair only. There’s something for everyone and it is truly a fun way to meet new people and become involved in the school.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Sue Cardenas, suecard@me.com or 571-436-1819.