



# The Owl's Hoot

Luxmanor Elementary School  
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May/June 2019

Dear Luxmanor Families,

The month of May is already upon us and the school year will soon be coming to an end. Just as we end one school year, we begin planning for the following year. You should have received two forms from the school. One form asks about your plans for next school year and the second form asks for information regarding your child that you would like us to know as we begin to build our class lists for next school year. I encourage you to return both forms to school at your earliest convenience. Both of these forms help us as we plan for next school year.

Thank you to Saran Dioubate and your team of volunteers for organizing another successful and well attended International Night. Thank you to all of our families who sponsored a booth to highlight all of the cultures that are represented at Luxmanor. We had outstanding student performances that shared some of the traditional songs and dances from countries around the world.

Our specialists will once again host a Specialists' Showcase on May 20<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. This very "special" evening will include art work displays from all of our students, as well as music performances and PE demonstrations. I hope you can join us to celebrate all of our students' artistic talents!

We are currently in our final testing window for this school year. During the month of May, students in grades 3-5 will take the Partnership and Readiness for College and Career (PARCC) assessment in reading and math. Kindergarten through second grade will have their mClass reading assessment, grades K-5 will take their MAP assessments in math and grades 3-5 will also take their MAP assessment in reading.

We recently had four security cameras installed in our school. These cameras cover the parking lot next to the entrance, the front door inside, our carpool lane door and the exit door from the school to the portables. These cameras are part of MCPS' security upgrades for elementary schools. The cameras are now live and recording. As I emailed you earlier this month, we called a Severe Weather Shelter due to the tornado warning that was issued for our area. I am happy to report that due to our practice drills, our students were able to quickly move to their designated positions in the hallways, including our students who were in an assembly in the AP room! Whenever we activate a real Shelter Drill, I will always email to let you know.

Thank you to Heather Kenney for organizing our Used Book Sale for us this school year! This takes a lot of time and we appreciate all that you have done in advance to make this a successful event for our students.

Thank you to Kimberly Klimek and Danielle Roffman for organizing a delicious staff appreciation luncheon earlier this week and to all of the parents who donated gift cards for the staff! The entire staff greatly appreciated the lunch from Silver Diner.

Luxmanor will be adopting a new math curriculum next school year. MCPS has adopted the Eureka Math program for all elementary schools. We will be one of the early adopters of this curriculum next school year. All students in grades K-5 will participate in this new curriculum. Our teachers have already begun training to learn about the new curriculum and will attend trainings over the summer to further familiarized themselves with the new materials. Below you will find a schedule of upcoming parent information nights regarding updates to the new curriculum.

Elementary School Mathematics and Literacy Parent Nights		
Date	Location	Time
May 21, 2019	Paint Branch High School	7:00-9:00 p.m.
May 22, 2019	Gaithersburg High School	7:00-9:00 p.m.
May 23, 2019	Rock Terrace School	7:00-9:00 p.m.

We have planned a few of our back to school activities for the start of next school year. Our Kindergarten Parent Night/Back to School Night will be held on Wednesday, August 28<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. Kindergarten students will find out who their teacher will be for the school year and will hear more about what their child can expect during the year in Kindergarten. Our Open House will be on Thursday, August 29<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Students in grades 1 – 5 will find out who their teacher will be for the school year and will have the opportunity to visit their classrooms and meet their new teacher. Our Back to School Night for grades 1-5 will be held on Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you to all of our parents who use the carpool lane for following the posted speed limit signs and having your number ready to show our staff on duty. I hope the line is moving quickly for you in the afternoon. Our neighbors have shared that they feel our line is very organized and they appreciate everyone driving safely on Dickens Avenue.

We are here to make sure your child has a great school year! Please do not hesitate to contact us with your questions/concerns. Thank you for everything you do for Luxmanor!

Sincerely,

Ryan D. Forkert  
Principal

Jennifer Redden  
Principal Intern

### **Upcoming Important Dates**

May 16	3 <sup>rd</sup> grade PARCC Testing
May 20	4 <sup>th</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> grade PARCC Testing Specialists' Night, 7:00 p.m.
May 21	3 <sup>rd</sup> grade PARCC Testing
May 22	4 <sup>th</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> grade PARCC Testing
May 23	3 <sup>rd</sup> grade PARCC Testing
May 27	No School – Memorial Day
May 31	Field Day
June 4	PTA Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
June 7	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion, 11:00 a.m.
June 14	Last Day of School for Students

### **Grade Level Newsletters**

Find out the latest news about instruction and upcoming events for your child's grade level at:

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/luxmanores/classroom/>

### **Don't Miss the 2019 Gaithersburg Book Festival (English and Spanish)**

The 2019 Gaithersburg Book Festival will take place Saturday, May 18, on the grounds of Gaithersburg City Hall, 31 South Summit Avenue in Gaithersburg. The festival features a great lineup of authors and activities for children of all ages. Several members of the MCPS community will be conducting readings at the festival, and there will be programs, workshops, and activities in the Children's Village that are designed to promote interest in reading and writing.

More than 100 authors are scheduled to appear. Among the children's and young adults authors attending are: Zeno Alexander; Fred Bowen; Amy Ewing; Jessica Day George; and Monica Hesse. Some of the writing workshops will cover how to build suspense, creative writing in Spanish, and journal writing.

For more information about the festival, visit [www.gaithersburgbookfestival.org](http://www.gaithersburgbookfestival.org).

### **No se Pierda el Festival del Libro de Gaithersburg 2019**

El Festival del Libro de Gaithersburg 2019 tendrá lugar el sábado, 18 de mayo, en los terrenos de Gaithersburg City Hall, 31 South Summit Avenue, en Gaithersburg. El festival ofrece un programa estupendo con autores y actividades para niños de todas las edades. Varios miembros de la comunidad de MCPS ofrecerán lecturas durante el festival, y habrá programas, talleres y actividades en la Villa de los Niños (Children's Village) diseñados para promover el interés en la lectura y la escritura.

Más de 100 autores están programados para presentarse. Entre los autores de libros infantiles y libros para jóvenes adultos que asistirán se encuentran: Zeno Alexander, Fred Bowen, Amy Ewing, Jessica Day George y Monica Hesse. Algunos de los talleres de escritura cubrirán cómo crear suspenso, escritura creativa en español y escritura en diario personal.

Para más información sobre el festival, visite [www.gaithersburgbookfestival.org](http://www.gaithersburgbookfestival.org).

**MCPS to Host Private Screening of the Film, *Circles***

MCPS staff, students, and families are invited to a free, private screening of the film, *Circles*. During the event, guests will have an exclusive chance to hear from the star of the film, Mr. Eric Butler, about his implementation of restorative circles both professionally and personally. *Circles* focuses on the life of Eric Butler, a Hurricane Katrina survivor and pioneer of the Restorative Justice movement. Shot over two years, the film follows Butler's impassioned efforts to nurture troubled youth and keep them in school, fighting racial discrimination by replacing snap suspensions and expulsions with gritty, intimate, and honest mentoring.

The screening will take place on Tuesday, May 28, at 6:00 p.m. at AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center in Silver Spring. Admission is free, but tickets must be reserved online, at [docs.google.com/forms/d/1ky1JSd2C\\_zPSISRbSYP3nSVAU-zl11AfBc9x0P-sCcQ/edit](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1ky1JSd2C_zPSISRbSYP3nSVAU-zl11AfBc9x0P-sCcQ/edit).