

Good evening! This is Dr. Moore-Lawrence, proud Principal of Bethesda Elementary with the Principal's Weekly Spotlight for the week of February 1st. This week begins the National Celebration of Black History Month. This month is designated to celebrate the contributions that African Americans have made to American history in their struggles for freedom and equality and deepens our understanding of our Nation's history. Perhaps there would be no need to designate a single month if black history was taught year-round, in conjunction with other histories, as part of a regular curriculum and as a central part of the American story. Unfortunately, we are not there yet. At Bethesda, we are committed to utilizing the designated Black History Month as a critical opportunity to broaden students' knowledge and help them see how the past connects with their lives today and how it has inspired movements for change. Our theme for this week is "Let's Celebrate Black History Month" A quote that echoes the importance of celebrating history comes from Marcus Garvey, "A people without the knowledge of their past history is like a tree without roots."

Bulldog Share and Care Starts This Week

Starting this week, Our Bulldog Share and Care Initiative begins. For this Monday, teachers have organized an activity during morning meeting that will promote the building of culture and community within the classroom.

Kindergarten--Favorite Super Hero Share Day: It's a bird, It's a plane! No, It's your favorite Superhero! Dress like your favorite superhero or make a mask or share a book or picture.

First--Scavenger Hunt: Can you Beat the Clock? Students and teachers will race against the clock to find various scavenger hunt items. Can you beat the Clock? Ready, Set, Go!!!!!!!

Second--Winter Items Scavenger Hunt - 2nd grade will go on a Virtual Scavenger Hunt! They will look for winter items such as scarves, mittens, and favorite books or movies about snow.

Third--Virtual Field Trip – Third grade is going on a trip in their favorite rocket ship. Zooming through the sky, Little Einsteins. Climb aboard, get ready to explore. They are going to DISNEY WORLD!!!

Fourth--Mystery Box- What's in the box? Students will work together with clues to determine what is inside the box. Hurry before time runs out!

Fifth--Show & Tell Pet Day Pets are good companions, especially in these difficult times, so show your companions and share how they make your days a bit easier. If you don't have a pet, don't fret! Show a picture of what you would like to have as a companion and how you can persuade your family to allow you to get a pet.

This week is National School Counseling Week. We are thankful for our dedicated and hard-working counselors Ms. Hardiman, Ms. Morman, and Mrs. Smith.

Monday, February 1st

- It's the 100th Day of School. Let's celebrate 100 successful days by dressing up as if we were 100 years old! We will also incorporate other activities throughout the 100th day. Prizes will be awarded for the best dressed 100-year-old!
- Fourth and Fifth grade students will participate in a virtual field trip to watch a performance of *The Greensboro Four*. This performance will recognize the four NC A&T college students who held a sit-in protest at the downtown Greensboro Woolworth because of its policy of segregating lunch counters. The sit-in protest was a significant event in the Civil Rights Movement.

Wednesday, February 3rd

- Don't forget that students are to attend Morning Meeting every day, including Wellness Wednesday activities. This week's Wellness Wednesday Topic is "An Introduction to Black History Month". Please check out the school website for the Zoom information and additional details.
- Extra-Curricular Clubs (Each Club Has a Schedule of Dates; Please Note That All Clubs Don't Meet Every Week)

Thursday, February 4th

- All students will be in asynchronous learning. Your child's teacher will post assignments via Class Dojo on Thursday morning. Morning Meeting will still on Thursday morning so teachers can take attendance and touch base with students to ensure they know where to find asynchronous assignments.

Now it's time for me to shout out some terrific Bulldogs. To learn more about why these Bulldogs were recognized, please check our website for full details.

Mrs. Skillman recognized 3rd grade student Kensie C. Kensie is very responsible! She always comes to class on time and prepared to be actively engaged. She also completes all of her iReady lessons each each!

Mrs. Gitlis recognized 4th grade student Cesia R. Cesia took it upon herself to help another student in her class, with kindness and excitement to have a job. I am thrilled with her intrinsic motivation and caring nature.

Mrs. Gitlis recognized 4th grade student Leon G. Leon always completes his homework in Canvas, and goes above and beyond to work on all external tools of education, including but not limited to I-Ready and ALL assigned work in Khan Academy! He is also always ready to share his screen and to help others when asked in class.

Mrs. Lee recognized her entire 4th grade class! Teaching is a challenge, however you all make it so much easier. Thank you for showing up each day, for participating in our lessons, sharing your opinions on topics, sending me a smiley face in the chat, or asking how my day is. You are a wonderful bunch and I am happy that you all belong to me. Sending lots of love from Ms. Lee!

Mrs. Shakinovsky recognized 5th grade student Kimberly BR. Kimberly is a member of the Bethesda Math Club. She recently received a certificate for knowing ALL of her addition facts in under 6 seconds on XtraMath! Congratulations, Kimberly!

Mrs. Green recognized 5th grade student Javier SG. Javier is a new student and has hit the ground running! He shows up everyday ready to learn, participates throughout class and tries his best on all of his assignments. Thank you Javier for being an awesome student!