

## **Crofton Meadows Elementary Weekly Wrap Up – Friday, October 25, 2019**

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Good Afternoon Crofton Meadows Elementary Families!

Here is your Weekly Wrap Up for the week ending Friday, October 25, 2019.

**What's Happening** - The highlight of this week was UNITY Day! The entire school system celebrated Unity Day by wearing orange to show kindness and stomp out bullying. Students made posters, wrote sticky notes to encourage kindness, and created hallway displays to spread the message that kindness lives here and bullying is not acceptable. However, the most impressive display of kindness and antibullying was the actions of the students with each other and with the staff. It was wonderful to see so many caring and random acts of kindness throughout the building. We encourage everyone to keep the kind and inclusive spirit going!

We also had an evacuation drill (fire drill) today. The drill was a little different from our regular evacuation drills. As part of AACPS emergency preparedness plans, today's drill required us to evacuate the building when some students were in the cafeteria and where one exit was blocked. The students and staff reacted to these different circumstances in an awesome fashion. Students and staff were able to exit in an orderly and timely manner. The entire drill took less than 10 minutes and students and staff returned to their day when the drill was concluded.

The end of the first marking period is quickly approaching. Students should check with their teachers to ensure all graded work for this marking period is completed and turn in. The marking period ends on November 7, 2019.

**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](http://www.aacps.org).

**New Policy on Snacks from the Cafeteria** – In an effort to promote healthy eating habits, the school cafeteria will be limiting student purchases of snacks such as ice cream and cookies to one item per day, when snacks are available. Currently students are allowed to purchase as many snacks as they want as long as there is money on their account. That meant some students were eating three ice creams for their lunch and nothing else. If parents would like to allow their student to purchase multiple snacks a day, please let the school know and we will work with the cafeteria manager to make that happen. Otherwise, snack purchases will be limited to one item when snacks are sold, starting Monday, October 7<sup>th</sup>.

**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](http://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](mailto:watchdogscmes@gmail.com).

**Celebrating Vocabulary Development** - On Thursday, October 31, 2018 Crofton Meadows Elementary School will hold our annual Vocabulary Parade. Students will parade around the front driveway starting at 8:45 AM. Parents wishing to watch the parade can view the parade from the grassy edge of the front parking lot. We will send out a connectED message next week, if the weather causes us to change plans. This parade is part of our school's continuing emphasis on robust vocabulary development and rigorous instruction. As in the past, students will choose a word to learn for the parade. They are to create a costume, hat or poster to wear in the parade that represents their word.

**Free and Reduced Meals (FARMS) program** – The Free and Reduced Meals program is accepting applications for the 2019 – 2020 school year. Applications need to be renewed each year. The application can be found online at [www.aacps.org](http://www.aacps.org). A

**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.

**Federal Survey Cards** – Federal Survey Cards were sent home on Tuesday, October 1, 2019. The information families fill out on these cards is very important because it will allow Anne Arundel County Schools and Crofton Meadows to get the appropriate share of federal funds for our schools. To date we have received about 79% of the survey cards back. If you haven't completed the card, please complete it and return to school ASAP. If you need another card, please let your student's

teacher know or you can pick one up in the office. Thank you for your help in this matter.

**Class email Lists** – We have had many requests from parents for the email addresses of the students in their child’s class. In order to maintain the privacy of all our students and their families, we will not be able to provide this information.

**Marvelous Mustangs** - This week’s Marvelous Mustangs are Jack S., Isabella H., Jaina D., Nouralhuda A., Colin R., Chase M., Izabella G., Austin A., Hailey R., Ryan S., Molly B., Chloe R., Harleen K., Ruby W., Kaniah J., Delilah V., Aina S., Charlotte H., Mackenzie M., Arden B., Lily C., Jared S., Sam R., Briana R., Congratulations to these Marvelous Mustangs! You are setting the example for *The Crofton Meadows Way* – Work Hard. Be Kind. Be Safe.

**First In Math!** - Our First in Math Goal: Double the number of mathematicians by the November break- we can do it!

Congratulations to our First in Math **Teams of the Week!**

1st place- Dr. Saunders , 3rd Grade  
2nd Place- Mrs. Hughes, 4th Grade  
3rd Place-Mrs. Shield's 4th Grade

Our **Players of the Week:**

1st Place - Taavi, 3rd Grade  
2nd Place- Tuvia, 5th Grade  
3rd Place- Zach , 5th grade

Who will our next Grand Champion be?

**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](#).

**Reminders** – 1) Our instructional day begins promptly at 8:30 AM. This means that students should be in their seat, ready to start their day at 8:30 AM. Most students need about five minutes to walk from the front door, unpack their belonging and get prepared for the day. Students that are not in their seats at 8:30 AM, will be marked absent unless they have gotten a tardy slip from the front office. 2) Please remember to use the crosswalk when crossing the driveway from the parking lot to the school. 3) 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.

### **Planning Ahead:**

Tuesday, October 29, 2019	APEX Pep Rally (In school assembly)
Thursday, October 31, 2019	Fall Festival and Vocabulary Parade
Thursday, November 7, 2019	APEX Fun Run
Thursday November 7, 2019	2 Hour Early Dismissal
Friday November 8, 2019	2 Hour Early Dismissal (End of Marking Period)
November 11-15, 2019	American Education Week
Friday, November 15, 2019	Grandfriends' Visitation Day

### **PTO News**

**Robotics After School Program:** Tuesdays from 3-4 p.m. at CMES from Nov. 12-Dec. 17. Learn to code by programming robotics (no experience required)! This after school program is offered for all CMES students in K-5 and is hosted by the CMES PTO. Space is limited. Register with Pongos here: <http://bit.ly/cmesrobots2019>

**Fun Run!** Our BIGGEST fundraiser of the year is almost here! This year, we are partnering with Apex, an expert in fundraising and character building. They will be joining the kids at school to provide education on how to be an even better citizen. This week, the kids received a letter in their red folder sharing more information. PLEDGE KITS will come home next Tuesday, after the PEP RALLY.

**Get Your CMES Spirit Apparel.** Available now through Oct. 30 by shopping online: <http://www.epiapparel.com/cro185.html> Orders will be distributed the week of Nov. 18—in time for the holidays! Be sure to tell any family members about our sale so that they can have CMES spirit too!

**Exception Education Committee:** We are looking for individuals to serve on our Exceptional Education Committee to enhance our students' learning experience. This is an opportunity for you to be creative in a way that helps students experience learning that complements the curriculum. Contact Mandy if you are interested or would like to learn more about this committee: [cmesptopresident@gmail.com](mailto:cmesptopresident@gmail.com).

**Fall Festival Helpers!** Thursday, Oct. 31 is the Fall Festival. We were able to find our 12 volunteers via our email request to PTO members. Thank you for your quick responses and help to make this event a success!

Volunteer video: <https://md02215556.schoolwires.net/Page/2460>

Background check form: <http://aacps.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=1869>

**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](mailto:jtrumbule@aacps.org).