

4300 Buchanan Avenue • Baltimore, Maryland 21211 • 410-396-6460

R. Anthony Japzon, Principal

Amber Kilcoyne, Assistant Principal



October 14th  
Picture Day

October 17 & 18  
No School  
Professional  
Development

Oct. 28-Nov. 1  
Literacy Week

October 28  
School Family Council  
Meeting in the school  
library  
6:00-7:00 P.M.

October 29  
Literacy Night

October 31  
Quarter 1 Ends

November 1  
Storybook Parade

## Parent Newsletter

### School Family Council

Thank you to all of the family and community members that attended the first SFC Meeting on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. We made great strides in working on our School Performance Plan. We discussed ways to get community members, organizations, and school partners more involved with school activities!

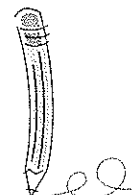
Parents, guardians, grandparents, and family members, we would love your input monthly! The following schedule outlines School Family Council meeting dates for the remainder of the year. See you there!

Date	Time
October 28, 2013	6:00-7:00 pm
November 25, 2013	2:30-3:30 pm
December 16, 2013	2:30-3:30 pm
January 27, 2014	6:00-7:00 pm
February 25, 2014	2:30-3:30 pm
March 24, 2014	2:30-3:30 pm
April 28, 2014	6:00-7:00 pm
May 27, 2014	2:30-3:30 pm



**If your home address, phone number, or email address changes or you haven't turned the information into your child's teacher, please update the school! We have a great new system in which we are able to text, email and leave phone messages automatically.**

The "Write" Stuff



All students at Medfield Heights Elementary are focusing on writing narratives this quarter. By the end of October, each student will have completed a published Autobiography. You can help our quarterly writing initiative by discussing family background, favorite memories, and important facts about your child's life. They can include these things in their writing. Look for our published work in the hallways during November!

# Parents Wanted!

At Back to School Night, school-community members signed up to lead or join various committees. If you were not able to make it, it's not too late to help! This year our goal is to log 2,000 volunteer hours for Medfield. We have 430 students in our school and we would like to see each family give about 6 hours of their time to Medfield. Whenever you come to school to volunteer, make sure you sign the volunteer log book! For more information, please contact Amber Kilcoyne.

## Terminology Word Wall

Baltimore City School System is in a state of transition and you will hear many new words and may be unsure of some terminology. Here are a few words and acronyms with their explanations to help you over the next year.

**CCSS:** Common Core State Standards

**CVC Word:** Consonant, Vowel, Consonant Word (ex. dog)

**CVCC Word:** Consonant, Vowel, Consonant, Consonant Word (ex. post)

**Fluency:** Speed and accuracy when reading text

**Comprehension:** Understanding of what is being read; Being able to answer questions about a text.

**Number Bond:** A mental picture of the relationship between a number and the parts that combine to make it.

**Graphic Organizer:** A visual or pictorial representation that is used to organize thoughts and information.

**Independent vs. Instructional Level:** Independent level is a child's ability to successfully work without teacher assistance. Instructional level is where the child is working with teacher assistance.

**Amplify:** The new assessment name for what was previously known as Wireless.



# Mental Health Message

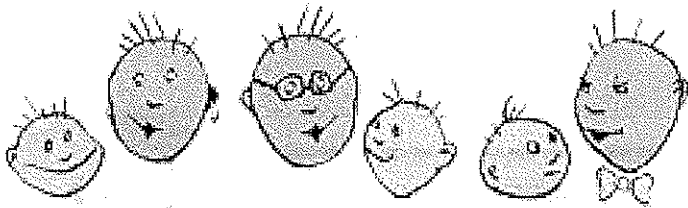
A new year has started and we're excited to have a new service in the school! Medfield Heights now has a partnership with Villa Maria. This means that the school has another mental health clinician to help with students' needs.

Matthew Miller, is a licensed social worker, and he will be in the school Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays for the remainder of the year. He can meet with students once a week, and can work on a variety of things.

## Matt can help with:

- Behavioral issues at home or in the classroom
- Difficulty with focus and/or attention
- Irritability or sadness
- Excessive worry or anxiety
- Difficulties with other students

# Let's Talk...



*it makes a difference!*

## A Message from Matt!

Parents,

I know that the backbone of this school is how committed our families are – Medfield parents always want to support our students in every way. We're excited to be able to provide one more way students can strengthen. If you think I might be able to help, give me a call! I can be reached at 410-530-0211.

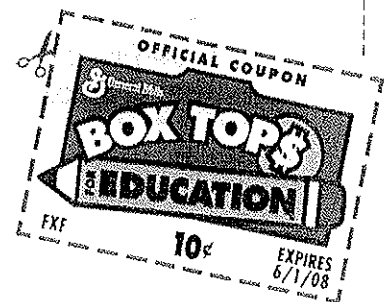
Thanks,  
Matthew Miller

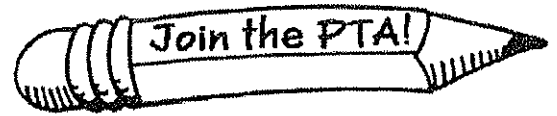
## Box Tops for Education

Once again this year, Medfield Heights will take part in the Box Tops 4 Education campaign. Mrs. Stadler will be collecting Box Tops to earn money for our school. Here's how YOU can help!

- Neatly cut off Box Top coupons from participating products such as most cereal boxes
- Place coupons in a clear Ziploc bag or plain envelope
- Send them to school and submit to Mrs. Stadler

October: First Edition  
Newsletter Editor: Rita Tate





## PTA Highlight!

Last week's PTA meeting was a wonderful kick-start our 2013-2014 PTA school year. We talked about various fundraiser possibilities as well as the overall consensus that selling items to raise money is not the most desirable and family friendly way to raise money for our school. We even talked about "opting out" of fundraisers for families who would simply rather just donate money to the PTA. The PTA sponsors activities such as "Spring Fling," "Sports Day" and new this year will be "Spaghetti Dinner Night, Movie Nights, Cultural Awareness Day and Parent workshops." Of course, we are always looking for new ideas. We have a great group of parents this year.

One of the goals of the PTA this year is to work with the school-based Climate committee to increase parent involvement. The school has set a goal of logging 2,000 hours of Parent Volunteer Hours. If you come into the building to volunteer and help the school in any way, please sign your name in the parent volunteer log book. On back-to-school night, we also had many parents sign-up to be "Room Parents." The duties of a Room Parent may vary based on the needs of the classroom teacher and ability and availability of the Room parent. If you are unable to be a room parent, but wish to help, check-in with your child's teacher to see how you can help. Ultimately, our goal is to maximize our classroom teacher's time for planning and adjusting instruction to meet the needs of all of our students.

Our next PTA meeting will be held the same night as our Annual Math Night on November 21, 2013. The meeting will be held from 6:30-7:30pm in the library. During this meeting, we will form initial Spring Fling committees. If you are interested at any point in becoming a PTA member, please see Melanie Williams in the main office to sign up. If you have questions or ideas, please contact [Christopherwilliams249@gmail.com](mailto:Christopherwilliams249@gmail.com). You can also "like" our Facebook page, Medfield Heights Elementary P.T.A.



## Literacy Week

Literacy Week will take place October 28-November 1, 2013. This is a fun filled week of learning for all students at Medfield Heights! During this week students will take part in many activities and also have a chance to show their school spirit!

During this week, students reading for The 100 Book Challenge will earn double points for their Sports Day House! All points will go toward Sports Day scores in the spring! Please remember that on November 1<sup>st</sup>, all students should be dressed as a storybook character and bring the book that features their character. Halloween themed costumes that are not related to literacy are not allowed.

There will be more information coming your way, but mark your calendar for these dates:

Tuesday, October 29<sup>th</sup> Literacy Night

Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup> – Story Day Parade