

# Yellow Springs Elementary School

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October 19—November 1, 2012

Kathy Prichard, Principal

## Principal's Message

Dear Eagle families and friends,

Yellow Springs is growing! Our enrollment currently stands at 464 with additional enrollments expected in the coming months. This is certainly above the projection of 438 for our school this year! Class sizes are the largest in our primary grades, which could speak to future trends for YSES. Many new families are coming to our area for the quality of life that Frederick offers *and* the exemplary education provided through Frederick County Public Schools. The Yellow Springs community should stand proud that many of these newcomers are selecting Yellow Springs as their school of choice! It certainly "takes a village" to create an exemplary school, so on behalf of the entire Yellow Springs staff, I express our sincere gratitude for all that our community and families do for us! We are so very grateful for the compassionate service that you give so willingly. *Our volunteers ROCK!* Listing all the things that volunteers have accomplished since the beginning of school would surely prove to fill far more space than we have, so please accept this gesture as a "grand thank you" to all! Our students are thriving, our grounds are beautiful, our spirit is growing, and our school community is united. Thank you for your continued dedication to our students, staff and school!

We hope that you have had the opportunity to check out all the remodeling that was done during the summer months. Kindergarten, first grade and two of the second grade classrooms have new walls, doors and floors. Two fifth grade classrooms and one fourth grade classroom, along with an intervention room, also received new walls, doors, and flooring. The heating, cooling and alarm systems have been updated, and fresh paint was applied. New work areas for volunteers were built in the kindergarten and first grade areas, along with new bulletin boards for classrooms and hallways. White wipe-off boards were also put in many classrooms, as well as area rugs for class meetings and whole group instruction. An additional bathroom for the kindergarten area has been framed and will be completed this fall. We feel like we are in a new building! We have the promise that our promethean boards and the ceiling-mounted projectors will be installed this month. Keep your fingers crossed! *And*, we have even more to look forward to! Completion of Phase II will take place during the summer of 2013, when the "middle" of our building will receive walls, doors and new flooring as well. The front entrance and office area will be redesigned adding additional security for the students and staff during the school day. We are also in the development stage for roadway and parking improvements that would also be completed during the coming summer months. This will definitely improve arrival and dismissal procedures, as well as parking for events! *Hooray!* We will keep you updated as additional details are finalized.

Two new county assessments, called *Global Scholar*, have been given to our second, third, fourth and fifth graders. These assessments will provide additional data related to individual math and language arts proficiencies. This information is aiding teachers in making informed instructional decisions. In addition, all grade level teams are working diligently on understanding and implementing new curriculum. Our weekly professional learning sessions for every grade level are imperative to this professional growth. I wish you could see the "brain power" that exists during our "PL" sessions! Please take note of the announcement included in this newsletter related to community meetings sponsored by our county where local, state-wide, and national changes in education will be discussed. Of course, specific questions can always be presented to our teachers or to me, as well.

Our hope is that you enjoy the excitement of this new school year! Plan to visit and continue to communicate with us so that together we will always live up to our motto. "We are....Yellow Springs! Expect excellence everywhere!"

Yours in education,

Kathy Prichard  
Principal

# YES REFLECTIONS PROGRAM

## DATES TO REMEMBER

October 19	Schools Closed
October 19	Market Days Orders Due
Oct. 22-26	Character Counts Week
October 25	Market Day Order Pick Up
October 26	PTA Movie Night - Madagascar 3 (please see the PTA Newsletter for more info)
October 31	2 hour early dismissal
November 5	School Closed- Teacher work day
November 6	School Closed-Election Day
November 14	Make Up Day for School Pictures



## WHAT'S IN STORE AS A RESULT OF COMMON CORE?

In response to community questions about Maryland State Common Core Standards and how they will affect public education in Frederick County, Frederick County Public Schools (FCPS) will host a series of community informational nights over the next several months. The first in the series, *Expectations*, took place on October 15th. The guest speakers that evening were: Jason Anderson, executive director of Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment & Innovation, PreK-12 English/language arts curriculum specialists Karen McGaha and Sue Ann Nogle and math curriculum specialists Chris Horne and Peter Cincotta. Be on the lookout for additional Community Nights. Future programs in the series include:

- November 13, 7 PM**, Crestwood Middle School: "Tech to the Future: Way Beyond Text Books"
- January**: "Building Teacher Capacity to Deliver Rigorous Content"
- February**: "Global Scholar: Capturing Immediate Results and Providing for Next Steps"
- March**: "STEM Standards and Practices: Supporting English/Language Arts and Math"
- April**: "Report Cards: Improvement and Enhancements"
- May**: "Early Childhood Education: What it means to Common Core"

## HEARING AND VISION SCREENING

will take place November 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, 2012 for grades KINDERGARTEN, 1<sup>st</sup>, AND ALL STUDENTS NEW TO MARYLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS. Maryland State Law mandates this screening. **If your child requires glasses please be sure they are brought to school with them on screening days.** Students who do not pass the screening will be **re-screened** in approximately four weeks. Following the second screen, a letter will be sent home to the parent/guardian of those students who do not pass for further follow up. Parents who object to the screenings must notify the school in writing. All written requests need to be submitted to the health room by October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2012. For further questions, please contact the health room at (240) 236-1667.

This year's theme is "The Magic of a Moment." Show what it means to you...through drawing, painting, photography, music or dance! The Reflections Program is a fun competition that encourages students across the nation to explore their artistic talent.

### Reflections Calendar: Save the Dates!

**Monday, October 29<sup>th</sup>** - Completed projects due to YSES office  
**Monday, November 12<sup>th</sup> 7pm- Evening Art Show & Awards Ceremony** featuring Matt Feuer, singer, songwriter and guitarist. Join us for Coffee & Dessert. All students receive ribbons and a certificate to the Delaplaine Holiday Workshop.  
**November 19<sup>th</sup> - December 7<sup>th</sup>** - YSES Arts Show in main hallway gallery & Virtual Arts Show on YSES website  
**Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>** - Holiday Workshop at the Delaplaine Art Center 1-4pm  
 To view last year's national artwork: [www.pta.org/5286.htm](http://www.pta.org/5286.htm)  
 Questions: Anne Landon ([a.treadwell@verizon.net](mailto:a.treadwell@verizon.net)), Burgess Pilch ([burgesspilch@verizon.net](mailto:burgesspilch@verizon.net)) or Alysia Feuer ([alliemason123@gmail.com](mailto:alliemason123@gmail.com)) \*\* Please note—students did not have to attend the Reflections Workshop on October 15 in order to participate and submit a project.

**KIDS HELPING KIDS FOOD DRIVE** The food drive began Monday, October 15, and will run thru Friday, November 2. We are collecting canned and boxed food to be donated to our community food bank located right here in Frederick. There will be boxes located in the front entrance awaiting donations. Please check your child's take-home folder for more information. Thank you for supporting this worthy cause.

## CHARACTER COUNTS WEEK 2012

### October 22 - 26, 2012

Next week we will be celebrating Character Counts Week. Showing great character is contagious at Yellow Springs Elementary, and we want to show it! We are inviting students and staff (and parents too) to participate in the themes listed below.

- Monday, October 22** - Follow Your Dreams by Showing Good Character - Wear pajamas.
- Tuesday, October 23** - Hats Off to Good Character - Wear a hat.
- Wednesday, October 24** - It's No Sweat to Show Good Character - Wear sweats.
- Thursday, October 25** - Color the World with Character:
  - Kindergarten - wear blue for Trustworthiness
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Grade - wear yellow for Respect
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade - wear green for Responsibility
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade - wear red for Caring
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Grade - wear orange for Fairness
  - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade - wear purple for Citizenship
- Friday, October 26** - Show Your Character at Yellow Springs Elementary and wear your spirit wear.

## BOX TOPS

It's that time again!! We will be collecting Box Tops for Education to earn money for YSES! Our goal for this year is \$2,000!! Our classes will be competing to see who can bring in the most Box Tops by October 31<sup>st</sup>. Please send your Box Tops directly to your teacher. If you have any questions, please contact Angela Dorsey at [dorsey2000@yahoo.com](mailto:dorsey2000@yahoo.com)