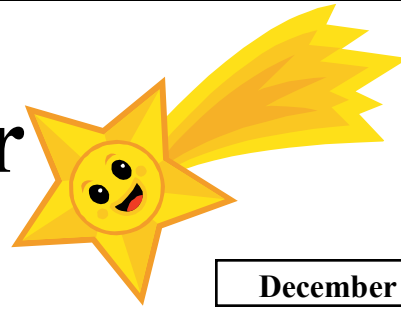


The Norwood Star

Pat Goldys, Principal/Mari Morris, Assistant Principal



Extra! Extra! Read all about it!

December 2012

DATES TO REMEMBER

December

Dec 3 - 14 Winter Food Drive
Dec 4 - Primary Winter Concert 6:30 pm
Dec 5 - PTA meeting @ 6:30 pm
Dec 7 - 9 Winter Bazaar/Tree Sale
Dec 11 - Intermediate Band/Chorus
Concert 6:30 pm
Dec 21 - Winter Break begins at end of day

January

Jan 2 - School reopens
Jan 2 - SIT meeting @ 2:00 pm
Jan 2 - PTA meeting @ 6:30 pm
Jan 21 - MLK Day - school closed
Jan 28 - Professional Development Day;
School closed for students

Attendance and Punctuality

Thank you to all the parents who help their children come to school every day and arrive on time! Students who attend school regularly are more successful. Students who arrive on time have the opportunity to visit with their friends, eat breakfast, and prepare for the day. Of course, children who have a fever or other illness should stay home and return with a note. Thank you for supporting your child's education by teaching the importance of attendance and punctuality.

Inclement Weather

Will we have snow this year? Please remember to listen to the radio and television for delays and closings. BCPS Comcast cable Channel 73 will also carry information or you can go to www.bcps.org. Occasionally, a decision will be revised later in the morning. Check again to see if information has changed.

American Education Week

Thanks to all our wonderful visitors who joined us for American Education Week. We enjoyed your company and hope that you enjoyed your visit.

NORWOOD'S MOTTO:
*HEALTHY BODY...HEALTHY
MIND...HEALTHY SPIRIT!!!*

Happy Holidays!

Important Reminders

Have you recently changed your phone number? Please be sure to update this and any other important information in the office and the health suite to ensure we can contact you in case of an emergency. Also, discuss with your child specific travel arrangements should BCPS have an inclement weather early dismissal. For example, take the bus home, a neighbor will pick up, etc. This way, you and your child will know what to expect in case of an early closure at school.

Norwood Parent Involvement Plan

During the June 2012 PTA meeting, the Norwood Parent Involvement Plan and the Parent Compact was revised. Norwood uses Title I resources to enhance student achievement by funding co-teachers, our behavior interventionist, paid helpers, our parent liaison, and parent involvement activities. We communicate information to parents through monthly newsletters, the Connect Ed phone messaging system, our website; <http://norwoodes.bcps.org>, the Norwood wiki pages, the system-wide calendar, report cards, workshops, our PTA, the Parentmobile on Conference day, take-home folders and interim reports.

What is Title I?

Title I is a federal grant that focuses on improving the academic achievement of disadvantaged children. The grant provides funds to Title I schools to ensure that all children have a fair, equal, and significant opportunity to obtain a high quality education and reach proficiency on challenging state academic standards and state academic assessments. Parents are encouraged to:

- provide input on the development of the Parent Involvement Plan and School-Parent Compact;
- provide input on how parent involvement funds should be spent;
- provide input on how school staff can work with parents as equal partners in their child's educational process;
- volunteer at their child's school; and
- participate in parent-teacher conferences

BCPS has two regional Resource Centers for Families and Schools which provide free assistance to parents in locating and identifying educational resources within the district and their community. In the Northeast area, the resource center is located within Middlesex Elementary School, 142 Bennett Road, Baltimore MD 21221. Contact the center at 410 887-0321 for more information.

Please visit the Norwood website: <http://norwoodes.bcps.org/> to review the Parent-School Compact and the Parent Involvement Plan. We invite and encourage your input so parents and community members can be active partners in education. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Goldys, principal, at 410 887-7055.

Physical Education News

Get out there and exercise! Please support the health and well being of your son/daughter by being active as a family. Afternoons are a perfect time to take a walk, ride a bike, play catch, or kick a ball around the yard. If the weather is nasty – create an obstacle course in the house, follow a yoga routine on TV, or just put some music on and dance! Children learn by example, so participating with them will amplify the importance and impact that daily activity can have. Exercise keeps our minds sharp, relieves stress, makes us feel more alert, helps us get a good night sleep, and is tons of fun! I'd love to hear about the different activities and/or exercises you can come up with and participate in as a family.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Please take notice of what day your child has physical education class. Students should wear tennis shoes and clothes that allow for activity that day. In addition, jewelry should not be worn on P.E. days. Thank you!!!

Mr. Berkey

Notes from the School Nurse....

The health suite is in need of spare clothes. Currently we need pants girls/boys sizes 5-12, underwear (new), and socks. If anyone is able to donate, we would greatly appreciate it!

There has been some reported cases of the flu in Maryland. Know the FACTS.. **F**ever, **A**ches, **C**hills, **T**iredness, and **S**udden onset! If you suspect the flu, contact your doctor ASAP. Anti-virals can shorten the flu but must be started within 24-48 hours of on-set. Per school policy, students are not allowed to be in school if they have a fever.

It sure feels like winter out there! Cold air can be a trigger for asthma. If your child has asthma and would like the nurse to have an inhaler in school, please bring in an inhaler and doctor's order to the school nurse. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call Mrs. Easter at 410-288-6745.

Winter Concerts

December 4 – Primary Concert for 1st and 2nd graders. This will be a combined concert beginning at 6:30 pm. More information will be distributed at a later date.

December 5 – Chorus traveling to White Marsh Mall for a Christmas/Winter Performance in front of Macy's Home Store starting at 12:00 noon.

December 11 - Intermediate Chorus & Band Concert starting at 6:30 pm.

Choice Theory Thoughts...

Here are some ideas on how the teachers are using **Choice Theory** at school. Our hope is that you may be able to familiarize yourself with these ideas and use them in your home. If we use the same vocabulary and strategies in school and at home, the students will be more likely to succeed and have a more joyful learning environment.

Survival/Love and Belonging

- Learning to use kind words such as “please, excuse me, thank you” when speaking to peers and adults
- Complimenting and encouraging each other
- Intentionally looking for ways to help each other and show caring
- Use of books to teach respect and sensitivity toward others

Freedom/Power

- Giving lots of choices:
 - choose between several activities for each homework assignment (spelling, language, math)
- Completing work or receiving a consequence is also making a choice (example: choose to work during “work time” or work during “play time”)
- Choose from optional activities when work is completed
- Taking on the role of the teacher (example: checking other student's work, reading to the class)
- “Thinking Centers” or “Quiet Corner” are available for students to independently use when they have any concerns or issues
- Most teachers use “Teacher's Job/Students Job” charts that the class previously agreed upon which enables students to independently make good choices

Fun

- Playing games, signing songs, and using drama as learning activities
- Changing names and activities to make learning more interesting and motivating (example: modeling a lesson and calling it a “commercial”!)

Technology Notes

Give the gift of help this Christmas by donating your old cell phones and printer cartridges to Norwood. Drop them off in Room 15, the Computer Lab. Thank You!

EXCUSED MEDICAL ILLNESS/INJURIES



When to <u>keep</u> my child <u>home</u> from school	When to <u>send</u> my child <u>back</u> to school
Fever greater than 100 degrees	No fever for 24 hours
Strep throat	Student must be on antibiotics for 24 hours and be without fever
Sore throat with fever (consult with MD for throat culture)	No Fever for 24 hours
Flu	When symptoms are gone
Ear infection	Student must be on antibiotics for 24 hours and be without fever
Head lice (usually takes 24 hours to treat the head and the house)	Please refer student to nurse for approval to return to class
Broken bones (consult with MD)	When MD gives his/her approval
Severe asthma (consult with MD - use prescribed medications)	When MD gives his/her approval
Conjunctivitis (red eyes with yellow discharge)	Student must be on eye drops for 24 hours
Communicable diseases (ex: mononucleosis, chicken pox, etc.)	When MD gives his/her approval

Dress for Success!

Norwood's dress code helps our students dress for success each day. Our goal is that the children have dressed appropriately so that the focus is on learning each day. Please help your child be successful by following our dress code:

- No heels, flip-flops or backless shoes
- No make-up
- No colored hair
- No spaghetti straps
- No inappropriate language/graphics on clothing
- No hats/hoods up during the school day
- Shorts, skirts and dresses should be fingertip length

More details are available in Norwood's office or at the website <http://norwoodes.bcps.org>

Thank you to the students who dress for success each day and to the parents for providing appropriate clothing!

_____ I have read Norwood's "Dress for Success" dress code.

Parent Signature

Student Name

Date

Please return the bottom portion of this sheet if you did not do so last month.

Food Drive

Please join the Norwood Community in supporting local families by donating food during the school food drive. We are collecting non-perishable canned & boxed foods including cereals, stuffing mix, canned vegetables, canned fruits, pastas, gravy & more!

Start Date: 12/3/12

End Date: 12/14/12

Canned & boxed goods will be collected starting

Monday, December 3rd through Friday December 14.

Please contact Ms. Powell or Ms. Wade with questions at 410-887-7055



**Norwood
Elementary School**