

Bulldog Bulletin

Open Houses

Our Open Houses next week are designed for parents to hear information about their child's school year. We strongly recommend that parents find childcare for their children that evening so that they can fully attend to the presentations. However, it is most important to us that parents attend. Please feel free to bring your children with you if you cannot make other arrangements on those evenings.

September 8 at 7:00 p.m.
Grades 3-5

September 10 at 7:00 p.m.
Grades Pre-K -2 and Life Skills

Bowling Fund

Our school operates a Bowling Fund in honor of our school's first principal, Welford Bowling. It helps to provide school supplies to Mitchell students in need. If you have extra school supplies at home that other could use, we would appreciate any donations. Items in high demand are:

- 1.5 Inch Binders & 1 inch Binders
- Dividers for Binders
- Pocket Folders with Prongs
- Spiral Bound Notebooks
- Composition Notebooks

Specials Schedule for grades K-4

September 7 – Closed
September 8 – A Day
September 9 – B Day
September 10 - C Day
September 11 – D Day

School Calendar

September 7 – Labor Day; Schools closed

September 8 – PTO Meeting and Open House for grades 3-5

September 9 – PTO Meeting and Open House for grades PK-2

September 11 – Claire's Gourmet fundraiser begins

September 12 – Fair Day; Schools closed

September 23 – Ident-a-kid program

Being Green? Do Blue!

Our school works to recycle as much as possible. In addition to blue recycling bins in the classroom areas, we have blue recycling tables in the cafeteria. Children are encouraged to recycle aluminum cans and plastic bottles as well as any plastic item with a Reduce, Reuse, Recycle triangle symbol. Additionally, our school recycles empty foil drink pouches (such as Capri Sun, Kool-aid Jammers, or the store brand). We send them to be recycled into school supplies. These can be purchased at Target in La Plata. Check out these items at www.terracycle.net.

Spirit Days

Walter J. Mitchell Elementary School celebrates our school spirit by wearing red and black every Friday. We are proud to be the Mitchell Bulldogs and love to show our school spirit. The PTO has spirit wear for sale for interested families.

DID YOU KNOW?

- ❖ Parents/guardians may visit the classroom (including the playground) at the school's request or request to make a formal observation. Making an appointment with the school at least two school days in advance of an observation is not only a courtesy and a requirement by the Superintendent, but enables the parent/guardian to schedule the observation for the maximum benefit. Teachers cannot stop teaching to confer with the parents/guardians who stop by without an appointment. Parents/guardians may schedule up to two classroom observations of up to forty-five minutes in duration each grading period. Staff accompanies visitors to the classroom. Siblings should not attend. Teachers will be happy to discuss the observation at a mutually convenient time. Parents/guardians are welcome at any time to visit the cafeteria and eat lunch with their child.
- ❖ Absences from school are considered lawful only if they are accompanied by a medical note. This can be a doctor's note indicating an illness or a medical appointment. It would also be considered a medical absence if the school nurse sends a child home from school.
- ❖ School system policy states that students in elementary school with eight unlawful absences might be considered for retention.
- ❖ Regular, structured homework assignments are an extension of classroom instruction. Elementary students usually spend ten minutes on homework in first grade and up to an hour in fifth grade.
- ❖ PBIS stands for Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports. Our support of a PBIS approach shows our willingness to teach behavioral skills with research-based strategies and provide supports to individual children to help them learn appropriate behaviors.
- ❖ Elementary school students may not possess cell phones at school.
- ❖ Fifth graders choose their music class: band, chorus or orchestra. Fifth graders cannot choose their musical preference during the year.
- ❖ The goal of Charles County Public Schools is to provide a quality educational program for all students in an environment that is conducive to learning. There are times, however, when an individual may have a concern. The first step in resolving a concern is to address it with the teacher or staff member who is most closely and directly involved. Please contact the school and schedule an appointment.
- ❖ Our cafeteria serves breakfast and lunch each day. If you want your child to eat breakfast at school, please let your child's teacher know.

2009-2010 Meal Prices

Breakfast - \$1.15

(Reduced-Price Breakfast - \$.30)

Lunch - \$2.05

(Reduced-Price Lunch - \$.40)

Milk - \$.50

The Charles County Public School System does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age or disability in its programs, activities or employment practices. For inquiries, please contact Keith Grier, Title IX Coordinator, or Pat Vaira, Section 504 Coordinator (students), or Keith Hettel, Section 504 Coordinator (employees/adults), at Charles County Public Schools, Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, P.O. Box 2770, La Plata, MD 20646. 301-932-6610/301-870-3814. For special accommodations, call 301-934-7230 or TDD 1-800-735-2258 two weeks prior to the event.