

Crofton Meadows Elementary Weekly Wrap Up – Friday, November 1, 2019

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Good Afternoon Crofton Meadows Elementary Families!

Here is your Weekly Wrap Up for the week ending Friday, November 1, 2019.

What's Happening - Wow! We had a fantastic, fun-filled week! We started the week with an exciting assembly where we learned about the APEX leadership program and fundraiser opportunity. The students were pumped to meet APEX Team leaders Mickey and D-Roc and have welcomed them into their classrooms to talk about what it takes to be a game changing leader.

We also were lucky the rain held off so we could have our annual Vocabulary Parade outside. The parade was a huge success with lots of new words to stretch our vocabulary and wonderfully creative costumes to highlight and deepen our understanding of the meaning of the word. Thanks to all the parents that participated in this event by supporting their students' costume creations and/or by being part of the viewing party during the parade.

We also celebrated all our students' efforts to live the Crofton Meadows Way (#workhard, #bekind, #besafe) with our first marking period school-wide event – the Fall Festival. The purpose of the school wide celebrations is to build a community among students and faculty. It allows for a time to come together as a team and encourages students to develop positive social skills as they get to know other students from different grades. It is a celebration of our school wide expectations, "Work Hard, Be Kind, Be Safe." Thanks to the PBIS team for coordinate the event and for several parent volunteers for lending a helping hand.

Grandparents and Special Friends (and Parents) Visitation Day – As part of American Education Week (November 11 – 15, 2019) the faculty and staff of Crofton Meadows Elementary will host a Grandparents and Special Friends (and Parents) visitation day on Friday, November 15th from 8:30 AM – 10:30 AM. This is an opportunity to visit your students' classroom to see the work they are doing. We will also have Classic Photography available to take family portraits. Following the AACPS school security procedures ALL adults entering the building for this event must have their driver's license scanned. In order to accommodate the large number of people expected on this day, we are asking all adults planning on attending to pre-register for the event. Pre-registration forms were sent home with the students this past Wednesday. Pre-registrations should be returned to school

NO LATER THAN Tuesday, November 12, 2019. Badges will be printed prior to the event to expedite visitor check-in.

Need HOLIDAY HELP for your Family - Each year Anne Arundel County Public Schools partners with the Sharing Foundation to provide holiday gifts to children under the age of 14 and their families. It is a unique program that targets families that have at least one family member working but are in need of extra help. If this is a program that you are interested in for your children, please contact Mrs. Foster, CMES School Counselor at jmfoster@aacps.org. I will send the application form to you electronically to be completed. The deadline for the application is quickly approaching. All applications need to be turned in by November 15th.

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.

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 7th.

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.

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. 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.

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 Blake K., Mason B., Tuleen S., Averi B., Arthur F., Janiya H., Ella D., Evangelia E., Maura M., Joshua C., Asher W., Bryce H., Julian G., Preston L., Addison H., Daniel P., Gabriel Y., Farrah R., Erick I., Faheem K., Miranda R., Shiyue C., and Luke H. 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 FIM Teams of the Week:

- 1st Place- Mrs. Gleason 3rd Grade
- 2nd Place - Mrs. Galvin- 2nd Grade
- 3rd Place- Mrs. Hampson- 2nd Grade

Congratulations to FIM Players of the Week:

- 1st Place- Lazer- 2nd Grade
- 2nd Place- Zach - 5th grade
- 3rd Place- Logan- 4th Grade

Who will our next Grand Champion be?

Reminders – Please make sure your students have their name somewhere on their jackets and sweatshirts. We are getting a ton “Lost and Found” items that we would like to return to their rightful owners. If your student is missing something, have him/her check the Lost and Found rack in the back hallway.

Planning Ahead:

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| 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 | Grandparents’ and Special Friends Visitation Day |
| Wednesday, November 20, 2019 | Report Cards go home |

November 27-29, 2019

Thanksgiving Break – School Closed

PTO News

Fun Run Fun! Our biggest fundraiser of the year culminates in a Fun Run on Nov.7. We are excited to partner with Apex this year, as they add extra value leadership lessons, fundraising administration and run set-up to name a few. Ask your student about the leadership skills he/she has learned so far!

For this fundraiser, **we have a focus on raising money for technology; however, the money we raise also goes toward very important PTO sponsored programs** such as assemblies, teacher reimbursements, recess equipment, school support, after school programs, etc. You can view the PTO budget on the [PTO website](#).

At the Fun Run, each grade will run laps on their own track during 3 different time frames. We are requesting volunteers to help make the event go smoothly. [Check out the sign-up genius for ways you can volunteer.](#)

Run Times:

8:45-9:15 am: Kindergarten, track A and 1st grade, track B

9:30-10 am: 2nd grade, track A and 3rd grade, track B

10:15-10:45 am: 4th grade, track A and 5th grade, track B

Until the run, keep encouraging your students to get pledges! And, check [CMES PTO Facebook page](#) for more information.

A BIG thank you for your support of PTO, CMES and all the students!

Fall Festival: Thank you to everyone who helped make the fall festival a success. The kids had a great time, dancing, chanting, and relay races against the teachers!

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.

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.