

Burnt Mills Elementary School

~Principal's Newsletter~

December 2022

Dr. Stacy Ashton, principal

Mr. Troy Clarke, assistant principal

The Principal's Newsletter is emailed to families the first Wednesday of every month.

Burnt Mills Vision: To provide all students with a sense of hope in a culturally relevant and challenging learning environment that embraces critical thinking, values diversity, and promotes self-awareness and healthy relationships.

Burnt Mills Mission: To prepare all students to be college and career ready by expecting the best, every day!

BMES Website: <https://www2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/burntmillses>

Important Events to Remember

Date	Event
12/6	PTA Meeting @ 7 PM
12/7	Early Release Day @ 12:10 PM
12/22	Holiday Sweater Day - students, wear your favorite holiday sweater
12/23	Non-instructional Day - NO SCHOOL for Students and Teachers
12/26	HOLIDAY- Schools and Offices Closed
12/27-1/2	Winter Break

School News

Parent-Teacher Conferences: If you have not had a conference with your child's teacher, please reach out to him/her as soon as possible to schedule a meeting. **All teachers (Prek-5) are required to conduct parent-teacher conferences no later than 12/2/22.** If you have questions, please contact Dr. Ashton at (240) 740-7320.

Car Rider or Bus Rider? This is a friendly reminder that while we are at the Fairland Center, we only have car riders or bus riders. Lately, we have had an influx of parents showing up at dismissal time (2:40 pm) to pick up their child because they do not want to wait in the car line or they do not want their child to ride the bus. **I know we are all busy and have somewhere to**

be by a certain time, but if you need to pick up your child before the school day ends, I kindly ask that you do so by 2:00PM. The main office is always a busy place, but even busier during afternoon dismissal which makes it challenging to supervise students in the main vestibule who are waiting to be picked up. Let's all work together! Thank you in advance for your continued cooperation.

Burnt Mills Emergency Preparedness Presentation: Safety and security is our number one priority! At December's PTA meeting, we presented on Emergency Preparedness. Darryl Cooper, cluster security coordinator, and Tim Connolly, security rover, attend the meeting to discuss safety and security. Click the link to view the presentation.

[☐ BMES PTA Emergency Preparedness 2022-2023](#)

Checking Identification and Sign In/Out Protocol: We want to make sure all students are safe at all times. If you pick up your child before the school day ends, the main office staff will ask to see your identification. Please do not be offended if we ask to see your identification; it is for the safety of your child. You will also be asked to sign out your child on the yellow *Sign In/Out* sheet located on the registration table. We thank you in advance for your cooperation. When you push the buzzer for entry, the main office staff will say, "Hello, What is your name, and nature of your visit?" Again this is for safety reasons. Please make sure you know the name of your child's teacher and grade. Thank you in advance for your full cooperation.

Counselor's Corner News

The Core Value for the month of December is Responsibility. Counselors and teachers will be leading conversations with students this month about all the ways that they can show that they are responsible. You can talk to your scholars about their responsibilities at home as well as the responsibilities of each of their family members. You can show them that your family system works the best when everyone follows through with their responsibilities.

The weather is getting colder, and we want to make sure that all students have the warm clothing that they need to be comfortable outside! If your scholar is in need of a winter coat, hat, or gloves, please fill out this request form: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/10YL0118UnoI306onG8EJ9t3Jkkj8CF3ZTCFUbt-fxrl/edit#setting>.

Please note that winter wear will be distributed on a first come first served basis and based on the inventory that we have available. Also, keep in mind that some items might be gently used.

PTA News



November was a busy month for the PTA! **We're excited to announce that our Double Good Popcorn fundraiser was a huge success, raising \$6284.** Thank you to all of the scholars

who participated and helped to raise money for our school. Because the fundraiser was so successful, the PTA was able to fully fund a request from Dr. Ashton to purchase games, puzzles and bins for the entire school community to use on indoor recess days.

On November 17th, we held the "Thankful for Teachers and Staff Luncheon" where we were able to serve all teachers and staff a full lunch! It was a beautiful and bountiful luncheon and we're so thankful to all of the families who contributed food, paper goods and decor to make it such a great success. Please join the PTA, we need you!

The PTA sent out a survey to BMES Teachers and Staff asking them about their favorite things including sweet and salty snacks, stores they would like gift cards from, their favorite plants or flowers and more! If you are looking for the perfect gift to give your teacher, paraeducator, or member of the administrative team, then look no further! Click the link to participate in *Teacher and Staff Favorite Things* If you don't see your scholar's teacher here, please ask them to fill out the BLANK Survey and return to bmesptamembership@gmail.com to be included on this page! <https://bmespta.memberhub.com/w/teachersstafffavoritethings>

Please consider showing them a little appreciation.
<https://bmespta.memberhub.com/store?limit=21&live=true&category=Memberships>