

LYONS MILL ELEMENTARY

February 1, 2016

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Dear Lyons Mill Families,

Thank you for your patience during our historic snowfall which meant schools were closed during the last week of January. We really appreciate our building service workers and grounds crew who worked tirelessly to make sure our building was ready for everyone as we return after missing 6 days of school. It is hard to imagine that we are more than half way through the school year! With the start of February, we are eagerly anticipating the observance of Black History Month as well as our Ballroom Dancing All-Stars Grade 5 Showcase, A Night with the Baltimore Blast, report card distribution and MAP Testing.

Please check out the story about our wonderful volunteer, Ms. Sondra Spencer, <https://www.bcps.org/news/2015/1222/> who was recognized as a BCPS Face of the Week. The Baltimore County Chamber of Commerce's deadline for the *Awards for Excellence* program is Friday, February 12th at 5:00 p.m. It is a great way to recognize someone who has helped your child be successful in school. Please send in your nomination form to Baltimore County Chamber of Commerce, 102 W. Pennsylvania Ave, Suite 101, Towson, MD 21204. You may nominate a teacher, instructional assistant, counselor or special area teachers. Please contact our main office 410-887-1719 for a nomination form.

Report cards will be distributed next week, Monday, February 8, 2016. Please take the time to talk to your child about his/her academic performance. On another note, it is a perfect time of year to check your child's school supplies. Donations of items such as pencils, glue sticks, dry erase markers, crayons and tissues are greatly appreciated!

Mrs. Maralee Clark
Principal

Explorers Believe, Explorers Achieve!

Upcoming Events



February
Black History Month

February 5
Grade 5 Ballroom Dance Showcase
9:00 a.m.

February 8
Report Card Distribution

February 9
A Night with the Baltimore Blast
5:30 p.m.

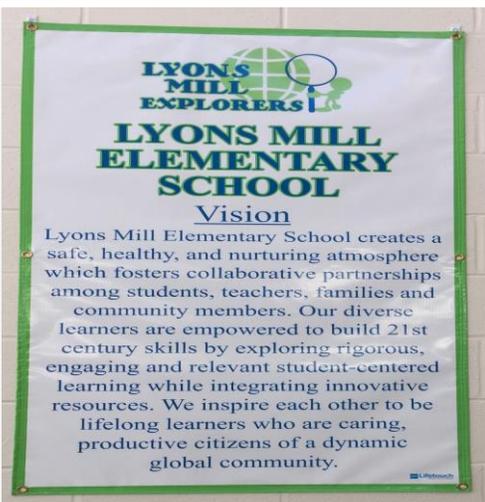
February 12 - 29
MAP Testing K - 5

February 15
President's Day
Schools & Offices Closed

March 2 - 3
MSA Science Testing Grade 5

March 3
Lyons Mill Sports Night
6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

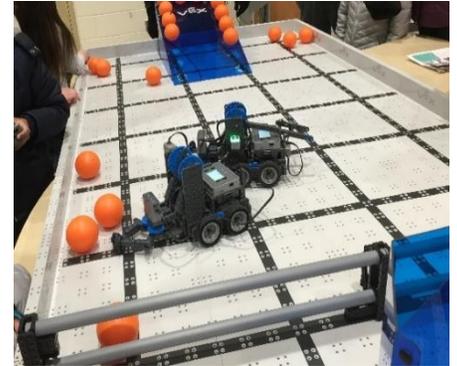
March 4
Half-Day PD
School Closes at 12:15 p.m.



STEM Fair 2016 Excitement

Lyons Mill Elementary started 2016 with the excitement of preparing for our very first STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) Fair. Lyons Mill Elementary's mission makes sure that students are "empowered to achieve in literacy, math, engineering, and science." By embracing this culture, ALL students from grades Kindergarten to Grade 5 participate in our STEM Fair.

On Wednesday, January 21, 2016, Lyons Mill opened its doors to judges, families, and community members. Over 200 families explored the building viewing STEM projects presented by every grade level. Meanwhile, the school gymnasium was filled with various clubs and community members promoting STEM. Visitors could explore and learn more about our school's 3D printers, SLIME Club, and VEX Robotics. Exhibition tables featuring games from Marbles The Brain Store and the opportunity to learn about light and color were very popular. A special thank you to our parent Ms. Littlejohn who sponsored the Biochemists from Fort Meade - LTC Matthew Moser, PhD and CPT Robert Nadeau, PhD.



At the end of the evening, all visitors returned to the gymnasium to hear the surprise announcement of our very first 4th and 5th grade STEM Fair winners.

- Congratulations to fourth grade student, Yashwanth Santhosh Kumar, who won first place for his project which explored how wind speed affects the number of spins of an anemometer and its measurement.
- Congratulations to fifth grade student, Chandler Elias, who won for her project which explored how the level of turbidity would affect the amount of dissolved oxygen in water.

Both students will represent Lyons Mill Elementary during Baltimore County Public Schools Elementary STEM Fair scheduled for Friday, May 13th and Saturday, May 14th at Parkville High School. It was an exciting evening for Lyons Mill Elementary! Mr. Travis Russell, coordinator of our LMES STEM Fair as well as a fifth grade teacher, wrapped up the evening by saying, "Thank you to everyone for making our first annual STEM Fair a big success. If you are involved in a STEM career or know of someone who is involved in a STEM career, please contact me so we can make next year's event even better." Mr. Russell can be reached through email trussell@bcps.org or by calling the school 410-887-1719.



Baltimore County
Chamber of Commerce
30th Annual Excellence in
Education Award Nominees

The Baltimore County Chamber of Commerce is now accepting nominations for the 30th Annual Awards for Excellence in Education, which will be held May 9, 2016 at 6 p.m. at Martin's West. Students, parents, fellow teachers, and community members are encouraged to nominate teachers by completing and submitting the application. The deadline is Friday, February 12, 2016 by 5 p.m. A panel of judges selected by the Chamber will review the nominations and judge them on the degree to which the candidate exhibits the qualities of an excellent educator:

- A high level of involvement with the total school program
- A caring, supportive attitude
- A demonstrated commitment to student success and growth
- A quality instructional program

Eligible personnel include:

- BCPS teachers in elementary, middle, and high schools
- Special educators
- Staff members in special areas, such as guidance counselors, librarians, and paraeducators

Please use the application attached to this newsletter if you would like to nominate a Lyons Mill staff member.



Parent Information
Middlebury Program

- **PARENTS:** The Spanish online Middlebury program, which is a supplement to the in-person lessons, can be accessed at home 24/7 through **GOOGLE CHROME**. All you need to do is go to BCPS One. Your child will use his/her BCPS One username and password to access the program.
- Please remind your child to check his/her BCPS One e-mail account for important messages from Srta. Chupnick regarding his/her projects and/or re-doing work. Students may not move on to Unit 5 or Unit 9 until they have received an e-mail telling them that they can. If there are missing assessments and/or grades of less than 80%, students must redo them before moving forward. The e-mails are very specific and user friendly.
- Students must go IN ORDER through the program and cannot skip around on Middlebury. After every 4 units, your child will work on a "mission" (part of a year-long project). These "missions" incorporate all the learning that we've done in class and on Middlebury so that your child can apply what he/she learned. All instructions and samples for Mission 1 are on the Middlebury program under Unit 4, and Mission 2 is under Unit 8. Please don't complete anything *FOR* your child, but feel free to work *WITH* your child. It is NOT an obligation at all to do Spanish at home. Time is given in school daily & weekly to complete everything. It is self-paced, so your child will acquire and apply the new Spanish knowledge at his/her own pace.
- I am looking forward to our next adventures in Spanish class (las aventuras en la clase de español) as we continue learning at Lyons Mill!
¡Hasta luego! Srta. Chupnick

Spanish News for Grade 4 Families



¡Hola! Me llamo Señorita Chupnick, y soy la maestra de español en Lyons Mill Elementary. We continue to have mini conversations in Spanish each class using our new vocabulary and questioning that we learn. We learned various activities that kids like to do, and then we asked each other about which activity we like to do. The following week, we learned how to ask about two specific activities and which

one we like more (___ or ___). We also learned how to talk about which activities our family members like to do. After that, we learned about sports—always a fun topic of discussion. We learned how to ask and answer about which one is our favorite sport. As 2016 began, we delved into the weather. We discuss the weather at the beginning of each class so now we can actually carry on a mini conversation about the weather. We then continued the rest of January discussing which activities and/or sports we do during certain weather and also during each season. We also started to work in small groups for some of our lessons and students became more independent in their learning. At this halfway point, students should be able to have conversations in Spanish. The sentence structure is a bit basic, but they now have a plethora of topics about which to talk.

BCPS Stakeholder Satisfaction Survey

From February 1 through 29, 2016, the BCPS Stakeholder Satisfaction Survey will be available online for Team BCPS stakeholders. It takes only five minutes to complete, is anonymous and confidential, and is available in 15 languages for parents/guardians and community members. Lyons Mill Elementary fourth and fifth grade students will have the opportunity to take the survey at school. Parents and guardians of Lyons Mill Elementary students are encouraged to complete the survey to share their views. Look for the survey link on BCPS' Webpage, <http://www.bcps.org/>, starting Monday, February 1, 2016.

Explorers Art News

The Lyons Mill Art Department is proud to announce their partnership with the Baltimore County Public Library (Owings Mills branch) and to host their first ever LMES art display. Our art department has selected works from sixty Lyons Mill students who will have their artwork on display at the library. Please support our program and check out what our art students have been working hard to create!

Health Suite Needs Donations of Clothes

From time to time, children have accidents and are in need of a change of clothes. The health suite needs gently used clothing for boys and girls, all sizes. If you have any clothes that you would like to donate to the Lyons Mill Health Suite, please contact Nurse Segall.

Robynn G. Segall, RN, CCM, 410-887-6758 or rsegall@bcps.org

Are You Moving?

If you have moved, please make sure you notify us immediately. **If you do not notify us within 15 days of moving then you are considered to be fraudulently enrolled.** It is important for the school to have the most up-to-date information concerning your children in the event of an emergency. Even if you switch apartments in the same development, you must re-register. Any changes to email addresses or phone numbers need to be reported. Please contact our main office 410-887-1719 with any questions.

Attendance Procedures



Upon entering and exiting the bus lobby or car loop lobby, students in Kindergarten through Grade 3 are expected to use their key fob to record their arrival and dismissal. ScholarChip kiosks will record arrival/dismissal attendance data. Students in Grades 4 - 5 "tap in" using their BCPS One Card in the classroom.

School Hours

- School hours 8:30 a.m.- 3:30 p.m. (Students may enter the building at 8:30 a.m.)
- Arrival 8:30 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.
- There is no supervision for any child dropped off before 8:30 a.m. Unsupervised students are not permitted on school grounds prior to 8:30 a.m. Students must arrive in their classrooms before the 8:45 a.m. bell.
- Homeroom begins at 8:45 a.m.
- Dismissal 3:15 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Office Hours

- Office hours 8:15 a.m.- 4:15 p.m.
- Student contact information forms for your child must be updated. This information is provided to classroom teachers and is used by our main office.
- If your child arrives to school late or leaves school early for any reason, please report to the main office. Parents are required to sign students in/out in the main office.
- If your child forgets materials necessary for the school day, these should be dropped off in the office. Please make sure items are clearly marked with your child's name.

A NIGHT WITH THE BALTIMORE BLAST!



Tuesday, February 9, 2016

5:30 pm

Lyons Mill Gymnasium & Cafeteria

We are hosting a fundraiser for our Lyons Mill Elementary Physical Education program! The Baltimore Blast will play our Lyons Mill Staff in a game of volleyball.

The Blast will be using soccer skills!

Chick-Fil-A dinner will be sold in the cafeteria before & after the game starting at 5:30pm.

A silent auction will also take place before & after the game

in the cafeteria featuring several local businesses:

- *Great Moments – Ravens and Orioles Sports Memorabilia*
- *Ultimate Tae Kwondo – 1 month membership, including uniform*
 - *Jewish Community Center – 3 month membership*
 - *Brick Bodies – 3 month membership*
 - *My Gym – Premier Birthday Party Package*



Lyons Mill Team Members: Ms. Tobin, Ms. Grimm,
Mr. Penn, Ms. Diener, Ms. Lilly, Ms. Lentz,
Ms. Kirchner, Mr. Duffy, Mr. Russell, Ms. Barlow,
Ms. Gordon, Mrs. Clark, and Mr. Crouthamel

Lyons Mill Coach: Mr. Broome

Admission = \$1 per person

BLAST players will be ready for pictures & autographs after the game!

Advance Ticket Sales Deadline is Wednesday, February 3, 2016

Contact Mr. Crouthamel with any questions: ecrouthamel@bcps.org, 410.887.1719

Ticket Order Form (on the reverse side)

A NIGHT WITH THE BALTIMORE BLAST!



Ticket Order Form

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

5:30 pm: Chick-Fil-A Dinner and Silent Auction

6:30 pm: Game Time

Lyons Mill Gymnasium & Cafeteria

All proceeds will benefit our Horizontal Traverse Wall for use
in the physical education program.

Admission = \$1 per person

Ticket Orders are DUE by Wednesday February 3, 2016.

After that date tickets will be sold at the door.

BLAST players will be ready for pictures and autographs after the game!

Contact Mr. Crouthamel with any questions: ecrouthamel@bcps.org, 410.887.1719



Please cut here and return to Mr. Crouthamel by Wednesday, February 3, 2016

Baltimore BLAST Volleyball Game Ticket Order

Lyons Mill Student (First and Last Name)(your oldest child): _____

Homeroom Teacher's Name: _____

Number of Tickets: _____

(This includes everyone attending the game, parents/guardians and children)

Total Cost of Order (\$1.00 per ticket): _____

(Cash only, please provide the exact amount)

Contact # and email: _____

Thank you for your support!

Please place your money and this form in a sealed envelope labeled "BLAST Ticket Order" with your child's name and teacher's name clearly marked on the front of the envelope.