

THE FARQUHAR NEWS

William H. Farquhar Middle School

16915 Batchellors Forest Road • Olney, MD 20832 • (301) 924-3100 • (301) 924-3100 FAX
www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/farquharm/

WEEKLY EDITION

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2009

IMPORTANT DATES AND REMINDERS

December 7-11: Book Fair, extended hours for parents 2:40-4 p.m. & 5:30-7 p.m. Tuesday, December 8, library media center

December 8: PTA general meeting 7-8:30 p.m., cafeteria

December 10: No after-school activities, sports, or buses

December 11: Carer Café, 10:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

December 14: Interims mailed home

December 16: Winter Music concert, 7-9 p.m., Sherwood HS

December 18: Cultural arts assemblies--History of Hip Hop: 8th grade 3rd pd, 6th grade 4th pd, 7th grade 5th pd

December 21: PTA newsletter deadline for December/January winter edition

December 23: Eighth grade field trip to American History Museum, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Students need to bring a bag lunch.

December 24 & 25: Holiday: Christmas

December 26-31: Winter break: no school for pupils and teachers

January 1: Holiday: New Year's Day

January 8: School-wide Geography Bee 1st period

January 8: Student service documentation of service performed during the first semester is due to Mrs. Rodriguez, room 41 or main office. Complete the SSL Verification form at www.mcpsssl.org or the FMS website—Edline or Student Service Learning

January 12: Basketball: Banneker, boys away, girls home

January 12: PTA general meeting, 7-8:30 p.m., lmc

January 14: Exam review day

January 15-21: Final exams first semester (The schedule will be posted on or around December 21.)

January 21: Basketball: Argyle, boys home, girls away

January 18: Holiday: Martin L. King, Jr.'s Birthday

January 22: Exam make-up
January 22: Second marking period ends

January 25: Professional day: report card preparation & planning; no school for students

January 26: Third marking period begins

January 28: Basketball: Briggs Chaney, boys away, girls home

KID STUFF COUPON BOOK

[Don't Forget the KidStuff!](#)



THE HOLIDAY SHOPPING SEASON IS UPON US!

AND your fellow parents have been saving 100's of dollars with the Kid Stuff coupon book!! **Really! Wouldn't YOU like to save money on those gifts you're buying AND wouldn't you like to help Farquhar's fundraising goals at the same time? Well, have we got a deal for you! If you buy a Kids Stuff Coupon book from Farquhar for \$25.00, HALF of that money goes right back to Farquhar. We get \$12.50 BACK for each book sold.** CLICK the icon of the KidStuff book to see the entire poster. **I bought the book and used a \$10 off coupon at Kohl's, a coupon for Domino's Pizza, and a coupon for 40% off at Michael's. I've already paid myself BACK for the cost of the book AND I've contributed \$12.50 to Farquhar JUST by buying the book. THAT is the best deal you'll get THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!!**

But what's in it for YOU? Besides feeling good about helping your school? Well, the coupon book is JAM PACKED with GREAT COUPONS for places you shop EVERYDAY BUT ESPECIALLY at gift giving time. Check out the entire book at the school when you have a chance. Not only will you be helping Farquhar, but in the end, you will have SAVED more money than you SPEND on the book. Imagine that!

[Want to know JUST who's in the book before you buy it? Click this link to view all the stores participating!](#) For more information, visit: <http://farquharpta.org/>

H1N1 PREPARATIONS AND EDLINE

As you may know, flu is spreading easily from person to person and school-age children are among the groups most affected. As a result, student and staff absences from school will fluctuate. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that flu is widespread in many states, including Maryland, and that almost all of the flu viruses they have identified so far across the country are of the H1N1 strain. Although the school is unable to verify whether sick students and staff have H1N1 (swine) flu, we do know that people are reporting or exhibiting flu-like illness.

Please be assured that we are taking steps to prevent the spread of flu in our school. Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) continues to work closely with the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to monitor student and staff absences due to illness. Students and staff who exhibit flu-like symptoms are staying home or being sent home in accordance with guidance from the CDC. Staff continues to model and encourage students to practice good hygiene—washing hands frequently; coughing into a tissue or sleeve; and avoiding touching the eyes, nose, and mouth—and our school is being routinely cleaned following guidelines approved by county health officials.

We want to keep the school operations on a normal schedule and minimize any disruption to teaching and learning. You can help us in our efforts to prevent the spread of flu by:

Knowing the symptoms of the flu. These include fever (100 degrees Fahrenheit or greater), cough, sore throat, a runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, and feeling very tired.

Keeping children home from school if they are sick. Individuals who have been sick with the flu should stay home until they have been fever-free for 24 hours. Any children or staff who are sick at school *will be sent home*.

Reminding your children to wash their hands often with soap and water.

Encouraging your children not to share personal items like drinks, food, or utensils.

Telling your children to cover their coughs and sneezes with tissues. If they don't have a tissue, they should cough or sneeze into their upper sleeve, not their hands.

For more information, visit the MCPS website at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org, the Montgomery County government website at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/h1n1flu, or call the County flu hotline at 240-777-4200.

Parents-- we need your help. Please be sure that your emergency contact information is up-to-date in the main office, and please contact us immediately if a phone number or email address changes. Also, please be sure to sign-up for the PTA Email Listserve (<http://farquharpta.org>) and activate your Edline account, which will be used for communication. Edline can be used to find out assignments that your child missed when absent, and it will also be used to continue instruction should there be a major disruption to school operations. Finally, please continue to reinforce good hygiene habits and keep your children home if they have a fever or show any flu-like symptoms. We will continue to keep you updated on this situation and thank you for your support.

HELPFUL LINKS

Updates News & Information: www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/farquharms/

Calendar: <http://coldfusion.mcps.k12.md.us/cfms/webteam/calendar/calendar.cfm?calendarID=farquharms>

Staff Directory: <http://coldfusion.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/directory/index.cfm?s=dbd&pl=03507>

Edline: www.edline.net

Edline Assistance: [Beth A Hopkins@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Beth_A_Hopkins@mcpsmd.org)

Sign Up For the Email List: www.farquharpta.org

PTA Information: www.farquharpta.org

Lunch Pre-Payments: www.myLunchMoney.com

Daily Cafeteria Menu: www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/foodserv

H1N1 Information: <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/emergency/h1n1/>

Student Service Learning: <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/ssl/>

Bullying: <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/forms/230-35.shtm>

PrepTalk: <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/careercenter/resources/preptalk.aspx>

NEC Information: <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/nec>

Parent Academy: www.mcpsparentacademy.org

Giant Food A+ Bonus Bucks Program (use code 00691): www.giantfood.com/aplus

Yearbook Order Form: www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/farquharms/

