



# THE BUGLE

## MT. BETHEL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1210 Johnson Ferry Road • Marietta, GA 30068 • 770-578-7248 • <http://mtbethel.blogspot.com>  
Georgia School of Excellence • National School of Excellence • Georgia Platinum Award

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Michelle Ferroggiaro  
Shawn Lieth  
PTA Co-Presidents

Jessica Appleyard  
Principal



### AMAZING GRACE RACE

February 14, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. at the Mt. Bethel United Methodist Church  
4385 Lower Roswell Road, Marietta, GA

Please join the Mt. Bethel and East Cobb communities in honoring two special girls: eleven year old **Grace Bunke** and six year old **Grace Detling** who are currently battling cancer. For additional details on these two "Amazing Graces" and to register for the race, please visit [amazinggracerace.net](http://amazinggracerace.net).



### CHALLENGER PUBLISHING

The deadline is approaching! We hope your child will participate in the PTA's Challenger Publishing program. Interested students should write a story on a topic of their choosing, fiction or non-fiction, typed and saved to the computer. Please submit your story and [registration form](#) by **January 31** to the basket labeled "Challenger Publishing" in the Learning Commons. A Parent Editor will then meet with your child to make the story even better. The final version will be permanently kept in a large hardbound book in the Learning Commons for years to come. Each author will also receive a bound copy of their story to take home. Questions? Please email [challengerpublishing@mtbethelpta.org](mailto:challengerpublishing@mtbethelpta.org).



### REFLECTIONS

Congratulations to all of our Reflections winners! On **Friday Jan 9<sup>th</sup>**, we recognized and celebrated our 50 participants at a small breakfast reception. We presented them with certificates and, in addition, our 21 school winners received medals. We have 5 students who have won the county level competition and their work has advanced to the state competition. We wish them luck and hope to hear the results soon!

PTA REFLECTIONS  
40 Years of Achievement in the Arts

CONGRATULATIONS TO: **Elly K.** - 4<sup>th</sup> grade - *Literature*; **Olivia C.** - 2<sup>nd</sup> grade - *Visual Arts*;  
**Maryn R.** - 5<sup>th</sup> grade - *Visual Arts*; **Hammond H.** - 2<sup>nd</sup> grade - *Film Video*; **Will A.** - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade - *Film Video*



### SPIRIT WEAR FRIDAYS!

Remember, Mt. Bethel students can show their Buccaneer school spirit by wearing their favorite Mt. Bethel apparel each Friday to school. Show your school pride and support Mt. Bethel!

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#### PARTNERS IN EDUCATION



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

Dear Parents,

Recently, our PTA hosted “Coffee Chat with the Principal” where we were able to discuss many of the big ideas that impact our children’s education. We thought it would be helpful to summarize those ideas and to provide additional information through this month’s *Bugle*. The Big Ideas:

### **1. Cobb’s entry into the IE<sup>2</sup> (Investing in Education Excellence) contract with the State Department of Education.**

Investing in Educational Excellence (IE<sup>2</sup>) introduces unprecedented opportunity for the Cobb County School District to advance learning experiences for our students. The IE<sup>2</sup> contract will allow freedom from rules that will only foster new opportunities to personalize learning and prepare students for their future.

- ◆ This contract outlines Cobb County School District’s **FLEXIBILITY** in the form of proposing waivers from various policies and rules ([click here for a list of the waivers](#)), a system of **ACCOUNTABILITY** for the performance of academic and operational goals ([click here for the accountability component of the contract](#)), and **CONSEQUENCES** in the form of interventions and sanctions for non-performing schools ([click here for the consequences](#)).
- ◆ What will this mean for Mt. Bethel students? We have the opportunity to continue our tradition of providing a solid foundation and education, to fine-tune our vision and to think innovatively.
- ◆ For more information, please visit <http://www.cobbk12.org/IE2/>.

### **2. Administration of the GEORGIA MILESTONES TEST that will replace the CRCT for 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Graders.**

2015 will serve as the inaugural year of administration of the Georgia Milestones Test. The Milestones will be administered in April after Spring Break and will include sections of English Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies. Differences from the CRCT:

<b>Georgia Milestones (This year)</b>	<b>Georgia CRCT (Previous years)</b>
Three types of questions: multiple choice, short answer, extended response/essay.	One type of questions: multiple choice.
Both criterion-referenced (performance levels based on mastery of standards) and norm-referenced questions (percentiles based on comparison of peers).	Only criterion-referenced questions (performance levels based on mastery of standards).
One year hiatus as factor used to determine promotion or retention or placement in 6 <sup>th</sup> grade.	Used to determine promotion in 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> , and 8 <sup>th</sup> grades and used as a component to determine 6 <sup>th</sup> grade placement.
Administered via paper/pencil or computer.	Administered on computer.

- ◆ In February, all 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will receive a custom letter that provides login information to the Georgia Online Formative Assessment Resource (GOFAR) where multiple practice test items can be accessed. As parents, you will be able to assist your student by viewing these practice tests. We feel confident that each of our students has been well-prepared by our staff through increased opportunities to EXPLAIN thinking in classroom written responses, to access MULTIPLE PROBLEM SOLVING STRATEGIES, and through school-wide implementation of Marzano’s High Impact Instructional Strategies.

### **3. New State Superintendent of Schools.**

Richard Woods has taken over the helm of the Georgia Department of Education following Dr. John Barge’s four year service as Superintendent. Superintendent Woods is Georgia’s 22<sup>nd</sup> State Superintendent and will be crucial in leading the way to advocate for our students for the next four years. We encourage you to read the press release recently published outlining his education policy positions by [clicking HERE](#). If you have concerns or want to share your perspectives on what is important to you and your child’s education, you may contact him via email at [state.superintendent@doe.k12.ga.us](mailto:state.superintendent@doe.k12.ga.us).

Thank you for your continued support and engagement in our school! We know that we will embrace continued change with Buccaneer pride and a focus on EXCELLENCE IN ACTION!

Jessica Appleyard, Principal  
Faith Harmeyer, Assistant Principal  
Maria Clark, Assistant Principal



## ***FROM THE PTA CO-PRESIDENTS:***

Dear Mt. Bethel Families –

Welcome to Winter! This time of year may seem quieter than the fall or the end of the school year, but in many ways it is full of reflection, evaluation and planning for PTA. We continue to evaluate the impact of our activities on the student and parent population. Collaboration with our Administration and the Foundation leadership monthly also creates a cohesive environment in the activities and goals that happen in the school. If you have any questions about what is happening or where to search for answers, please email us. Feedback is always important and your input is valued. Please continue to view the PTA webpage at <http://mtbethel.blogs.com/pta/> for current events and updates.

As we head into the New Year, our PTA continues to focus on advocating for children within our school. Legislative information is continually updated on our PTA Legislative page and also linked on the weekly e-Minder: <http://mtbethel.blogs.com/pta/legislative-news.html/>. PTA Day at the Capitol will be **March 3rd** this year. Please direct questions to Neetu Sharma, our Legislative Chair, at [legislative@mtbethelpta.org](mailto:legislative@mtbethelpta.org).

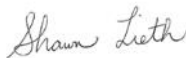
Two writing programs promoted through our PTA this winter are the Challenger Publishing and Honoring Our Heroes' Essay contests. Our Visiting Author, Diane Z. Shore, put this into more of a present context for our children when she visited in November. Encourage your budding writer to get those stories down on paper! The Honoring Our Heroes deadline has passed, but there's still time to participate in Challenger Publishing. More information can be found on the PTA [blog](#).

Another focus within PTA this year has been to increase family engagement through informative e-Minders, a current PTA blog website and the Inside Scoop in the *Bugle*. Great things will go on this spring. Fresh fruit will be delivered to Powers Ferry as we expand our Fresh Fruit program this year, outdoor learning opportunities will be realized as we create the butterfly garden and improve the Habitat trail, making it interactive. The teachers are invited to bring students to the updated outdoor stage area as a break from inside the school walls for learning. A new bike rack will also be installed for the neighborhood students to have the opportunity to ride to school more often. Keep a lookout for announcements about Georgia's Walk to School Day on **March 6th**.

Enjoy this next month. Continue to watch for opportunities to be involved and informed. Plan on attending P.E. Night in March where we will also have PTA elections.

Once again, your feedback is important. Your participation is important. Your presence IS important. Please contact us with any questions at [co-presidents@mtbethelpta.org](mailto:co-presidents@mtbethelpta.org).

Sincerely,

Michelle Ferroggiaro      Shawn Lieth  
PTA Co-Presidents

**Mt. Bethel Elementary**  
**PTA**<sup>®</sup>  
*everychild.one voice.*<sup>®</sup>



## **LEGISLATIVE: YOUR CHILD, YOUR VOTE**

January 12 kicked off the 2015 Georgia Legislative Session. To read the Legislative Newsletter, click [here](#).

**RESOURCES:** Take the time to explore these websites for valuable tools and information.

**Common Core GA:** <http://www.commoncorega.org>. This site will explain Common Core myths and the facts and will offer you parent guides and Common Core videos.

**National PTA website:** <http://www.pta.org> will provide you with Advocacy, Common Core, and Special Education Tool Kits. Under the ADVOCACY Tab click PTA TAKES ACTION NETWORK.

**Georgia PTA:** <http://www.georgiapta.org>. The Georgia PTA Website will provide extensive information on the latest news, programs, advocacy campaigns, public policy, and legislation initiatives. Please sign up for the CAPITOL WATCH to keep you current on House and Senate bills and discussion.



## BUCCANEER BRIEFS



### JUMP ROPE FOR HEART

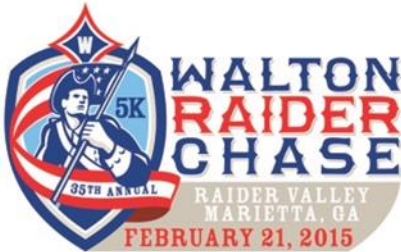
February 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> during P.E. classes

Jump Rope for Heart is an event sponsored by the American Heart Association to promote heart health and a healthy lifestyle through diet and exercise. All classes will jump rope during P.E. Collecting donations (and ducks!) is completely optional. Printed information was sent home earlier this month. For more information and jumping tips, please visit the web site: [www.americanheart.org](http://www.americanheart.org). Happy Jumping!



### IDENT-A-KID CHILD IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM

The annual Ident-A-Kid program will take place on **Thursday, February 5th**. Look for the packet and sign-up forms in your child's bag. The program takes pictures of your children and creates ID cards to be used in case of an emergency. To learn more about the program, visit: <http://www.identakid.com/>.

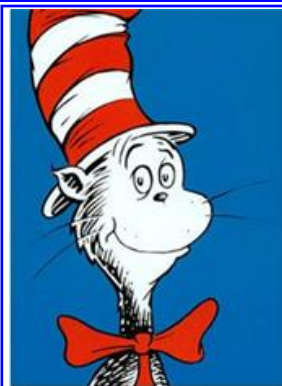


### WALTON HIGH SCHOOL RAIDER CHASE

Join us and plan to run the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Walton Raider Chase on **Saturday, February 21, 2015!** Considered one of the long-standing races for Marietta, the Walton Raider Chase returns to its historical venue, Raider Valley! The Raider Chase is a USA Track & Field Sanctioned Race and is expected to generate fast times as the course is composed of few hills as it starts and finishes at Walton High School. The Raider Chase is the perfect last minute Peachtree Road Race Qualifier!

Awards will be presented to the top male and female runners overall, top male and female masters runners, and the top three male and female runners in age groups from 10 and under to 70 and older. The race is the principal fundraiser for the Walton High School Cross Country and Track & Field programs.

Visit <http://www.waltonfxc.com/raiderchase/> to register today for the Raider Chase 5K!



### READ ACROSS AMERICA

**March 2, 2015**

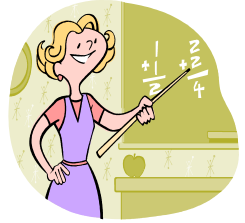
Get ready to grab your hat and read with the Cat in the Hat on **Monday, March 2, 2015** for the 18th annual Read Across America Day. The Seussical celebration will kick off a week of reading across the nation sponsored by the National Education Association (NEA).

Would you read books in a box? Would you read them with a fox? Students can participate in a photo contest showing the wackiest and wildest places they like to read. And in true Seussical fashion, kids can wear their favorite striped clothes and wackiest hat. Look for a flyer with more details to come home the week before the event.

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS! GEORGIA WALK TO SCHOOL DAY AT MT. BETHEL IS FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 2015

Please visit [www.saferoutesga.org](http://www.saferoutesga.org) for details.

# TEACHER FEATURE



**KINDERGARTEN:** Kindergarten learned about how to stay safe on the school bus from “Barney the Bus.” We also learned about cultural celebrations around the world and wrote a wish for the “Wish Tree.” Kindergarten geared up for winter by enjoying special “Grinch Day” and “Snow Day” rotations. We are looking forward to the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school and all the exciting activities that we have planned.



**FIRST:** We can’t believe we’re in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter already! Time flies! This nine weeks we were excited to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school on January 22. It is a first grade tradition to dress up as centenarians! Classes rotated rooms all morning for some fun 100<sup>th</sup> day activities. First graders will also be introduced to our next two American heroes, Harriet Tubman and George Washington Carver. This Social Studies unit is a perfect tie in to our discussions on Martin Luther King, Jr. this month.



**SECOND:** Second Grade reluctantly put away our antlers and “blingy sweaters” right before winter break! We are now busy learning all about telling time and counting money (counting money is something we ALL love to do!) With the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday this month, it’s a perfect time for us to study Martin Luther King, Jr. and learn all about his influence and contributions to our state of Georgia and our world. We also find a few minutes here and there to do the “snow dance” in hopes of those falling white flurries we look for each winter!



**THIRD:** Third Grade Classes are enjoying and exploring new apps on the 30 iPad Minis that the Cobb County Foundation granted the Mt. Bethel third grade this year. You can stop by on any day in any third grade classroom to see the excitement of their learning! Thank you so much to the Cobb County Foundation for the iPad Minis and the Mt. Bethel Foundation for the apps that we are adding to them! We couldn’t do it without you both!



**FOURTH:** Fourth Grade enjoyed the Mt. Bethel Spelling Bee before the break and congratulates our classroom participants on a job well done. The students enjoyed our field trip to the Cobb County Youth Museum for Revolutionary War drama. They traveled back in time to reenact such events as the Boston Massacre, the Boston Tea Party, the Battle of Yorktown and the Constitutional Convention. The students are also excited about our upcoming science unit on Space.



**FIFTH:** The Fifth Graders were very busy during the months of October, November and December! We exploded pumpkins on Halloween and posted our video on Ms. Appleyard’s blog. We then had a good time judging some creative bananas in our Bananarama. In November, we participated in our “Random Acts of Kindness” project. We were moved when we listened to the guest speaker from the Covenant House talk about people who are homeless and who come to the Covenant House for help. We packed toiletry bags, wrapped new books for students at another school, made get well cards for children who are in the hospital, and wrote letters to soldiers who are stationed away during the holidays. A couple of classes actually heard back from soldiers! That was very exciting!

In December, it was all about IMMIGRATION! Over 175 immigrants came through the Mt. Bethel Immigration Simulation as they learned what it was like to come to a new country long ago. The day was filled with knowledge, excitement, and even a feast with all immigrants. Before the holiday break, we enjoyed our Winter Celebration, and the students loved getting their new book bags signed by their peers!

The New Year started off with the best news possible: Mr. Dietrich welcomed two new babies into his family! Wes and Max, future Buccaneers for sure, were born on January 2, 2015! Daddy, Mommy, and twins are doing great! Along with that is the great news that former 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, Diane Chapman, will be Mr. Dietrich’s supply teacher. We welcome her back!



There were a lot of challenging words at this year’s Mt. Bethel Spelling Bee, and **Siddharth M.** was victorious and was crowned the Spelling Bee Champion. He proudly represented Mt. Bethel on **Saturday, January 25, 2015**, at the District Spelling Bee. **WAY TO GO, SIDDHARTH!**



# BUCCANEER

Thank you to **Gina Laney** who has just wrapped the final Trained Parent Volunteer (TPV) training of the school year. **Gina** is responsible for creating and maintaining a database for the 400+ parents that trained as well as make sure each and every classroom has two volunteers during monthly staff meetings! Thanks **Gina**!!

A huge thanks to **Kasey Bittner** and **Vicki Tropauer** for a wonderful Immigration Day. The kids had a blast and it ran very smoothly.

Thank you to **Hannah Warren** for her creativeness in working on our display case near the front office. It always looks great!

Thank you to **Kerey Toms** and **Dara Onori** for organizing a Cafeteria Staff brunch as well as a Bus Driver and Custodial Staff Appreciation lunch. They did a fabulous job of showing these super important employees how much they are truly appreciated.

A huge thank you to **Betsy Hart**, **Julie Brown** and **Melissa Pumpian** for getting all of our unclaimed Lost and Found to a very appreciative Title I school in Cobb County!

Kudos to **Nicole Robertson** and **Janice Winfrey** for all of their hard work every Monday with our MBTV after school club. The new news program is great!

Thank you to **Lori Garner** for keeping our impressive new Learning Commons staffed with volunteers every day for three shifts!

A huge thanks to **Ruby Kaur**, **Sofie Ting** and **Sonia Markey** for another amazing Cultural Celebrations week. You and your **Committee** did another amazing job educating our children about cultures from around the world.

Thank you to **Christine Perkins** for hosting Exceptional Children Awareness Week. She was able to work with the teachers to identify and purchase additional equipment for the classrooms. She also hosted a wonderful teacher dessert buffet and continued to teach our children to appreciate the differences in all of us.

Big thanks to **Drew Downs** and **Steven Johnson** for hosting our second All Pro Dad breakfast. Thanks to **Drew Downs** for emceeding! Thanks to **Amy DeVane**, **Kerri Kenerly**, **Jodee Morgan** and **Charity Muldoon** for volunteering during the event.



## FOUNDATION NEWS:

### Patron Pledges Due January 31!

*All donations received by January 31st will be eligible for the following Patron Drive Incentives:*

- \* **Principal of the Day Drawing** - \$125 donation per student, winners drawn by Grade Level
- \* **Principal Popsicle Party** - awarded to classrooms with over 90% participation
- \* **Teacher Parking Spot** - awarded to the teacher with the highest classroom donations received
- \* **Foundation Magnet** - provided for \$125 donation

Fulfilling your Patron Drive Pledge is essential for us to meet our goal. We are able to accept donations via PayPal thru the following link: <http://mtbethel.blogs.com/foundation/donationform.html>, or you may submit a check to Mt. Bethel Elementary School Foundation. Please contact [treasurer@mbesf.org](mailto:treasurer@mbesf.org) if you have any questions.

Look for more information coming soon about the forthcoming **FACT Club Showcase on February 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.** Come see what your students are learning and creating after school!

## EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN AWARENESS WEEK

This past week, we honored our Exceptional Children. Through video and Power Point presentation our students learned that all children are exceptional! This year, the children explored the wonderful opportunities that the Special Olympics afford students with intellectual disabilities and how, through volunteerism, they can participate in helping these athletes achieve their dreams. "When our athletes succeed, attitudes change, communities develop, health and self-esteem are built, and the eyes of the world are focused on all that is good and hopeful and positive." Our teachers enjoyed a wonderful dessert buffet to show appreciation for their dedication and work toward helping all of our students achieve success. All of our magnificent bakers deserve a BIG THANK YOU!

# BRAVOS !!!!!!!



*Spin Into Health and Safety* was a huge success and we want to give a very special thank you to our amazing team of Health and Safety Fair volunteers: **Chana Wade, Charity Muldoon, Ellen Bloch-Nagel, Vicky Rice, Vivian Galletly, Lara Ghioto, Tina Quigley, Lisa Murphy, Stephanie Hood, Amber Johnson, Heather Tran, Kerri Kenerly, and Julie Eschenbach.**

A very special thank you to our **custodial staff!** Thank you **John!**

Thanks to the **Fun Run Team: Dana Christian, Ashley Cook, Jessica Nagle, Gina Laney** and newcomer **Carrie Pruitt** for working so closely with us and providing your support! We truly appreciated it.

Many thanks to our **Exhibitors** who attended our *2014 Spin Into Health and Safety Fair*: **Face Paint Artist Bethany, 4.0 Martial Arts, Rubin Chiropractic, Johanna Jenkins, D.D.S., Pigtails and Crewcuts, Big Peach Running, Kid Chess, Whole Foods Market, Paper Mill Dental, Cardio Kids, and Chattahoochee Nature Center.**

A very special thank you to our **Sponsors** - without their support the fair would not be possible: **Northside Hospital, Starbucks, Bagelicious, Publix, and Whole Foods!**

And finally, thank you to **Janice Winfrey, Ingrid Skold** and **Christi McCarey** who spearheaded the event.



## CULTURAL CELEBRATIONS: TOGETHER ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE

We had a wonderful Cultural Celebrations event this year with well over 900 students viewing the display throughout the week. This wonderful cultural celebration event for our school is made possible by the endless hours and resources donated by parents, students, staff and PTA volunteers. We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to the following students for sharing their parent's time and family artifacts with us to bring Cultural Celebrations alive this year. If these children are in your classroom or you know them, please give them a special "high-five" for us.

Adrienne H.	Mehrpreet and Jasnoor K.	Ariana S.	Ansley V.
Blake B.	Ryo and Taiga K.	Colleen C.	Tasha W.
Evan and Lauren C.	Markee L.	Brian, Lilianna and Akessa L.	Emily Y.
Elliana and Bennett C.	Emily and Will L.	Aiden R.	Arya S.
Lola C.	Ethan and Elliott L.	Simi S.	Elliot and Jason L.
Irving David D.	Victoria M.	Muskan S.	Noelle and Lucas G.
Thomas F.	Enrique & Guillermo M.	Aric T.	Uma H.
Anastasia and Antony G.	Ariya M.	Megan V.	Ryan C.
Angelena J.	Jack and Olivia O.	Yashas V.	Mt. Bethel AM Liaisons

The wonderful **Custodians** - thank you for doing heavy lifting for us...

Last but not least a special thank you to all the **teachers and Staff** that make this event a reality and to the **PTA** for funding such an enriching event for our children. You All Rock! We couldn't have done it without you.

If we sparked your interest and you would like to join us next year, please email us at [culturalcelebrations@mtbethelppta.org](mailto:culturalcelebrations@mtbethelppta.org).



# Counselor's

## “No Name Calling Week” by Mary Rees

Following the month of December (in which our Character Education word was compassion), the counseling department launched its inaugural “No Name Calling Week!” We were excited to join one of the largest national bully-prevention initiatives in the country in celebrating kindness during the week of **January 19-23, 2015**. In addition to teaching lessons about bullying and what to do about it, the counselors have been focusing on proactive ways to make our school a safe and kind place. They have taught classroom counseling lessons based on books such as Heartprints, Have You Filled a Bucket Today?, and Somebody Loves You, Mr. Hatch.

Each homeroom class was given a construction paper flower and instructed by their teacher to write or draw something kind they have recently done or witnessed, or why they feel it is important to be kind to one another. They were then given the opportunity to share their thoughts with the class. The flowers were “planted” in our Garden of Kindness, which is a bulletin board in the main hall near the cafeteria. Please come by and see it when you visit the school! No Name Calling Week comes at an appropriate time because our students are learning about the life and message of Martin Luther King, Jr. He is a hero to us because he believed in acceptance, fairness, non-violence, and kindness for all people.

Another way for students to get involved in No Name Calling Week was through our optional poster and essay contest. The posters created by K-2<sup>nd</sup> graders will be displayed in the hallways throughout the school. The essays written by 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders will be judged by our Partner in Education **Huntington Learning Center**. Winners will be announced and printed in the next *Bugle*.

Please encourage your children to share with you and your family what they have been learning about compassion, kindness, dealing with bullying, and acceptance. After all, acts of kindness inspire acts of kindness!



### NOTES FROM THE NURSE:

A BIG thank you goes out to everyone who brought in supplies to help stock the clinic! We wouldn't be able to do the things we do to take care of your students in the clinic if we didn't have donations!

Please be sure your child does not come to school if they have been running a fever of 101 or higher (must be fever free for 24 hrs); have experienced chronic coughing with no relief from medication; or, if they have nasal discharge and are not capable of containing it by themselves. If your child has seen a doctor and has been treated for ANY condition, please send a note in to his/her teacher advising them of that condition.

Please discuss good hand washing habits, covering their coughs and sneezes, as well as the importance of not sharing food and drinks with their friends. Anything we can do to help prevent the spread of germs/illness will make a huge difference.

Once again, please DO NOT send any medications in with your child! If lost, these can pose a huge risk to someone they aren't intended for! Please bring ALL medications into the clinic (with original box or original RX label). These medications must be brought in and signed in by a parent/guardian. I will be happy to dispense the medication when needed to the right student with the right dose. This can be done, even with a medication needed only one time!

Please feel free to call me in the clinic with any questions or concerns about our “sick” policies, or any other concerns. Thank you for your compliance. Our goal is to make Mt. Bethel a “happy & healthy” place.

Keeping Mt. Bethel healthy,  
Cindy Steuer, R.N., B.S.N., 770-578-7248, Ext. 255



### LOST AND FOUND:

Please put first and last names in all removable clothing, lunch boxes, water bottles, etc. With the cold weather, Lost and Found gets inundated with coats and sweatshirts. They can easily be returned if names are in them. If you are missing something, please check the Lost and Found. It is located on the hall to the right as you come in the main entrance of the school.



# CHARACTER EDUCATION WINNERS:

**Month: November**

**Word: Citizenship**

First Grade

Greenwald: Lily H.  
 Laney: Alexander M.  
 H. Mullins: Taylor H.  
 Osburn: Lainie B.  
 Searcy: Haejoon O.  
 Shaw: Trent M.  
 Smith: Noah F.

Third Grade

Boutwell: Lucas G.  
 Bredickas: Zhikai H.  
 Ferguson: Omi I.  
 Gray: Uma H.  
 Hoeflinger: Ashlyn W.  
 McClain: Nicholas G.  
 M. Mullins: Will P.

Fifth Grade

Argo: Kendall G.  
 Danner: Iris R.  
 Dietrich: Sam A.  
 Haddock: Zach A.  
 Hinkel: Simi S.  
 Morris: Reese C.  
 Perry: Darin X.

Second Grade

Bain: Michael D.  
 Cabral: Laysen W.  
 Chaviano: Grace M.  
 Curry: Demi F.  
 George: Allyson Q.  
 Haag: Zach T.  
 Henry: Owen M.  
 Norris: Gabi P.

Fourth Grade

O'Neill: Charlie H.  
 Kenney: Brooke F.  
 Sides: Abbey S.  
 Sikes: Anastasia G.  
 Thomason: Audrey L.  
 Whittington: Kshitij B.

Johnson: Preston F.  
 King: Manu P.

**QUOTE OF THE MONTH:**

“The only title in our democracy superior to that of President is the title of citizen.”

- Justice Louis Brandeis

# CHARACTER EDUCATION WINNERS:

**Month: December**

**Word: Compassion**

First Grade

Greenwald: Chloe C.  
 Laney: Malek D.  
 H. Mullins: Logan W.  
 Osburn: Chloe V.  
 Searcy: Edison W.  
 Shaw: Erin B.  
 Smith: Will W.

Third Grade

Boutwell: Mary Grace B.  
 Bredickas: Eliana W.  
 Ferguson: Ariana S.  
 Gray: Savannah M.  
 Hoeflinger: Grace L.  
 McClain: Trinity M.  
 M. Mullins: Manuela P.

Fifth Grade

Argo: Charlie O.  
 Danner: Hannah O.  
 Dietrich: Malcolm W.  
 Haddock: Hadlee A.  
 Hinkel: Isabela B.  
 Morris: Ava B.  
 Perry: Josette F.

Second Grade

Bain: Aarav G.  
 Cabral: Brewer G.  
 Chaviano: Madeline B.  
 Curry: Anna Clare P.  
 George: Nathan H.  
 Haag: Sam L.  
 Henry: Lauren K.  
 Norris: Gabriella Y.

Fourth Grade

O'Neill: Adrienne H.  
 Kenney: Asia P.  
 Sides: Dottie W.  
 Sikes: Ella B.  
 Thomason: Jaclyn J.  
 Whittington: Avery H.

Johnson: Matthew L.  
 King: James F.  
 Meneer: Giancarlo D.  
 Pursley: Gervon H.

**QUOTE OF THE MONTH:**

“No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.”

-Aesop



## COMMUNITY OUTREACH UPDATE

Two Sister School Donation Drives remain!

**Fill the Pantry: February 9-13**

**Summer Activity Supplies: May 4-8**

Mt. Bethel has a generous tradition of supporting our Sister Schools. Our final donation drives center around food and learning – two fundamental provisions that will have a direct and immediate impact. Be on the lookout for backpack fliers and E-minders for details before each drive. Questions? Contact [communityoutreach@mtbethelpta.org](mailto:communityoutreach@mtbethelpta.org).

## SPECIALS REPORT:

### MUSIC NEWS:



Before the break, there was no stopping us in music!

**Kinder-** We have been working on our listening skills by exploring the different movements of Camille Saint Saens "Carnival of the Animals." From exploring the Forte (loud) roar of the Lion to the low to high hopping of the Kangaroo, it has been fun showing our animal spirit!

**1<sup>st</sup>-** We explored space a little closer to home last month with our study of the music of film composer John Williams and his compositions from Star Wars. We discovered the form (the way the song was put together) and even became Jedi Knights with our light sabers fighting the evil Dark Lord.

**2<sup>nd</sup>** – It was all about the Fox Theater in December as we prepared for our trip to see *The Nutcracker*. We listened to different movements from the ballet, explored the history, and discovered that a Russian man by the name of Tchaikovsky wrote all the music. Ask your student how we used a parachute to act out the song Trepak from the performance!

**3<sup>rd</sup>**- We have made it to Asia in our trip around the world and started with an exciting project of making that area's oldest instrument, the Xiu. We combined with Mrs. Astorga's art classes to build these instruments, which are like clay whistles. Look for them to be coming home in the next few weeks. We have also started exploring how to create accompaniments through improvisation and ostinatos in the style of Asian music.

**4<sup>th</sup>**- We have successfully completed our yellow belts, have explored the music of the Classical Period, and have learned a new note... low E. The students did a great job with their final assessment this quarter of writing their own songs using our online resource [www.quavermusic.com](http://www.quavermusic.com). Look for those in their notebooks!

**5<sup>th</sup>**- We have finished learning "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star" and have been passing it off to earn our Red Belts. This year's study into American Music took us on a unit through the music of the Civil War and how it was used as a tool in battle strategies and morale during the conflict.

Visit Mrs. Gardner's blog at [cobblearning.net/gardnermusic](http://cobblearning.net/gardnermusic).



## WHAT'S NEW IN THE COMPUTER LAB

Have you downloaded Type to Learn on your home computer yet? Letters with instructions on how to download Type to Learn were sent home in October to all second through fifth graders. The Mt. Bethel Foundation has purchased the web based program Type to Learn 4 to help Mt. Bethel students learn correct keyboarding procedures. Mrs. Frey uses Type to Learn 4 to help our 2nd through 5th grade students learn correct typing techniques during Technology Enrichment.

Practicing typing skills is important not only for our students' success as they enter middle and high school, but also is now an important skill in elementary school. The Georgia Milestones tests will replace the CRCT this spring. The test will be administered to a selection of students on the computer. We don't yet know which students will be taking the test on the computer, but we do know that a portion of it will be written response. ***Good typing skills will be beneficial to the students who will be taking the Georgia Milestones test on the computer!***



In order to download Type to Learn 4 at home, you need to follow the instructions that were detailed on the letter that went home from Mrs. Frey in October about the program or you can find them on the [Technology Tidbits blog](#). Once the program is downloaded, you will need your student's username and password to access Type to Learn 4. The account code and your student's specific information can be found on the letter that included the download instructions. Please email [carolyn.cooper@cobbk12.org](mailto:carolyn.cooper@cobbk12.org) if you need the account code and your student's information.

Thank you again to the Mt. Bethel Foundation for purchasing Type to Learn 4 for our students!

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION:**

Knee push-ups are not just for girls!!! If you are trying to increase your body strength and improve your posture and core strength, push-ups are one of the best exercises since you do not need equipment or much room. Push-ups done on your toes with a straight body are the hardest type to perform. In order to increase your strength, you need to increase the number of repetitions. If you can do 10 push-ups from your toes with a straight body, then you might want to do some more push-ups on your knees. Remember to keep your body straight from your knees, hands by your shoulders and bend your elbows to lower yourself to the ground and push back up.

Winter activities during P.E. class will include: tinkling for 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade, Pacer for aerobic endurance, jump rope skills and contests, jumping activity stations and other big games suitable for our indoor space. Please remember to wear the correct P.E. shoes and clothes. The Specials calendar is posted on the P.E. blog at [cobblearning.net/pecoaches](http://cobblearning.net/pecoaches) and homeroom teachers also distribute the calendar each month.

**NOTES FROM THE ART ROOM:**

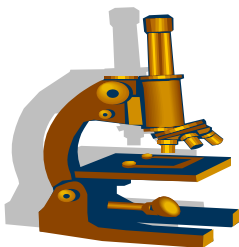
The art room is a busy place this time of year. Check out the art room blog to see great photos of what great projects each grade level is working on. If you have not logged on to our online gallery at [Artsonia.com](http://Artsonia.com), please do! As students finish artwork, I am uploading photos of the work to the gallery for parents to see and comment on. Finished pieces stay at school in portfolios to be sent home at the end of the year. Keepsakes and gifts can be purchased on Artsonia and 20% of the proceeds come back to the art department. With the proceeds from holiday purchases, I was able to buy a mini iPad for my art room so that students will be able to document their own artwork, complete with artist statements. Thank you for supporting Artsonia! If you need the code for your child's Artsonia account, please [email me](#).

Be sure to continue raiding your recycling bin for Styrofoam egg cartons, small plastic containers with lids and cardboard tubes and send them with your child to the art room. Don't forget to mark your calendars on **April 2<sup>nd</sup>** for the spring art show!

**TARGET NEWS:**

Target is excited begin our new Spring schedule by welcoming many new students and reconnecting with returning students. We have a fresh new crop of fabulous first graders who are brand new to Target. The Primary focus is on learning critical thinking skills and pre-algebraic thinking. We have launched our BYOD program with grades 3-5 and our students cannot contain their enthusiasm! Our devices are bringing a dynamic new level of collaboration to our classes, and extending our ability to reach our students after the Target day is concluded. Students are communicating in the classroom in real time, logging Genius Time in online Genius Journals, accessing templates, submitting assignments electronically, and collaborating on documents with other students in class simultaneously. We look forward to seeing, and sharing, their products at the end of the quarter!

Visit the Target blog at [mbestarget.wix.com/gifted](http://mbestarget.wix.com/gifted).

**SCIENCE LAB UPDATE:**

Have you asked your child what's happening in Science Lab? Thanks to the Mt. Bethel Foundation, we have been able to do all kinds of hands-on activities to reinforce the Science being taught in the regular classrooms. The activities will continue to follow the curriculum for the rest of the year. We will keep posting to the Science Lab [blog](#) if you would like to see exactly what's happening with each grade level.

Thank you for sending us such curious little scientists!

# MENU

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>February 2</b> Tacos *** Cheese Stuffed Breadstick *** Chicken Caesar or Vegetarian Caesar Salad	<b>February 3</b> Ultra Frank w/ Onion Rings *** Soup & Sandwich *** Popcorn Chicken or Vegetarian Chef Salad	<b>February 4</b> Chicken Nuggets w/ Roll *** Lasagna Roll-Up *** Grilled Chicken or Vegetarian Fruit Salad	<b>February 5</b> Hamburger or Cheeseburger *** Baked Breaded Chicken w/ Roll *** Chef or Vegetarian Chef Salad	<b>February 6</b> Pizza *** Mac & Cheese w/ Popcorn Shrimp *** Chicken, Tuna or Egg Salad Plate
<b>February 9</b> Asian Chicken w/ Rice *** Cheese Stuffed Breadstick *** Chicken Caesar or Vegetarian Caesar Salad	<b>February 10</b> Grilled Chicken or Chicken Filet Sandwich *** Baked Potato *** Popcorn Chicken or Vegetarian Chef Salad	<b>February 11</b> Nachos *** Garlic Bread w/ Marinara Sauce *** Grilled Chicken or Vegetarian Fruit Salad	<b>February 12</b> Roasted Chicken w/ Roll *** Pizza *** Taco or Vegetarian Taco Salad	<b>February 13</b> Fish Sandwich *** Popcorn Chicken w/ Roll *** Chicken Tender or Vegetarian Chef Salad
<b>February 16</b> Tacos *** Cheese Stuffed Breadstick *** Chicken Caesar or Vegetarian Caesar Salad	<b>February 17</b> Ultra Frank w/ Onion Rings *** Soup & Sandwich *** Popcorn Chicken or Vegetarian Chef Salad	<b>February 18</b> Chicken Nuggets w/ Roll *** Pasta w/ Meatballs & Sauce *** Grilled Chicken or Vegetarian Fruit Salad	<b>February 19</b> Hamburger or Cheeseburger *** Baked Breaded Chicken w/ Roll *** Chef or Vegetarian Chef Salad	<b>February 20</b> Pizza *** Mac & Cheese w/ Fishsticks *** Chicken, Tuna or Egg Salad Plate
<b>February 23</b> Asian Chicken w/ Rice *** Cheese Stuffed Breadstick *** Chicken Caesar or Vegetarian Caesar Salad	<b>February 24</b> Grilled Chicken or Chicken Filet Sandwich *** Baked Potato *** Popcorn Chicken or Vegetarian Chef Salad	<b>February 25</b> Nachos *** Garlic Bread w/ Marinara Sauce *** Grilled Chicken or Vegetarian Fruit Salad	<b>February 26</b> Roasted Chicken w/ Roll *** Pizza *** Taco or Vegetarian Taco Salad	<b>February 27</b> BBQ Sandwich *** Popcorn Chicken w/ Roll *** Chicken Tender or Vegetarian Chef Salad

## BUCCANEER SPIRIT NIGHT AT UNCLE MADDIO'S

Tuesday, February 3 from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

It's that time again! If you missed the first one, you're in luck because Uncle Maddio's is hosting a second Mt. Bethel Spirit Night! Give your oven mitts the night off and head on over to Uncle Maddio's Pizza Joint East Cobb for dinner with family and friends. As always, be sure to mention that you are with Mt. Bethel Elementary and our school will receive a percentage of the profits. Hope to see you there!



### DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Jan. 31:** Challenger Publishing deadline
- Feb. 3:** Spirit Night - Uncle Maddio's, 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
- Feb. 5:** Ident-A Kid
- Feb. 9-12:** School Pantry Drive - Community Outreach
- Feb. 11-12:** Jump Rope for Heart
- Feb. 26:** Foundation Annual Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- Mar. 3:** PTA Day at the Capitol

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