

# Bulldog Bulletin

## **Walter J. Mitchell Elementary School Safety Patrols**

Our safety patrols for the 2009-2010 school year have been selected. They are on duty each day in front of our school. We are so proud of Jayla Davis, Ebony Bryant, Tayana Fluellyn, Allison Shoemaker, Justin Cortez, Aaron Hernandez, Jabari Martin, Kaila Posey, Arianna Rivera, Lorianna Smith, Alijhae Ford, Kirah Adney, and Raaziq Martin.

## **Why is Teaching Children Respect Important?**

Respect is more than obedience; it is an attitude. Being respectful helps children succeed in almost every part of life. A respectful child can learn from adults at home and at school. A respectful child takes care of responsibilities and belongings, and a respectful child gets along with peers.

Schools teach children about respect, but parents have the most influence on how respectful children become. Experts say that until children show respect at home, they're unlikely to show it anywhere else.

Teaching respect can be challenging – but it's always rewarding. Respect improves children's lives at home, at school and in the future. It also improves the lives of everyone around them.

## **Specials Schedule for grades K-4**

September 28 – D Day  
September 29 – E Day  
September 30 – A Day  
October 1 – B Day  
October 2– C Day

## **School Calendar**

**September 28** – Interims issued  
**September 30** – 2 hour Early Dismissal at 1:30. A.M. Pre-K attends 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and eats lunch at school. P.M. Pre-K does not attend school.  
**October 12** – Columbus Day – Schools OPEN  
**October 16** – MSTA Day – Schools CLOSED

## **Claire's Gourmet**

Our Claire's Gourmet fundraiser ends next week! Claire's offers elegant desserts, soft pretzels, cookie doughs, and pizzas. Every single item Claire's sales is incredibly fresh and scrumptious. The items will be available for pick-up on our Fall Conference Day when you will be at school for report card conferences. If you have never tried our Claire's Gourmet products, **consider purchasing just one or two items to sample.** You won't be disappointed.

We do not encourage children to sell door-to-door. We suggest they simply offer the catalog to family and friends. Out-of-town relatives may wish to go to the website and order items online.

Thank you for supporting our school with all that you do!

## **Emergency Drills**

Our school holds regular emergency drills during the school year. We practice fire drills, wind drills, and safety drills. This helps us be prepared for emergencies.

## ***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.
- ❖ Elementary school students may not possess cell phones at school.
- ❖ Valuable items (including games and toys) and large sums of money should not be brought to school. We do not take responsibility for valuables brought to school.
- ❖ Fifth graders choose their music class: band, chorus or orchestra. Fifth graders cannot change 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.
- ❖ Please remember that children under the age of 18 may not transport medication to and from school. Only adults may transport medication. This includes prescription medications, pain relievers (Advil/Tylenol), cough syrup, cough drops, and medicated lotions/creams. All medicated items must stay locked in our school Health Room.

*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.*