



Spring Ridge Elementary School THURSDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



March 12, 2009

Yearbook Club/Group Pictures: Thursday, March 12th, pictures will be taken for most clubs/groups starting at 9:30 am. Please be sure to have your child here on time. The Chorus picture will be taken after school.

5th Grade Spring Pictures: Due to a field trip, Spring Pictures for 5th graders will be taken on March 16th at 9:30 am.

Slam Dunk Read! Spring Ridge Basketball and Reading Camp: July 6 - July 9, 8:30 am - 12:30 pm. Registration is on a first come, first served basis! Sign up right away! Our camp has been designed with two central focuses: Help youngsters become better basketball players and participate in lifelong reading book clubs. For more information online go to <http://schools.fcps.org/sres/> and click on 2009 SRES Basketball Camp.

Early Dismissal - Please Mark Your Calendars! Last November, the BOE approved March 26 as an early dismissal day for a teacher work session. **On Thursday, March 26, there is a 2-hour early dismissal for students.** PreK schedule as follows:

Morning PreK - 9:15 - 10:45

Afternoon PreK - 12:15-1:45

MSA Testing: March 16-March 23, students in grades 3-5 will take the Maryland State Assessment. The MSA tests reading and math achievement. You will receive your child's results later in the year, indicating how well he/she learned the subject matter and how he/she performed compared to other children nationally. The testing schedule is as follows:

Monday, March 16	Reading, Grades 3 and Grade 4
Tuesday, March 17	Reading, Grade 3 and Grade 5
Wednesday, March 18	Reading, Grade 4 and Grade 5
Thursday, March 19	Math, Grades 3 and Grade 4
Friday, March 20	Math, Grade 3 and Grade 5
Monday, March 23	Math, Grade 4 and Grade 5

These tests are very important to our school and we ask that you have your child here each testing day. Please do not schedule appointments for your child until after 12:00 pm on test days. As tests are administered under strict state regulations, the only adults permitted in the classroom are school administrators, the test coordinator, examiners, and accommodators.

What can you do to help your child be successful?

- Talk with your child about the importance of doing his/her very best.
- Make sure your child goes to bed on time so that he/she is well rested in the morning.
- Make sure your child has a good breakfast and include some protein. This will help to keep him/her from getting sleepy.

Please watch for a parent letter from FCPS in next week's Thursday folders for more information.

School Closed for students: March 27th.

Meet the Future: School Report: There's a big change in this year's "Meet the Future" FCPS School Report: It's all electronic! The online report delivers updates for the same data published and printed last year, including enrollment, achievement, audited budget figures and it adds quick-links for easy access for those wanting to know more. Finally, it saves printing/delivery costs and allows FCPS to provide quarterly updates to keep you better informed. Check out the cool new features under About FCPS on the Web: www.fcps.org/schoolreport. *Hint: The diamond symbols reveal extra photos and more!*

Vacation Reminders: Vacations during the school year are discouraged due to the impact this gap in instruction can have on your child's learning. If you must make vacation plans during the school year, please remember to request approval from Mrs. Thackston beforehand. She will check with your child's classroom teacher to determine the impact this gap in learning will have. Then, she will check your child's attendance history to see that your child consistently attends school. Please remember that by Regulation 400-70, there can be a "maximum of five (5) days with prior written notice to the principal". The 09-10 school calendar is already posted on <http://fcps.org>. Please check the instructional calendar and check with the school principal before making vacation plans.

Summer Centers for Gifted and Talented Students: The centers, located across the state of Maryland, are open to students entering grades 4-12 and offer learning opportunities in global languages, creative writing, engineering, fine and performing arts, history, law and government, mathematics, science, geology, archaeology, computer science, technology and video, television and digital video production. Some of the centers are residential and some are non-residential. The deadline to apply for most Maryland

SRES website: <http://schools.fcps.org/sres>

Summer Centers is April 15, 2009. Fine arts centers have earlier deadlines to allow time for auditions. Staff members at MSDE are hoping that parents and students will access information about the summer centers and apply online at www.marylandpublicschools.org/summercenters. For additional information contact Regina Farnsworth at 240-236-1587 or Regina.Farnsworth@fcps.org.

Fifth Grade Flag Bearers for March: Flag bearers - please be prompt when it is your week. Remind each other!

March 16 - 20 Makayla , Ayah

Mar. 30 - Apr. 3 Leilani, Joshua

March 23 - 26 Emily , Gabby

UPCOMING DATES:

Next Week's School Menu