

Crofton Meadows Elementary Weekly Wrap Up – Friday, September 20, 2019

You are receiving this email because you have a child that attends Crofton Meadows Elementary, work at Crofton Meadows Elementary or have expressed interest in receiving the information in this email. If you wish to not receive these emails in the future, please email jtrumbule@aacps.org so your name can be removed from our list.

Good Afternoon Crofton Meadows Elementary Families!

Here is your Weekly Wrap Up for the week ending September 20, 2019.

What Happened This Week - The students and staff had a great week, this week! Students are working hard with in reading, math, science and social studies. Follow us on Twitter @CrftMeadowsAACP to see the great things happening in and around the school! Fall pictures were taken on Tuesday. If your student missed the opportunity for their school picture to be taken, the make up day will be Tuesday, November 12, 2019. PARCC test scores for students that were in grades 3 and 4 at Crofton Meadows Elementary last year, were sent home with the students on Thursday. If your student took the PARCC assessment at a different AACPS school last year, the PARCC Home Report will be sent to Crofton Meadows within the next week and we will send it home with the student. If the student took the PARRC test at a school outside of AACPS, the parent will have to contact that school to have them send the report directly to you.

A Very Special Thank You - We are very appreciative to all our volunteers who have already logged in countless hours to support our teachers and students. A very special shout out to a group of volunteers that have dedicated numerous hours for a project for Mrs. Shrader, our reading teacher. Thank you, Mrs. Clements, Mrs. Pitts, Mrs. Higgins, Mrs. Horay, Mrs. Davey, Mrs. Hicks, Mrs. Conner, Mrs. Bejar, Mrs. Swetnam, and Mrs. Iddings, for your service and please thank your husbands, too! We understand they helped out with this project at home!

Parent Portal Goes Live! – The Parent Portal (the new ParentConnect) went live on Monday, September 16, 2019. An email message was sent home on Monday with the access code for parents to activate their student’s account. If you did not receive an email with the access code, most likely it is because we do not have an email contact for you in the database. You can get the access code by emailing Mrs. Showler (lshowler@aacps.org) a request for access to the Parent Portal. Please make sure you identify who your student is in the email. She will respond to you by email with the access code. 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.

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. Starting Wednesday, September 25, 2019, the Fingerprint Office will be open from 4pm through 6:30pm. This session will be offered every Wednesday throughout the school year. Appointments will be required. Volunteers/Chaperones should call 410-222-5045 to schedule an appointment.

Emergency Contact Cards – Emergency Contact Information Cards were due back at school today, Friday, September 13, 2019. We are still waiting on a significant number of cards to be returned. If you have not returned the emergency card, please do so as soon as possible. It is very important that the school have updated information on who to contact in case of an emergency. Thank you for your cooperation.

New Car Rider Dismissal Procedures - Thank you for your cooperation with the new car rider dismissal procedures and in keeping all our students safe. This past week the average time to dismiss the entire school (i.e. bus and daycare vans, car riders, and walkers) was 14 minutes. That's safely dismissing a daily average of 526 students in a short time span! We know that there will be unforeseen events that may disrupt our dismissal procedures at times, but we appreciate how well the students and families are working together to make dismissal as efficient and as safe as possible.

Band and Strings Classes – Band and Strings classes started this week. If your student is taking a band or strings class, they will get a schedule of the days they have class. Please help your student to remember to bring their instrument to school on their scheduled day. This will help with the last minute panic and phone call home and avoid an additional trip to school for you. 😊

Welcome Back: First In Math! - When your child earns 500 stickers, they unlock a **FREE family account**. A younger sibling, or you as the parent may play along and join the fun! Congratulations to our First in Math **Teams of the Week!** 1st place - Ms. Rutland, 4th Grade; 2nd Place - Mrs. Hughes 4th Grade; and 3rd Place - Mrs. Ruddy 5th Grade. Our **Players of the Week:** 1st Place – Zach G. (5th Grade); 2nd Place - Ethan H. (4th Grade); and 3rd Place – Xander B. (5th grade). All students in grades 2- 5 have First In Math accounts! Login in at www.firstinmath.com. Username is your student's six digit student number. The password is 1234.

Kid Kindness Grants - Are you between the ages of 5 – 18? Do you have a fantastic idea about how to spread kindness? Do you need money to help you do it? If so, KindnessGrowsHere, Inc. wants to hear from you. They want kids with awesome ideas to submit applications for ways in which they can help spread kindness in their school, community, town, or neighborhood. Individuals may apply for up to \$200. Groups may apply for up to \$500. Applications will be accepted from September 1, 2019 to November 1, 2019. More information can be found [here](#).

Student Agendas Have Arrived! – The agendas for students in grades 1-5 arrived today! They will be distributed to the classroom teachers on Monday. The cost of the agenda is included in the student’s activity fee for each grade.

Reminders – Two reminders this week to help with the safe and orderly operation of the school. First, please remember to use the crosswalk when crossing the driveway from the parking lot to the school. And second, please do not send (or bring) in edible treat (including cupcakes) for the class to celebrate your student’s birthday or other special occasion. We recognize the student’s birthday with a school-wide announcement and a small prize.

Helpful Tip – Please write your child’s name in their lunch boxes (on the inside) and on any sweaters, jackets, or sweatshirts. This will help tremendously in getting lost items back to their rightful owners.

Planning Ahead:

Friday, September 20, 2019	PTO Fall Picnic (5:30 PM – 7:30 PM)
Monday, September 30, 2019	School Closed (Rosh Hashanah)
October 3, 4 & 7, 2019	Fifth Grade Drownproofing
Monday, October 7, 2019	Interims for the 1 st Marking Period go home
Tuesday, October 8, 2019	2 Hour Early Dismissal
Wednesday, October 9, 2019	School Closed – Yom Kippur
Tuesday, October 15, 2019	School Closed – Parent /Teacher Conferences
Wednesday, October 16, 2019	School Closed – Parent / Teacher Conferences
Wednesday, October 23, 2019	Unity Day (Wear Orange to Stomp Out Bullying)

PTO News

Fall Picnic is tonight from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Join us for food and games for the entire family. Check [Facebook](#) for more information. **We also need VOLUNTEERS** to help make this event a success. [Click here to help.](#) Volunteering will get you your another credit on your NEW PTO Reward Card.

Good to See You at the Membership Meeting. Thank you to everyone who attended our General PTO Membership Meeting before Back-to-School Night. We had a wonderful turnout, and we look forward to a great year! To find out more about the PTO and how you can get involved, visit our website at croftonmeadowspto.com.

We want YOU to be part of the PTO! It’s \$10 per family for the school year. [Click here](#) to join! New PTO members can create an account by selecting, "Signup Now." Returning PTO families, may sign-in with current e-mail and creating a password.

New REWARDS Program. At Back-to-School night, the PTO launched a new rewards program. When you volunteer throughout the year, you earn credits

towards holiday shop incentives. If you still need a PTO Reward Card, the PTO will have them tonight at the Fall Picnic.

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

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