

Moorefield Station Elementary School
22325 Mooreview Parkway
Ashburn, VA 20148

Principal: Karen D. Roche

Assistant Principal: Colleen Flaherty

Administrative Dean: Joe Dolansky



April 2018

A NOTE FROM THE ADMINISTRATION:

Dear Families:

We are in the home stretch but things are about to get very busy. I hope everyone had an opportunity to relax over spring break.

It is hard to believe that we are ready to wrap up the third marking period. It always seems that this time of year goes by so quickly. We have a lot going on in the next several months. As the weather continues to get nicer it is often hard to remember we still have three months of school left and lots of learning still to come.

We have a few events coming this month so mark your calendars so you don't miss out. The third marking period ends on April 6th with a teacher workday on the 9th. Thanks to a grant from the Claude Moore Foundation, we have the Bluemont Concert Series presenting an assembly on April 12th. Our 5th Grade Parents are sponsoring BINGO on April 13th. On April 16th, we wrap up our yearbook sales, don't forget to order your copy before it is too late. On April 19th we recognize Autism Awareness day – please wear blue to support our students with Autism, this year we are also focusing on kindness toward all students. On April 26th we will have a TWINS Spirit day, and we hope all students and staff will participate. Finally, on April 27th, we will hold our 3rd and final Epic Build for the year, we hope to see all our families here to see what amazing coding our students are doing. We hope to see everyone participating in these great school events.

We have the end of year assessments to complete, and the next several weeks of review and study could play a key role in how your child scores on these assessments. We will start SOL testing the first week in May and testing will run until the end of May. You will find a complete list of tests and dates on the Moorefield website. Please be sure your child gets a good night's sleep and a healthy breakfast on the days he/she tests.

In grades K-2, teachers will be assessing reading levels and measuring the growth in reading that has occurred this year.

As always, should you have any questions please contact me.

Karen D. Roche - Principal

Important Events for April:

- Apr 2 – Student Holiday, Staff Development Day
- Apr 6 – End of Grading Period
- Apr 9 – Student Holiday, Teacher Workday
- Apr 12 - Bluemont Concert Series – Anansegromma
- Apr 13 – Moveable Monday
- Apr 13 – Rising 6th Gr Field Trip to Stone Hill MS
- Apr 13 – PTO BINGO Night, 6:30pm
- Apr 16 – Yearbook Sales End
- Apr 18 – Report Cards Sent Home
- Apr 19 - Autism Awareness - Kindness Challenge
- Apr 21 – All County Chorus Performance at PVHS, 1:30pm
- Apr 24 – Eagle Ridge MS Visits 5th Gr
- Apr 26 – Spirit Day – Twin Day
- Apr 26 – PTO Spirit Night at Sweet Frog
- Apr 27 – Code Cycle 3: Epic Build
- Apr 28 – Draft Day 5K at Fed Ex Field
- May 7-11 – Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 14 – SOL Tests Begin



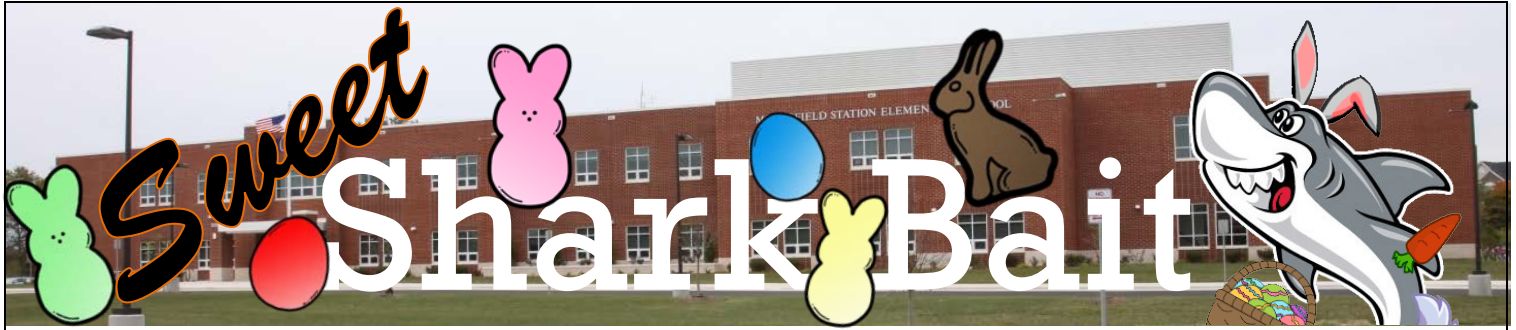
**REVISED SOL TESTING INFO
PROVIDED...See Page 5!**



A MEMO FROM MUSIC:

During the month of April, the students will continue to learn about Jazz music and our Composer/Musician of the Quarter Duke Ellington. As we begin the fourth quarter, we will learn about the American composer and arranger John Williams. Encourage your child to share their favorite piece with you!

Students in the spring chorus will continue to work hard learning their spring musical program! We are learning a lot about diction, pronunciation, phrasing, breath support, and articulations. Our spring concert will be held on June 7th @



6:30 PM, here at Moorefield Station. Fourth grade will continue to rehearse on Thursday afternoons from 1:45-2:15PM and the fifth grade will rehearse on Monday mornings from 8:00-8:25AM. Lyrics and practice tracks have been posted, please encourage your child to practice with those resources. Check the website if you have questions, or to find more information. We encourage you to visit our website regularly. If you are unsure about a date or time, we post that information as well.

First grade continues to work on So-Mi-La patterns; Ta, TaDi, Rest; and musical contour (direction). They will also begin to work on the music for their school performance "Pajama Party." They will perform at 9am on Friday, May 27th (there is NO evening performance). Second grade is learning to play a broken bordun on barred instruments, form (musical structure) and bar lines (dividing music). Third grade will continue to work on rhythm through composition, conducting in two and three patterns, singing low La and low So, singing in cannon and round and categorizing music as major or minor. Fourth grade will complete their unit on soprano recorder for this year, develop their musical ears through rhythmic dictation, and learn how to play a major scale on barred instruments. At the beginning of the fourth and final quarter, fourth graders will begin to learn the basic drumming skills necessary for fifth grade. Fifth grade is busy working through their Recorder Karate belts. Encourage your child to practice at home and continue to earn those belts! Visit our website to find a general and tentative listing of concepts for each grade level, which will be covered in music class this month. If you'd like to find out more about what we are doing in class, ask your child! We encourage you to visit our website regularly. If you are unsure about a date or time, we post that information as well.

SNIPPETS FROM SEARCH:



This month in SEARCH, students will continue to practice logical and mathematical problem solving as I introduce the game Balance Beans, courtesy of our wonderful PTO, to kindergarten, first, third and fourth grade students. Our second graders have been having so much fun with this game so far (while doing a lot of great thinking in the process)!

Kindergarten students will also practice evaluating thinking during the lesson "Ira Sleeps Over". In first grade, students will work cooperatively to figure out "Dr. DooRiddles". Second graders will use their creative thinking strategies, as well as practice self-evaluation, as they create a unique picture using two and a half circles. Students will also participate in one of my favorite lessons, "ABC Zoo", where they will need to describe actions they see in a picture (with a twist, of course.) In third grade, students will use their reasoning and connecting thinking to solve "Ink Pink" riddles. Students in fourth grade will rely on their spatial reasoning skills to solve tangram puzzles.

Great thinking will be springing up throughout Moorefield Station this month.

Please check my website for the most updated information on LCPS Gifted services, eligibility criteria, and important dates and deadlines. The site is located on our school page under Specialists.

ART E-FACTS:



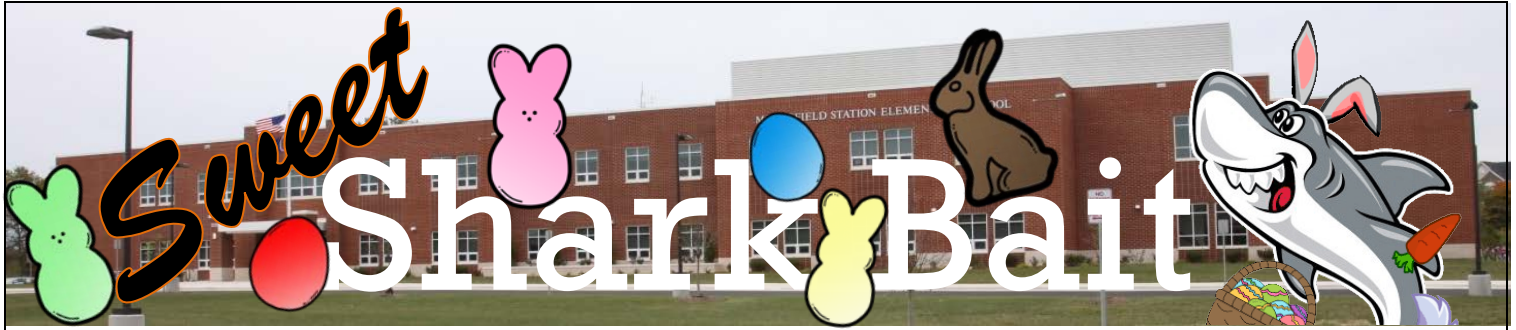
Students in grades first through fifth have been busy artists. The full-day kindergarten classes will continue working on overlapping shapes. Springtime eggs are the theme for this lesson. The first grade classes have created clay pinch pots and finished them by adding texture. After the pieces are fired, the students will paint their pinch pots. Second grade classes are working on creating depth in a landscape while using background, middle-ground, and foreground. Third grade students recently applied previously learned clay processes to construct a fish. The students will paint and add gloss to their fish after they have gone through the firing process. The fourth graders are working on Notan designs. They will apply their knowledge of complimentary colors while creating their symmetrical designs. The fifth graders are completing the finishing touches on their metal works for the 5th grade art show display in June. The students have learned many different metal techniques and have done an amazing job applying them to their pieces!

Throughout the month of April, the students will begin creating art from around the world. We will discover new techniques and interesting art facts!

BITS AND BYTES FROM THE LAB:



Have you ever been to the Escape Room? This month students in grades 3-5 participated in an activity similar to the Escape Room called Breakout.edu. Classes came to the lab where it was transformed into a challenge in which they had 45 minutes to open the Breakout Box. The box consisted



of six different combination locks and they had to work with their team to solve different puzzles around the room. If they did this successfully, they opened all six locks and would see if there was a Leprechaun inside! The students had fun working together to try to “crack” the codes and solve the puzzles to get the fastest time.

Currently, our students are working hard on their Minecraft coding projects. Students are preparing for our next Epic Build which will be on April 27. Please look for more information to come home about the times for this event.

LINK TO THE LIBRARY:



BOOK SWAP

We need donations of gently used (or new) books for all grade levels (PreK – 5) for our Book Swap at the end of the year. We will continue to collect books throughout the year to be ready! The goal is for every student to choose a book (or more if we have enough), regardless of whether or not they were able to donate books. We are always in desperate need of chapter books for grades 2 – 5. There is a big box in the library to collect books. This was intended to be an annual event, but unfortunately, one year we did not have enough books for every student to choose one. We hope that we can make it happen this year! Thanks for your support!

VOLUNTEERING IN THE LIBRARY

Besides the book fairs, we still need volunteers in the library throughout the school year to help with general tasks. We need help with shelving books daily, processing new books, and repairing books. Processing new books involves stamping, putting labels on, and covering them with plastic. We also already have books in need of repair and could use help fixing them. We will train you to do all the above tasks. Whether you have an hour or two once in a while or even weekly, we’d be glad to have your help. Please sign up here:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b4babaf23a13-library>

Thank you in advance for your support!

THANK YOU to all of our volunteers for helping with the book fair. As the book fair was extended after break, we will report our earnings in the May newsletter.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER:



Spring has finally arrived, though it may not feel like it yet! In the spirit of spring cleaning, the Fifth Grade Service Club members are sponsoring a Shoe Collection. We are collecting gently used shoes for children and adults in need around the world. This is a perfect time to clean out closets and bring in shoes that are too little or not needed anymore. We will be collecting the shoes in bins in the front lobby between Wednesday, April 4th and Friday, April 20th. Please consider donating to this worthwhile cause.

For our rising 6th graders, we have important events going on in April. For those students attending Stone Hill Middle School in the fall, we have a scheduled field trip to visit Stone Hill on April 13th. Students will be taking buses to visit the middle school for a few hours in the morning that day. Also, for those students who will be attending Eagle Ridge Middle School in the fall, staff from Eagle Ridge will be coming over to talk with these students at MSE in the afternoon on April 24th. They will have chance to visit Eagle Ridge later in the school year.

For the month of April, the Counseling office will be conducting classroom lessons focusing on conflict resolution, coping strategies for stress/worry, and trustworthiness. Also, small groups involving friendship, handling emotions, and worry/stress will be ongoing this month.

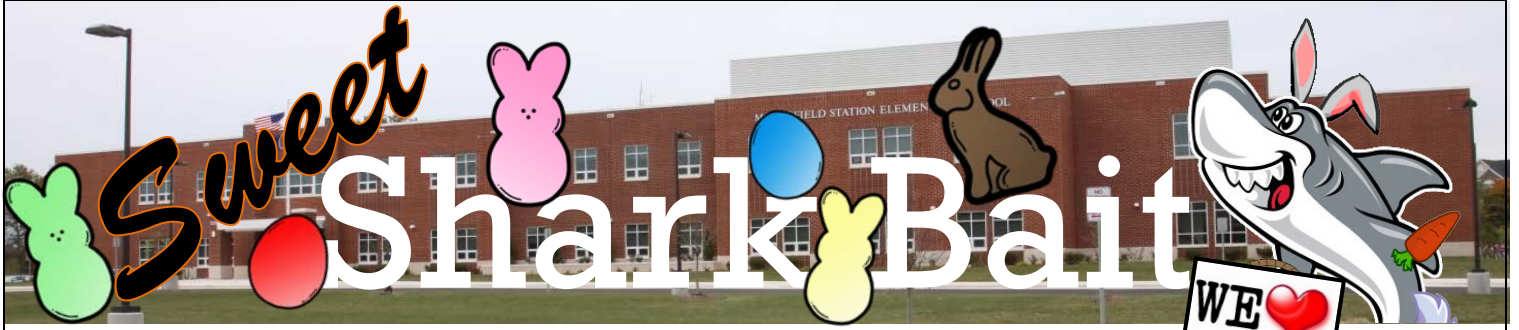
We look forward to working with your students. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at (571) 252-2380.



APRIL IS NATIONAL POETRY MONTH:

Family Poetry Jam:

Sharing poetry out loud with your kids is a great way to have fun with language. Poems include humor, interesting words, tongue twisters and alliteration. Start with playful, rhyming poetry about topics that are familiar to your child like



animals, food and bedtime. Once a poem is familiar to your child, take turns reading!

Family Poetry Walks:

Looking for a way to jumpstart your child’s enthusiasm for writing poetry? Poetry walks give children a way to "write about what they know." Before heading outdoors on a beautiful spring day, read aloud a few poems that are rich in descriptive language. Then, go on a family walk around the neighborhood to observe and collect sensory images from their direct experience with nature. Children can bring a poetry journal with them to write down descriptive words as they observe, listen, smell, and touch things outside in spring. Writing poetry is a great exercise for all children. It gives them a chance to experiment with language and vocabulary, and to freely share their ideas without the confinement of perfect grammar or firm structures. Some different types of poetry are group poems, "I am" poems, magnetic poetry, cinquains, shape and color poems.

SAFETY FIRST:



All visitors to schools will be required to verify their identification with school personnel prior to entry; regardless of the frequency they may visit an individual school.

To Request Entry:

- Have Photo Identification Ready
- Stand on the yellow footprints
- Push and release button
- Present photo id when asked
- Please go directly to the office to sign in and obtain a visitor’s pass

All exterior doors will be closed and locked at the beginning of school and remain so until students are released for the day. Using the AIPHONE will be the only way visitors will be admitted to the school.

These security practices are intended to assure parents, students, and staff of the school’s commitment to safety and security, balancing both the needs of the public with reasonable security provisions.

VOLUNTEER NOTICE:



Don’t forget that Loudoun County has a policy that all volunteers must submit a “volunteer form” to the elementary. If you are planning on volunteering at Moorefield Station, please submit this form to our office staff. A copy of the form can be found on our school’s website on the right-side bar.



DAY CARE RIDERS:

If you are a parent with children attending daycare facilities at the end of each day, it is important that you communicate with them if your child is absent on a particular day or that you have picked your child up early from school.

SPEED LIMIT ON SCHOOL GROUNDS:



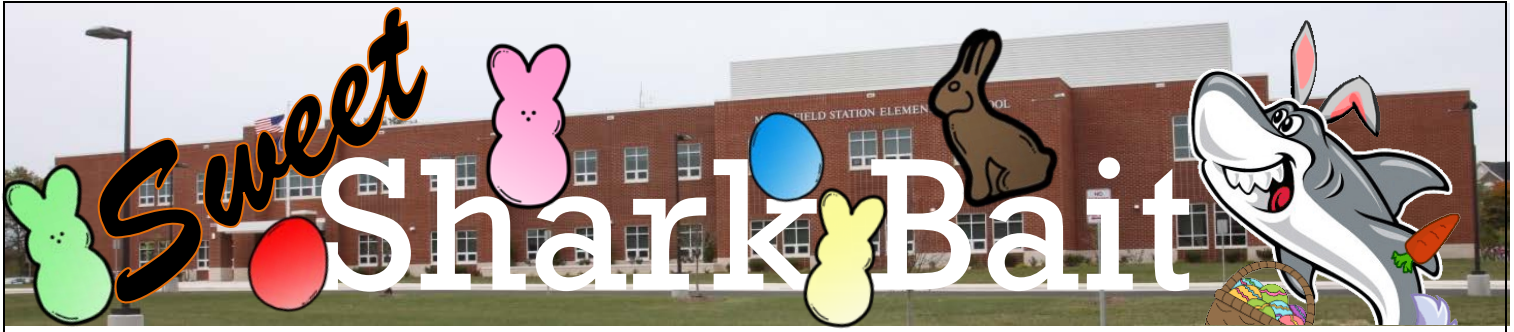
We are concerned for the safety of your child at school. If you are on our grounds, please pay attention to your speed while driving on our campus. We have noticed adults going over the state required speed of 25 MPH. Please help us keep your children safe!



Spirit Day – Twin Day
Thursday, April 26

All County Chorus
Performance
@ Park View HS on
Saturday, April 21 at 1:30pm





2018 MOOREFIELD STATION SOL TESTING

PARENTS, PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD:

- gets a good night of rest the evening before..
- eats a nice healthy breakfast the morning of the test.
- is on time for school!



Date of Test	Grade Being Tested	Subject of Test
Monday, May 14	3 rd and 4 th	Reading
Tuesday, May 15	3 rd and 5 th	Reading
Thursday, May 17	4 th	VA History
Friday, May 18 NEW DATE	5 th	Science
Monday, May 21	3 rd and 4 th	Math
Tuesday, May 22	3 rd and 5 th	Math



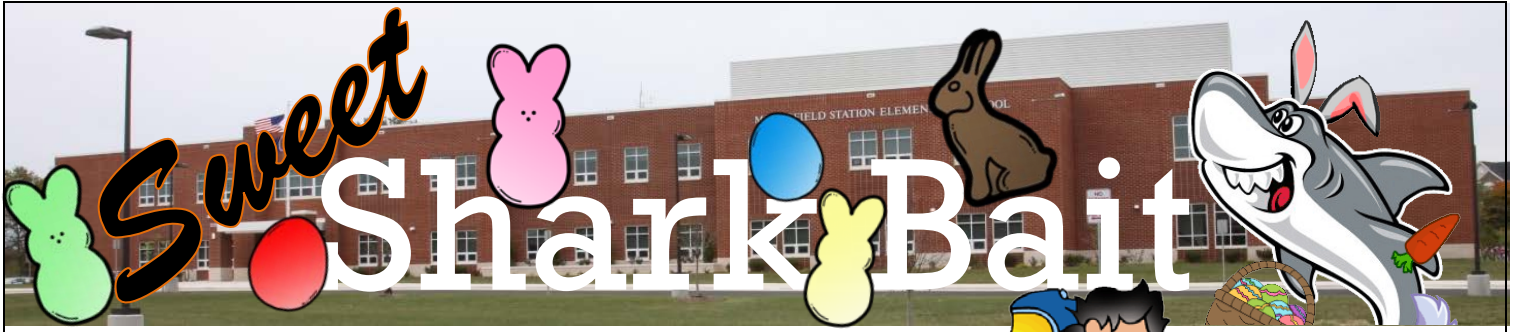
WE CHALLENGE OUR SHARKS TO WEAR BLUE ON THURSDAY, APRIL 19 FOR AUTISM AWARENESS!!!

PTO Spirit Night:
Thursday, April 26 at Sweet Frog



Draft Day 5K Run @ FedEx Field
Sat, April 28
Join Us...see info on our website.





CODE CYCLE 3:

EPIC BUILD

FRIDAY, APRIL

27TH

MINECRAFT



Yearbook Order:

Don't miss ordering your
2017-18 yearbook.

Deadline to order is...

April 16

*see website for ordering info

A PTO FUN EVENT:

APRIL 13 AT 6:30PM

JOIN US FOR A GREAT GAME OF BINGO



Help our school...

Support our **Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)**. Meetings are held monthly
in our library.

The next meeting will be held on

Thursday, May 3rd at 2:45pm.

Your participation can make a difference!!!