

Crofton Meadows Elementary Weekly Wrap Up – Friday, January 31, 2020

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Good Afternoon Crofton Meadows Elementary Families!

Here is your Weekly Wrap Up for the week ending Friday, January 31, 2020.

What's Happening - Today begins the third marking period for the 2019 – 2020 school year. This year is flying by! Students starting off fresh and are setting goals for the new marking period. We would like to thank all the families for the support they have giving their student and the school to help the children work toward and achieve their goals so far this school year.

Tomorrow starts the month of February! During February, the students will be participating in a Random Acts of Kindness Challenge. This initiative is an effort to celebrate and reinforce our school wide expectation of “Be Kind.” Nightly, content area homework for the month of February has been canceled! In its place, we are asking each student to do two things. First, complete a random act of kindness. A Kindness Calendar is coming home with each student with suggestions for students to spread kindness. Please work with your child to encourage them to complete a kind act each day. At the end of the month please return the calendar signed. And second, we ask that the students read something of their choice for the same amount of time that their grade level requires. For example, if the grade level requires 20 minutes of reading each night, the students should continue to do that. We are encouraging students to make daily/nightly reading a habit, so we don't want to have a month-long break from reading. So to recap, the homework for the month of February will be a daily random act of kindness and self-selected reading. At the end of the month we will celebrate all the random acts of kindness the students, staff, and families have done to make our school and community a more peaceful and kind place in the world!

Jump Rope for Heart - Jump Rope for Heart is coming to CMES the week of February 10-14th (during your child's PE classes). Please click [here](#) to help raise money for the American Heart Association. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Mrs. Venturella at gromeo@aacps.org.

Second Step at CMES - Each morning students will be learning skills to reinforce positive learning behaviors and social skills that are essential to their success as

lifelong learners. Periodically, students will be bringing home follow up activities from the classroom lessons that can be done with a parent to reinforce these skills. The first set of skills that the students are taught is how to focus their attention and ignore distractions through self-talk. Parents can also access information on Second Step by logging on to their website at www.secondstep.org.

Marvelous Mustangs - This week's Marvelous Mustangs Morgan M., Victoria P., Mason S., Kristian C., Aaliyah R., Levi D., Matthew S., Janiya F., Olivia T., Evan S., Maximilian M., Naomi H., Charles (CJ) K., Zoe M., Shayla W., Ryan P., Jeremiah H., Peyton M., John D., Ezekiel D., Ethan H., Riley C., Olivia A., Alyssa D., Saeed J., and McKinley D. Congratulations to these Marvelous Mustangs! You are setting the example for *The Crofton Meadows Way* – Work Hard. Be Kind. Be Safe.

Attention Parents of Current 5th Graders - It's beginning to become that time of year for fifth grade students to start thinking about middle school. The administrators and guidance counselors at Crofton Middle School are planning an opportunity for parents and 5th grade students to learn more about the process of selecting courses for 6th grade. A meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at 6PM at Crofton Middle School. More information is available [here](#).

An Important Message for the School Nurse - The Health Room is seeing an increase in flu like symptoms, cold symptoms. We encourage parents to check their students' temperature prior to school if they have any cold, flu like symptoms. We also encourage parents to let the health room know of any diagnosis (flu, strep etc.). We can be reached at 410-451-9778 or nurse3362@aacps.org. Additional information about how to prevent the flu and other sicknesses can be found on the CMES website or [here](#).

ReadWithMe Challenge - The AACPS Read With Me Challenge started this week. Join in the fun. Tweet pictures of your family reading. Use the Read With Me Bingo board sent home this week to get some fun ideas. **The challenge is to "cover all" boxes on the BINGO card.** Remember to tag [@CrftMeadowsACP](#) and use the hashtag [#AACPSReadWithMe](#).

First In Math! - Exciting News!! First grade now has access to First In Math! Students log ins for home is:

- User Id: 6 digit student number
- Password: 1234

When your child earns 500 stickers- they also earn a family account for you (or siblings) to play too!

Let's CELEBRATE!

Crofton Meadows is currently the TOP SCHOOL in the state of Maryland! We are 23rd in the nation. Can we break into the Top 20? Let's TRY!

FIM Updates!

Teams of the Week:

1st Place- Mrs. Distad's 1st Grade

2nd place Mrs. Hampson's 2nd Grade

3rd Place- Mrs.Hughes' 4th Grade

Players of the Week:

1st Place Kailey- 4th Grade

2nd Place- Zach 5th Grade

3rd Place- Eni 3rdGrade

CONRATULATIONS to ALL of our GRAND CHAMPIONS 10,000+ Stickers! Way to Go!

5th grade- Zach

4th Grade- Erick I., Ethan H., Ethan V., Alex, Hailey

3rd Grade- Alex, Addison

2nd Grade- Alex, Joshua, Lucas

COMING SOON- 24 Team Tryouts!

Each 3rd, 4th and 5th grade tryouts will be held during recess the last week of February. The Teams will be submitted March 11th.

Class Fees - If you have not paid your student's class fee from the beginning of the school year, please consider doing this as soon as possible. For your convenience you can pay on-line by going to osp.osmsinc.com/annearundel. Find our school name (Crofton Meadows) under Elementary. Navigate to your student's teacher/grade to find the class fee.

Parent Portal Access – Parent Portal allows parents of students in grades 1-12 to monitor their student's academic progress throughout the school year. Look for the Parent Portal icon at the top of the AACPS website at www.aacps.org.

Changes to the Box Tops for Education Program - No more clipping!... Just scan your receipt! The Box Tops for Education will no longer be accepting box top clips. Parents can download the app and scan their store receipt. The box tops are then instantly added to our school's earnings online. Check out the video to learn more: www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hh94b2BvFK4

WATCH D.O.G.S. - The year is underway, your child has now settled into his/her routine and is learning each day. Do not miss a great opportunity to volunteer some of your time and spend time learning with your child. The WATCH D.O.G.S. Sign up is up and running. If you are interested, please log in and schedule a full day or half day: <https://signup.com/go/sSDpHdz>. Make sure your background check is complete! Any questions can be directed to Mr. Pitts @ watchdogscmes@gmail.com.

Volunteering and Chaperoning and Fingerprinting - Due to a very busy hiring season and increased school needs for finger-print supported volunteers, the Fingerprint Office is booked solid for at least a week or more. To help ease this overcrowding, we are establishing after hours fingerprinting, one day a week, for volunteers and chaperones. The Fingerprint Office now has evening hours from 4:00 to 6:30pm on Wednesdays. Appointments are still required. Volunteers/Chaperones should call 410-222-5045 to schedule an appointment.

Reminders:

Appropriate dress for the weather: Please remember to have students wear coats and other cold weather garments to school. If the “feels like” temperature is above 32 degrees, and the weather is nice, the students go outside for recess. Also, remember to label their clothing with the student’s name so the item can be returned to the rightful owner, if lost.

Absence notification: Student absent notes must be in written or electronic (email) form. You can email the student’s teacher directly. There is no need to call the office, as the teacher forwards these emails to the attendance secretary.

Early dismissal: If you are picking up your student for early dismissal, it is best to do so at least 15 minutes or more prior to the actual dismissal time (2:55PM). This will allow the student time to gather their belongings and come to the office. It will also help expedite your dismissal from the parking lot so you are not caught in the regular dismissal traffic.

Planning Ahead:

January 31, 2020	Beginning of 3 rd MP
February 10, 2020	2 nd Marking Period Report Cards go home
February 12, 2020	2-Hour Early Dismissal (PD for Teachers)
February 17, 2020	No School (Presidents’ Day)
February 27, 2020	STEAM Night
March 9, 2020	Interims go Home
March 10, 2020	No School – Parent/Teacher Conferences

PTO News

CFA Nugget Pick-up! If you ordered a tray of Chick-fil-A nuggets from our fundraiser check your student’s folder today for the certificate to go pick up your nuggets tomorrow from 8 am to 8 pm at the Carver Road location.

Budget Amendment Meeting: Thanks to the support from our CMES families during this year's APEX Fun Run, we raised more money than we budgeted. Your PTO Board and school administration met on Jan. 22 to discuss CMES needs for the 2019-2020 school year and developed an amended budget. More details on the

amended budget are located at <http://croftonmeadowspto.com>.

Per our bylaws, a brief general membership meeting for the purpose of voting to adopt the amended budget will be held in the CMES media center at 3:15 p.m. on Feb. 3. This meeting is open to all PTO members. If you have any questions, please contact the PTO treasurer, Rhiannon Corley, at cmesptotreasurer@gmail.com.

Professional Development Day Donations: On Wed., Feb. 12, (this is also an early dismissal day!) CMES families are providing snacks for the teachers and staff during professional development. While everyone is welcome to participate, the PTO is asking Kindergarten and first grade families to donate toward the third professional development day. You can [sign up](#) here! All donations must be in the main office by noon on Wed., Feb. 12.

PTO Board Meeting: Our next Board meeting is Tues., Feb. 11, at 6 p.m. at CMES. All are welcome to attend.

Save the Date! The next CMES Skate Night at Skate Zone is Fri., Feb. 14, from 5-7 p.m. Our last Skate Night raised \$275!

Committee Volunteer Needed! We have some FUN opportunities planned for the spring and we need your help! Please contact Nicole at cmesptovpmembership@gmail.com, if you are interested in serving on any of these committees:

Movie Night: Helping to plan the spring movie night social coming up on March 27 (decorations, planning food, gathering prizes, etc.)

Career Day: We are in the process of planning a Career Day for all students. We need help discussing the process for the day, getting speakers lined up for the event, and other duties.

Chamber of Commerce Meeting: We would like your help in the planning and execution of a special meeting hosting members of the local Crofton Chamber of Commerce.

Find Us On Facebook! Check out the [CMES PTO Facebook](#) page for the latest news.

Feedback about the entire Weekly Wrap Up is welcome at jtrumbule@aacps.org.