



Centreville Elementary

Bulldog Bark

Visit our website at www.cpschools.org for a complete list of activities and calendar of events until end of September when our new website becomes live at:

<http://centrevilleps.schoolwires.net/centrevilleps>

Principal- Becky Stauffer
Secretary- Ardell Bontrager

Counselor- Diana Kamphues
Attendance Secretary- Sally Reed

Elementary Office 467-5200
Attendance 467-5203

News From the Principal

The summer flew by and the new school year has begun. It has been a great start and wonderful to have all the children back, as well as, many new faces. Welcome to all our new families. I would like to welcome our new teachers as well: Mrs. Kelsey Smith, fourth grade teacher and Miss Mallory Palmer, 5th grade teacher. Our children and families are very fortunate to have these dedicated and enthusiastic ladies as part of our school family.

Thank you parents and grandparents for helping prepare your children for school over the summer by working on skills, practicing good manners, and giving them the love and care they need to be successful in school. Our school is filled with so many positive, caring, and smart children because of you.

The staff has been very busy learning and preparing for new initiatives this year. One very new concept is moving towards Standards Based Reporting, a concept brought to us by the Robert Marzano Educational Team. I will send a newsletter in the coming weeks explaining this further and detailing Nonacademic vs. Academic standards.

We are also trying to implement two "Walking School Bus" routes and National Walk to School Day. Information is included below.

Again, welcome back to a new school year. On the back, I have added some ideas for you to help your child succeed. We are as excited as your children to start a new year and look forward to working together.

Thank you, Becky Stauffer

Walking School Bus

Centreville Elementary was fortunate to receive a grant for \$5,000 toward establishing and maintaining a "Walking School Bus". We had information available during Covered Bridge Days and outside the office during Meet the Teacher Night. A Walking School Bus is an opportunity for students who live in town to walk to and from school with other students and a supervising adult, the walking bus "driver". We have established two routes to safely walk students to and from school. One route leaves from Davis St. traveling down Charlotte to RR St., then to Clark St. and another that starts north of M86 from the corner of N. Clark St. and E. Market St., safely crossing M86 down Clark St. to the elementary school. Eric and Tracy Weis have agreed to be our coordinators and are looking for participating students and adults interested in being "drivers". We are hoping to kick off our first bus walks to school on Wed., Oct. 5th in connection with National Walk to School Day. If you are interested in your child participating or you are an adult who is willing to help, please contact the elementary school or Eric Weis at ejweis@yahoo.com.

National Walk to School Day

Centreville Elementary has also signed up to participate in National Walk to School Day on Oct. 5th. The initiative is to help get kids active. We are hoping to have students who live in town walk to school that day. For students who are driven to school daily, we are arranging an opportunity for them to walk to school as well. Parents would be able to drop off their children at the Franklin St. gate at the fairgrounds. School staff will supervise the drop off and additional supervision would be provided for students to safely walk along Charlotte St. to Clark St. to school. More information will be coming home.

Month of
September 2011

September

19 Fair Day, NO SCHOOL

12-10/3 PAC Fundraiser

29 Picture Day

October

5 National Walk to School Day and the beginning of our Walking "School Buses"

7 Homecoming

13 MEAP Testing Begins for 3rd through 6th grades.



Back to School Reminders:

- To optimize our time educating your child, we are asking parents who enter the building to please drop your child off at the classroom door or hallway and quickly say goodbye. Then, your child can quickly start their day with their classmates. Also, when picking up your child, would parents please wait outside the office doors or exit doors by the Kindergarten rooms instead of outside your child's classroom. Once the bell rings, you may pick up your child at their classroom. Classroom teachers really appreciate your help during this busy time of day.
- BUS NOTES: We are asking parents to call prior to 2:30 to help make sure that your child gets their bus note. Making sure your child gets the information, will help ensure they make it home safely. Please help us by calling no later than 2:30 when a change needs to occur.
- CLARK ST. PARKING LOT: This is a very busy pick up and drop area. Parents thank you! You have done an excellent job pulling up and having your child ready to quickly exit. This has helped the flow of traffic greatly. Thank you also for pulling in and parking if you need to walk your child to class.

Welcome back from the Counseling Office

I can't believe the summer has passed so quickly. It seems like just yesterday it was June, and now it's the third week of September. I hope your summer was fun filled, relaxing and many memories made. As I watched students entering the building I am amazed at how much everyone has grown. I hope all of your children are adjusting to getting up early, going to bed early and bringing homework home. Maybe not bringing homework home, but eventually they will. We are looking forward to a **GREAT** year at Centreville Elementary.

The counseling program is full, but fun. (I hope) I would like to take this opportunity to share with you some of our programs. Our character education program is always top on the list. Every month we discuss different traits and how to be what that trait is. We talk about acceptance, kindness, compassion, generosity, respect, honesty and responsibility. To go along with our character traits we also have our gotcha program that emphasizes catching students doing one of the character traits. If they do, they are given a gotcha slip and the student hangs the slip on the "Wall of Fame" showing what trait they used. Please feel free to visit our "Wall of Fame" and check to see if your child's name is on the wall.

We also have our bully awareness program that teaches students what a bully is and what they should do if they are bullied. I always encourage our students to tell an adult whenever they are bullied, because if we don't know, we can't stop it. The month of October is also drug awareness month where students are taught how drugs can harm us and how easily you can become addicted.

Along with the programs mentioned above, I have study skills classes, divorce groups, anger management groups, friendship groups and I also work with those who have lost loved ones. The goal in the counseling office is to help students become successful. Sometimes, all of us have trouble doing our best, and facing problems, and if we don't know how to handle them, we cannot be successful. There are times we all need someone to listen to us, encourage and support us, to get through something we see as impossible. Our goal is to be a support to children socially, emotionally, behaviorally and academically. Please feel free to call if I can help in any way. *Mrs. K., Elementary Counselor*

HELPFUL TIPS FOR PARENTS

#1: Communicate with your child's teacher. Email is an excellent way to keep in contact!

To help your child in Reading:

Read! Read! Read!

- ◆ Read every night to your child or with your child for 15-20 min.
- ◆ If your child is not reading independently, read to them. Use character voices to keep it fun!
- ◆ If your child is reading independently but still struggles with some words, have your child read aloud to you.
- ◆ If it's a book slightly above their level or a long novel, take turns. You read a page; your child reads a page.
- ◆ If your child is a strong, independent reader, still encourage them to read nightly.
- ◆ Leave your child notes at home or in their lunch box to read.
- ◆ Encourage and celebrate their success at Accelerated Reader. Maybe help them set a goal and reward their success along the way. However, I caution: Please don't make reading about AR and AR points. Let your child choose their goals and please don't pressure. Reading is about learning and pleasure.

To help your child in Math:

- ◆ Practice! Practice! Practice math facts with your child. Addition/Subtraction and Multiplication facts should be automatic.
- ◆ Please read the Homelinks, the Unit/Chapter Preview has the answers.
- ◆ Help your child with their homework, but if they are doing it a different way than you were taught (which they probably are) have them teach you.
- ◆ If your child is unsure or frustrated with the homework, please contact your child's teacher or put a note on the work and send it back. Do not try to confuse your child with the way you learned if it's different.
- ◆ Help your child recognize real life mathematic situations to solve problems, such as: counting money at the fair, cooking (fractions), grocery store, calculating time before bed, or lapse time until they get up, find shapes in nature or driving down the road, etc.

To help your child in other Homework, like Science, Social Studies, Spelling, etc.:

- ◆ Keep spelling words or vocabulary on the fridge or a consistent place to study.
- ◆ Have a quiet place for them to complete any homework.
- ◆ Take breaks in between subjects.
- ◆ Have a regular homework time.
- ◆ Make homework important. If you treat it as important and a responsibility, so will your child. Responsibility is a life skill everyone needs.