

STEVENS FOREST ELEMENTARY



BOBCAT NEWS

January 26, 2018

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<http://sfes.hcpss.org/>

School Hours are 9:00am to 3:30pm

Doors open at 8:45am

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 26 - School Closes at 12:30, end of 2nd Marking Period

February 2 - SFES PTA Family Bingo Night, 6:30pm, The Other Barn

February 8 - Math and Reading COZY Night, 6:30pm

February 16 - Schools Closed for Students, Professional Learning Day

February 19 - Schools and Offices Closed, Presidents' Day

Spelling Bee

We are excited to announce that the winner of this year's SFES Spelling Bee was 4th grade student Om Debnath who correctly spelled the championship word, "exasperation." Vansh Singh was the runner-up, and both students will represent our school during the Howard County Library System Spelling Bee to be held on March 16, 2018 at Howard High School. It is worth noting that all 4th and 5th grade students participated in the classroom-level bees and finalists from each class participated in the school-wide event. Third grade students also had an opportunity to watch the bee and may participate in a similar program next school year. Congratulations to all participants!

HCPSS Budget Information

HCPSS Superintendent, Dr. Martirano, recently presented his budget to the Howard County Board of Education. The proposed FY 2019 operating budget is guided by the **Strategic Call to Action: Learning and Leading with Equity**, and sets forth a roadmap for educating, nurturing and providing the best start in life for the 57,000 children in our school system, while caring for the staff members who are

entrusted with our students' care. The Board of Education will review the proposed budget and finalize its request to the county on February 22. More details can be found at this link, <http://www.hcpss.org/about-us/budgets/>

Blue Ticket Madness

Has your child spoken with you about Blue Ticket Madness? The next few weeks will offer students opportunities to exhibit positive behaviors, especially being ready to learn. Please encourage your child to continue to focus on positive behaviors to earn entry into a special activity. Ask your child to tell you more about this.

Math and Reading COZY Night, Rescheduled

You are cordially invited to join us on the rescheduled date, February 8, from 6:30pm-8:00pm for the 2018 Math and Reading COZY Night. Families are invited to learn how to make math and reading a fun part of kids' everyday lives. Rotations will be set up for families to experience reading, math problem solving, and technology. Each family will receive a free book to take home and are encouraged to wear pajamas and bring a blanket to sit on inside the building. All students will receive a homework pass as well. Students must bring an adult with them to participate. Hope to see you there!

GT Connection

NEW Instructional Seminars to start in February

- We have some new, exciting seminars that will be starting up in February.

- All instructional seminars are open to all students in grades 1 - 5.

- If your child is interested in participating in any of these seminars, they must get an Interest Form outside the GT Room, which is opposite the Media Center. Once the completed interest form is received, if your child is selected, an acceptance letter will be sent home. That acceptance letter will tell you the start date and time, as well as what is needed for the first session.

- **Space is limited** so get your applications in early.
- Completed interest forms **are due by Monday, January 29**. Acceptance letters will be sent home by Friday, February 2nd. Seminars will begin at the beginning of February. Start dates will be included on the acceptance letter.

Grade 1

"Reader's Theater" on Mondays at recess (11:05 - 11:35 am)

Do you like to act and put on shows? In this seminar, you will use your imagination and practice your reading skills as we read and perform plays.

"Lions, Tigers and Bobcats" on Fridays at recess (11:05 - 11:35 am)

Do you love animals, especially cats? In this seminar, you will learn about wild cats. Use what you learn to create a small display to share with others about how important these animals are to our world.

Grade 2

"Are We There yet?" on Mondays at recess (10:35 - 11:05 am)

Are you interested in learning about the history of transportation using water, land, and air? Come to this seminar to learn about boats, trains, cars, airplanes. You will create a model of your favorite type of transportation or design a new way to get around.

"Author Study" on Tuesdays at recess (10:35 - 11:05 am)

Do you like to read book written by creative authors? In this seminar, you will read books written by Robert Munsch's books. After exploring his writing style, children each chose their favorite book to review.

"Mechanics of Bridges" on Wednesdays before school (8:00 - 8:45 am)

Did you ever wonder how bridges are constructed? Have you ever wanted to make a small model of a bridge? After studying various bridges, students will build their own version.

Grade 3

"Cliffhangers" on Tuesdays at recess (12:50 - 1:20 pm)

Do you enjoy reading stories with a "cliff hanging" ending? Do you wonder what could happen next? In this seminar, you will use our creativity to create your own endings to different stories.

"Mechanics of Bridges" on Wednesdays before school (8:00 - 8:45 am)

Did you ever wonder how bridges are constructed? Have you ever wanted to make a small model of a bridge? After studying various bridges, students will build their own version.

Grade 4

"Rubik's Cube" on Mondays at recess (12:20 - 12:50 pm)

Have you ever tried to solve the Rubik's Cube puzzle? Learn about the different parts and layers of the cube and use algorithms to solve the cube.

"Migratory Animals" on Tuesdays before school (8:00 - 8:45am)

Have you ever wondered why animals move from one area to another? In this seminar, you will learn about the reasons why animals migrate to other places. You will also get to select an animal that you would like to research.

"Simple Machines" on Fridays before school (8:00 - 8:45 am)

Do you like to build and explore ideas related to engineering? In this seminar, you will learn about the different types of simple machines and use K'Nex pieces to create pulleys, wheels, axles, levers, just to name a few.

Grade 5

"Rubik's Cube" on Mondays at recess (2:05 - 2:35 pm)

Have you ever tried to solve the Rubik's Cube puzzle? Learn about the different parts and layers of the cube and use algorithms to solve the cube.

"Migratory Animals" on Tuesdays before school (8:00 - 8:45 am)

Have you ever wondered why animals move from one area to another? In this seminar, you will learn about the reasons why animals migrate to other places. You will also get to select an animal that you would like to research.

"Rubik's Cube Mosaics" on Tuesdays at recess (2:05 - 2:35 pm)

Did you enjoy solving the Rubik's Cube? Do you like to create geometric pictures? If so, this seminar is for you. You will use cubes to create various patterns and pictures.