

# YOU CAN'T HIDE THAT



Cold Spring Elementary School

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Happy Sunday, Cougars! I hope you enjoyed your weekend. We are headed into the third week of the school year and it is bound to be great.

## Town Hall Assemblies

Ms. Clark and I, with the help of our Cold Spring Patrol Captains and Officers, led our first Cougar Town Hall Assemblies. The purpose of these assemblies are to connect, learn, and celebrate school-wide in a strategic effort to support a positive and strong school culture. Our first assembly covered our theme for the year, "Doing Our Best Every Day" and the students heard messages about being the best version of themselves when they walk through our doors. We then reviewed our PAWS Pledge expectations, lunch and recess expectations, and the patrols shared their roles and responsibilities in our school. We also shared the exciting news that we will be naming our Cougar mascot this year! We ended our Cougar Town Hall with student recognition certificates for students who have been role models the first two weeks of school. It was amazing to see the students cheering and clapping for one another and is yet another reminder of how wonderful Cold Spring is! We will continue our Cold Spring Town Hall Assemblies throughout the school year.

## Fall Assessments

This week brings the opening of our Fall Assessment window. Students will participate in the MAP Growth Assessment for Reading (Grades 3-5) and Math (Grades K-5). Students will also participate in mid-year and end-of-year assessments to monitor their progress throughout the year. Teachers will use the results of these assessments to make informed instructional decisions and create targeted interventions to support student learning in English, reading, and mathematics courses. Your student's scores on these assessments will be communicated to you via ParentVUE after the end of the assessment timeframe.

### NWEA MAP Growth for Reading and Math

MAP Growth is a nationally normed, standards-aligned, computer-adaptive test administered periodically during the school year that uses an RIT scale to accurately measure what students know, regardless of their grade level. Instead of asking all students the same questions, it adjusts to each child's performance—giving a more accurate measure of what they know. It also measures growth over time, allowing you to track your child's progress throughout the school year and across multiple years. Once your child completes a MAP Growth test, they receive a RIT score. Teachers use the scores to identify learning areas that their class should focus on, as well as monitor the growth of individual students.

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**MAP Testing Schedule:** Click [HERE](#) to view the testing schedule for our school.

Our primary students will participate in DIBELS. DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) is a set of procedures and measures for assessing the acquisition of literacy skills. They are designed to be short (one minute) fluency measures that can be used to regularly detect risk and monitor the development of early literacy and early reading skills in kindergarten through eighth grade.

The measures are consistent with many of the Common Core State Standards in Reading, especially those for Foundational Skills. When implemented as recommended, DIBELS results can be used to evaluate individual student development as well as provide grade-level feedback toward validated instructional objectives.

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## FROM THE PTA

### **Join The PTA!**

Please support the school by joining the PTA! We need everyone to become members so we can continue to host fun events like the talent show, back to school and end of year parties, bingo night, outdoor movie night, science fair, and international night.

Join now here: <https://coldspringes-pta.membershiptoolkit.com/>

### **Back to School Bash, Thursday, 9/12**

Join us on the Cold Spring blacktop and playground as we celebrate the start of an amazing school year. We will have games, inflatables, a photo booth, face painting, a balloon artist and free cotton candy. Potomac Pizza and Ice Cream Truck treats will be available for purchase (cash or paypal).

[Back to School Bash](#)

### **Before/After School Activities**

We have many new and exciting opportunities for before and after school activities this fall!

- Monday- After School Karate Class, Basketball Clinics, Music Now
- Tuesday - After School Yoga, Lego Innovation, Drawing Zoo Animals
- Wednesday - Tiny Chefs Cooking, Chess Club, Spanish, Soccer Clinic
- Thursday- Crazy Running Training Program, Illustrating Fall Fashion, Little Doctor School, Little Veterinarian School,
- Friday- Chess (before school), Paint Club, Tennis Clinics

Sign up here: <https://schools.kiddo.us/s/coldspring-md>

### **PTA Restaurant Night, Wednesday 9/25**

Mark your calendar for our first restaurant fundraiser of the year! Come on out [to Quincy's](#)

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**Bar and Grille** from 5-8 PM **and Baskin-Robbins** from 4-9 PM  
Potomac Woods Plaza. Enjoy dinner and dessert!

at

## **New Year, New Spirit Wear Designs!**

Cold Spring Spirit Wear Now Available for Purchase. Check out the new items and place your orders soon.

<https://scarletandgoldshop.com/collections/cold-spring-elementary>

## **Get Involved with the PTA**

We would love to have you support our PTA and Cold Spring Community. Complete our Volunteer form to see all the ways that you can support our school community and let us know how you want to help.

<https://forms.gle/Tw7cvtX6dDzoWhYR9>

**CONTEST ALERT! We are running a PTA membership contest, and the class with the highest percentage of PTA memberships will win a class pizza party! One winning class in grades K-3rd and one winning class in grades 4-5.**

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## **Calendar Updates:**

- Thursday, September 12th - PTA Back to School Bash, 5:00pm
  - Instrumental Music Meeting (Grades 4 and 5) 5:30pm in All Purpose Room