

JANUARY

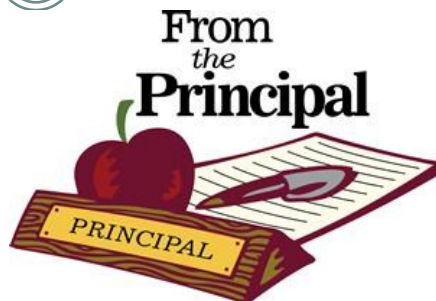


2017

Flintstone Elementary School
22000 National Pike NE
Flintstone, MD 21530
301-478-2434
Fax 301-777-0612

JANUARY 11, 2017

Welcome to 2017! I hope you had a wonderful holiday break and enjoyed the time with your little ones at home. Thank you for all of your support during the numerous activities and events during December. The staff is also appreciative of the many cards and gifts provided to them.



From
the
Principal

January allows us to settle into a nice pace of learning activities at school. The hectic pace of the many holidays from October-December is over and we can focus on so many great learning experiences at school. Get back into a routine at home by reading each evening and being certain to sign the assignment notebook each evening. Remember, your signature indicates you have reviewed your child's work and know that everything is completed to be given to the teacher(s).

Be sure to check out the school website on the acpsmd.org page. Go to the school tab and find Flintstone School. On the left side you will see the link for the calendar. It is up to date with all scheduled activities (at this point) for the year. Some grades still need to schedule field trips so this information will be updated as soon as it is available.

Have you checked your child's grades this grading period? Don't forget to go on ASPEN (tab on the acpsmd.org site) to access the gradebook. You can also see your child's report card on the site before you receive the printed copy on January 27th. Don't be surprised by grades on report card day. Follow your child's progress throughout each grading period and stay in contact with your child's teacher.

Our Mission

Flintstone School will provide a variety of enriching educational experiences for our school community. As life-long learners, the staff will prepare students for College and Career Readiness and will increase skills through technological infused practices. The staff will help parents become aware of the skills their children will be required to master during their school careers. These experiences will help our school community become responsible, productive citizens in our diverse culture.



Jan. 3—School reopens

Jan. 9—Joe Corbi Pizza Sale begins

Jan. 16—School closed—Martin Luther King Day

Jan. 17—end of second grading period

Jan. 18—12:40 dismissal

Jan. 25—School closed—Professional Development Day

Jan. 27—Report Card Day

Jan. 30—Joe Corbi Pizza orders and money due

The School Messenger system allows messages about Allegany County Public Schools to be delivered to your home phone, your cell phone, your e-mail and to other designated people who may care for your children. As we approach the snow season, it is very important that you keep numbers updated in this system so you are aware of closures, delays and early dismissals. The system also calls in the event of a bus delay of at least 15 minutes or of any emergency situation. It is your responsibility to update numbers in the system by going to acpsmd.org. On this site you can enter the numbers you want notified by the system.

Please do not call the school about messages you have received, if you have not listened to the message first. Our phone lines are often overwhelmed by people calling asking us to repeat the message instead of listening to voicemail. One day we had over 20 calls asking about the message. The system is designed to inform everyone at the same time.



The banner features the School Messenger logo on the left, which consists of a stylized globe icon and the text "SCHOOLMESSENGER®". To the right is a circular graphic containing various icons: a bus, a book, a telephone, a bell, a clock, a cloud with rain, and a calendar. Below the logo and graphic, the text reads: "OPT-IN TO RECEIVE IMPORTANT MESSAGES FROM YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL".

Reading A-Z

STUDENTS IN THE FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD GRADES HAVE ACCESS TO THE READING A-Z WEBSITE. THIS SITE PROVIDES A VARIETY OF STORIES TO READ THEN ANSWER QUESTIONS TO IMPROVE READING COMPREHENSION. ALL STUDENTS HAVE A LOGIN (THE SAME AS LAST YEAR). CONTINUE TO USE THIS RESOURCE THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL YEAR TO IMPROVE READING COMPREHENSION.

PLEASE HELP US!

Currently, we have only earned \$521.09 from the Martin's A+ Rewards program. This funding is what we use each year to purchase incentives and to bring special programs to our students. Generally, at the end of each year, we earn \$1,500.00-\$1,800.00 from Martin's so we are very far behind our anticipated goal. If you have not registered your bonus card at Martin's, designating Flintstone School as the recipient, please do so as soon as possible! Also, encourage family members and friends to do the same to assist us. This program costs you nothing, but provides a percentage of the money you spend to our school. We rely heavily on this money for our kids. Thanks for helping!

MARTIN'S



Joe Corbi Pizza Sale

Important Information from Mrs. Athey

You should have received a Joe Corbi fundraiser pamphlet and informational letter a short time ago. This fundraiser will be held until January 30.

All profit obtained from this fundraiser will either help your child with the price of his/her field trip or help to purchase educational supplies for the classroom. You and your child do not have to participate in this fundraiser, but children who are going on a trip that is quite pricey may very well benefit from it.

Each item sold will take anywhere from \$5.00 to \$6.50 off of the price of your trip, depending on how many total items our school sells.



Please place all monies and order forms in the white envelope provided and make checks payable to **FLINTSTONE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at [301-478-2434](tel:301-478-2434). Thank you.**

CAFETERIA NEWS

Please note that MANY children do not know their lunch numbers yet. Check with your child to see if he/she can tell you the number. If not, please work on this at home. It delays everyone getting through the lunch line in a timely manner when a child does not know the number.

PAYPAMS continues to be available to families as a convenient way to pay for your child's meals on line. The information to enroll in PAYPAMS is also available on the website at acpsmd.org

Students may only accumulate 5 charges on their meals before being served an alternate meal. This alternate meal does not include the entrée, but will consist of the vegetable and fruit of the day as well as milk. If a child has a debt to the cafeteria of 5 or more days, he/she will not be permitted to purchase any ala carte items until the debt is paid. Mrs. Abe will always be happy to talk with you about your child's lunch account. You may contact her at 301-478-2855 or at sheila.abe@acpsmd.org.



Lunch menus are available on line at acpsmd.org

Christmas Card

Recycling Project

ACPS students are collecting used Christmas cards during the month of January. These cards are repurposed by placing a sticker over the names then signing to give to veterans and nursing home patients next year.

This program is sponsored through a grant to the school system.

We have a collection box in the main office for the cards. You may send your cards in with your child or bring them in when you are visiting the school.

Please share this information with friends and family members. Remember that we need all cards by the end of January.

PARENTS OF
KINDERGARTEN
STUDENTS

There MUST be someone at the bus stop each afternoon to meet your youngster. This is a county policy. Drivers are NOT permitted to let a kindergarten child go home unattended. If no one is there, the driver continues with the bus route then returns your child to Flintstone School. If this happens 3 or more times during the school year, our transportation office makes contact with the Department of Social Services.



Parents are reminded that you can check your child's grades weekly using the ASPEN system. You can find the link for the website on our website at the top.

<http://acpsmd.org/fl>

Your child has a login

lastname.firstname.XXXX

(4 numbers) that was sent to you on a card. By checking the teacher's grade book, you can easily keep track of your child's progress and communicate with your child's teachers throughout the year. This is a nice feature for parents to use on the system so there are no unpleasant surprises when report cards are issued. You are also able to go onto the system to view your child's report card before it is sent home! Please check with your child's teacher if you have misplaced the login information.



**The Learning Assistance
Program at Flintstone School (LAP)**



This year our school has a program called Learning Assistance Program (LAP). The goals of LAP are as follows:

*To provide a highly structured academic setting/interim station for students who are temporarily experiencing academic, social and/or emotional difficulties in the school setting

*To provide individual behavior management plans, which teach socially acceptable behaviors and encourage academic success.

If placed in this program by Mrs. Morgan, a child will spend time reviewing what behaviors have caused a problem in the room, will complete any work missed in the classroom while in LAP, then return to the classroom. LAP personnel will follow up with the child and teacher periodically to see how she can support the child in the classroom. The amount of time assigned to LAP will be determined by the severity of the problem and if problems are reoccurring. LAP is an alternate placement from sending children to the office. Children will have a place to talk about the problems they are experiencing as well as to talk about how to solve the problem. This is a program that is designed to help students who may struggle with behaviors to experience success.

Are you a member of the Flintstone Sparks Facebook page? If you are, you have seen so many photos and stories about all that happens here on a daily basis! This is a page dedicated to sharing student news and school activities with parents and grandparents. **Please note that people can only access**

this page by asking to be a member. We are only allowing parents and grandparents at this time as we post photos of students and want to keep this information within our community.

Our page serves as a **bulletin board** to share information, not to respond to questions, etc. That is why you will find that commenting is disabled, in most cases.

We appreciate the positive response we have had to our page and encourage you to visit it daily for updated information and photos!



PTA News

"Together We Shine"

Flintstone Elementary PTA is our Facebook Group, ask to join.

We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday, and are ready for some fun in the snow, which I'm sure will be coming. The PTA doesn't have anything planned for the month of January, as the weather can be bad this month. Rest up, we will need volunteers for upcoming events we have planned.

**"VOLUNTEERS ARE NOT PAID - NOT BECAUSE THEY ARE WORTHLESS,
BUT BECAUSE THEY ARE PRICELESS"**

We appreciate all each of you do to make our events
and school successful! You truly are **Priceless:**)

Upcoming PTA EVENTS:

Feb. 9 PTA Meeting at 6pm

March 13-24 Mariannas Hoagie/Pizza Sale

April 3-7 Spring Bookfair

April 6 PTA Meeting 6pm with Book fair open until 7

April 7 Spring Dance

April 12 Annual Easter Egg Hunt

May 2 PTA Meeting 2:30pm

Fun Day - a date has not been set

MEMBERSHIP

If you would like to be a PTA member, fill out and send the bottom portion, along with a \$5 membership fee, back to school with your child.

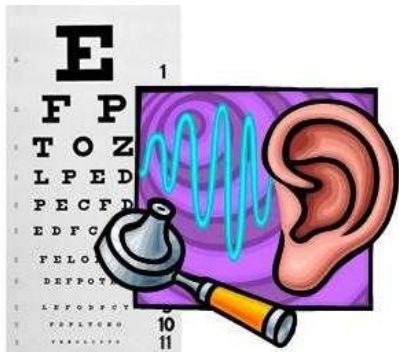
Please put in an envelope addressed to PTA.

Name _____

Child's Name _____ Teacher _____

OUR NEXT MEETING IS THURS. FEB 8 AT 6PM.

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!!!

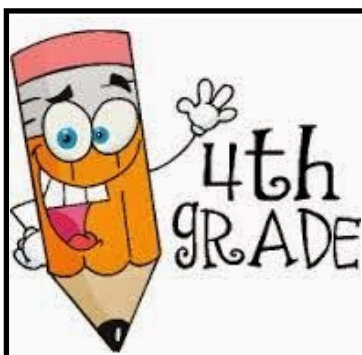


Vision and Hearing screenings will begin January 9th for Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten, first and fifth grade students. I will also screen any children referred by the teachers or their parents. If you feel like your child is having a problem and would like them screened, just send Susan Larivee, RN, a note or call me at [301-478-2434](tel:301-478-2434). I only have the screening equipment in the school for 2 weeks a year (1/9/15 thru 1/20/15). So please call me right away. This is the

time to have their vision checked or find out if they can really hear you when you tell them to clean their room.

The screening at school is a preliminary exam to see if the child should be referred to a doctor for further examination. Forms are sent home on those students who show vision or hearing loss during the screening. **The first form is to be filled out by the parents and returned to the health room as soon as possible. The second form is for you to take to the doctor and have it filled out during the examination. Once the child has been examined, please return the form to the school health room.** I will make follow-up telephone calls to parents about the results of the screenings as indicated. If you have any questions about the exam or you want to refer your child to be tested please give me a call.

Thank You,
Susan Larivee, RN



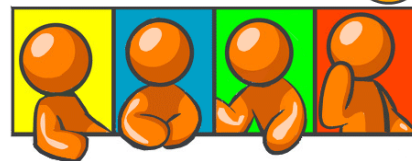
Attention 4th grade Parents

You should have received a letter regarding the NAEP testing that will be conducted at our school on Friday, Feb. 10. This is a national test that is done to monitor the progress of children across the country. Schools are randomly selected each year to be participants. Most of the students will take the test on iPads, provided by the testing company. Others will do paper and pencil tests. Again, this is a random selection. No individual scores or school scores will be provided.

Outdoor School 2017

As you are aware, ACPS has applied for a waiver regarding the post-Labor Day start to school for 2017-2018. Until we know if the waiver is granted, no dates can be set for Outdoor School. We know parents who want to chaperone are trying to make vacation arrangements to be able to attend so Mr. McGowan at ACPS will notify the schools as soon as we are aware of the school start date for next year. We appreciate your patience. If you haven't considered being a chaperone at Outdoor School, please think about it. It is a great week for students, staff and chaperones!

Town Hall Meeting



Sheriff Craig Robertson and a representative from the Allegheny County Health Department will be hosting a meeting on **Tuesday, January 24 at 6:00** at the Flintstone Fire Hall regarding the drug concerns in the county. This information meeting is for all ages and will feature a formal presentation, a question/answer period as well as a new movie, "Chasing the Dragon."

Food will be served, possibly pizza, and there will be a prize give away. Families and community members are encouraged to attend this meeting. Please share this information with family and friends.