

Crofton Meadows Elementary Weekly Wrap Up – Friday, February 28, 2020

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Good Afternoon Crofton Meadows Elementary Families!

Here is your Weekly Wrap Up for the week ending Friday, February 28, 2020.

What's Happening - Two exciting events happened this week at Crofton Meadows! First, the third, fourth, and fifth graders had a guest instructor in PE class. Mr. Zach Arden, of the Washington Capitals organization, taught stick handling skills to the students. The students that were lucky enough to have PE on Monday or Tuesday were enthralled with their guest instructor! This was part of the Washington Capitals community outreach program. Along Mr. Arden is not a hockey player, many students still wanted to get his autograph!

And second, the faculty and staff of Crofton Meadows hosted our annual STEAM Night for the students and their families on Thursday evening. Over two hundred young scientists, engineers, and mathematicians (and their parents) participated in a variety of activities to challenge their thinking and highlight their skills. It was a great evening of science, math and FUN! Thanks to Mrs. Galvin and her team for planning, coordinating and hosting the event. Thanks to the many parents who donated items for the activities. We hope everyone enjoyed the experience!

Young Authors Competition – We are very excited to announce that we have two students that won awards in the Anne Arundel County Literacy Council's Young Author's Competition. Alyssa D. (5th Grade) won 1st place and Alice H (2nd Grade) won 2nd place. Alyssa's poem entry will be entered in the Maryland State Young Authors' Competition. Congratulations to both Alyssa and Alice!

Sign-up Today to Read in the Classroom: Mrs. Shrader, CMES's reading specialist, is requesting volunteers to read in each classroom this coming Monday, March 2 as part of Read Across America week. Volunteers will need to be in the classroom for 30 minutes between 8:45 am and 12:45 pm. Each volunteer decides on the specific time with Mrs. Shrader.

If you are interested in volunteering:

1. Sign up on the [signup genius](#).
2. Contact Mrs. Shrader at cshrader@aacps.org to schedule a time.
3. Come early enough on March 2 to check in the main office before proceeding to the classroom.

All volunteers must have completed their background check and watched the video prior to volunteering.

Beauty and the Beast Presented by Crofton Middle School - The Crofton Middle School PTA is thrilled to bring you “Disney’s Beauty and The Beast- The Broadway Musical”! Enjoy entertainment for all ages, in the time-honored tradition that CMS has provided for the community for decades, as this ‘tale as old as time’ immerses your senses into a magical land of beautiful songs, gorgeous costumes, and imagination. Show dates are 3/13, 3/14, 3/15, 3/20, 3/21, and 3/22. Tickets may be purchased online at the following link: <https://cms-musical.ticketleap.com/beauty-and-the-beast/>

Nicotine-Free Week – Next Week is Nicotine-Free Week (February 23 – 29, 2020). The Anne Arundel County Department of Health is sponsoring a Poster Design Contest to spread the message of the harmful effects of nicotine. Students interested in creating a poster brought home information from their classroom teachers. Posters are due to the school nurse no later than Tuesday, March 3, 2020.

A Message from our Guidance Counselor - Beginning on March 2 we will no longer be using DoJo points as a reinforcement for positive behavior. Instead, all staff members will be using a paper ticket system to recognize students for following the CMES school wide expectations: Work Hard, Be Kind and Be Safe. This decision to change mid-year was made because we felt that DoJo points were not concrete enough for our students. The ticket system will allow reinforcement in all areas of the school such as the cafeteria, cultural arts and guidance lessons. Research shows that to reduce behavior problems, expectations must be directly taught, practiced and reinforced with at least a 5:1 positive to negative ratio. For every behavior correction there needs to be at least 5 positive recognitions to change the undesired behavior. It is a school wide goal that each student receives at least 5 tickets a day.

This week all staff members were trained on how to conduct community circles with the students. Each day your child will participating in a community circle with their teacher and classmates. The purpose of this practice is to continue creating a community within the classroom where students learn to respectfully listen to others, build stronger relationships with peers as well as encourage positive communication skills.

Fifth Grade Promotion – We are already getting questions about this year’s fifth grade promotion. Promotion activities will be on the last day of school (currently scheduled for June 16, 2020) at 3:00PM. June 16th is a two-hour early dismissal. Students will be dismissed at 12:55 PM. Fifth graders and their families can return at 3:00 PM for the promotion activities. This way we can accommodate all our guests without having to conduct preregistration processing.

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. The family activation code is SSPK FAMI LY70.

Marvelous Mustangs - This week's Marvelous Mustangs are: Jerome V., Kerby M., Kennedy M., Valeria K., Wyatt W., Gabe W., Jamar B., Emilio S-H., Drew M., Khloe S., Eve R., Maddy L., Meher M., Mal P., Avnika B., Lilah P., Mackenzie H., Luke H., Alyssa D., and Isaiah W. Congratulations to these Marvelous Mustangs! You are setting the example for *The Crofton Meadows Way* – Work Hard. Be Kind. Be Safe.

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](#).

First In Math! -

FIRST IN MATH®
MATH MADNESS IN MARCH!

SCHOOL-WIDE COMPETITION

Math March Madness starts THIS Sunday March 1st!

March 1-7 will be the qualifying round. The top 16 teams with the highest sticker count for this week enter the bracket!

March 8-14 Will narrow down the bracket to the top 8 teams with the highest sticker count for the week.

March 15-20 will decide our Top 4 First in math Teams with the highest sticker count for the week.

March 22-28 will determine our **TOP First in Math Team with the highest sticker count and our Team Champions.**

**Crofton Meadows is currently the TOP SCHOOL in the state of Maryland!
Uh-Oh.... we've dropped down to the 23rd position, but not far though! Let's
climb back up! Can we break into the Top 20? Let's keep trying!**

FIM Updates!

Teams of the Week:

1st Place- Ms. Anastasio's 3rd Grade
2nd place Mrs. Hampson's 2nd Grade
3rd Place- Ms. Carpenter's 1st Grade

Players of the Week:

1st Place Wyatt - 1st Grade
2nd Place- Levi 1st Grade
3rd Place- Eni 3rd Grade

CONGRATULATIONS to ALL of our **NEW GRAND CHAMPIONS 10,000+ Stickers!**
Way to Go!

No- New Grand Champions this week, but several friends are VERY close!

CONGRATULATIONS to ALL of our players who have reached **100 on their Goals
Index!!**

5th grade- Lilly, Luke, Garrett
4th grade- Israel, Sean
3rd grade- Coralee, Ruby, Tala

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:

Inclement weather, traffic delays, etc.: Please remember to have a back-up plan in place for student dismissal if and when there is an emergency or parents are stuck in traffic. Parents should notify the office when they have to activate their back up plan.

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.

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:

March 2-6, 2020	ReadAcrossAmerica Week
March 9, 2020	Interims go Home
March 10, 2020	No School – Parent/Teacher Conferences
March 16 or 17, 2020	Fourth Grade Field Trip to Arlington Echo
March 24, 2020	2-Hr Early Dismissal
March 27, 2020	PTO Movie Night

PTO News

NEXT Tuesday Chick-fil-A Spirit Night: Don’t miss CMES Spirit Night at [Chick-fil-A](#) on Tuesday, March 3, from 5-8 p.m. A portion of the sales go to CMES, if you mention you are there to support CMES. Dining in or drive thru at either CFA location (Caver Rd. or Brandermill Rd.) apply, as long as you mention you are with CMES at the start of your order. You cannot use the CFA app when making your purchase.

[Skate Zone Fundraiser](#) Earns CMES \$230! Thanks for everyone who came out on Valentine 's Day for a night of fun and to support local business!

Monthly PTO Board Meeting: Our next meeting is Tuesday, March 3, at 9 am at CMES. All are welcome to attend.

Vote for Movie for Family Night: The PTO is hosting a movie night on Friday, March 27, following a general PTO membership meeting. Want to help pick the movie? Log on to our [CMES PTO Facebook page](#) to vote before March 5.

Next Steps Career Day: If you applied to participate in Career Day at CMES on March 13, please check your email for next steps. If you have any questions, please email our Exceptional Education chair, Iana Capers at cmesptoexed@gmail.com.

School Apparel: The CMES spirit wear apparel sale is extended until Sunday, March 8. [Click here](#) to order.

Yum! Pizza Fundraiser: Save the date for, Wed. March 11, [Vocelli's Gambrills/Crofton location](#) is hosting a fundraiser for CMES. A portion of the sales will come back to CMES. More details on our [Facebook page](#). AND the business owners are CMES parents!

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