PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Cedarmere Families,

We have had a wonderful start to the 2019-2020 school year! Students and teachers are back into their routines, working hard and focusing on learning. I am beyond elated to have met all the bright and enthusiastic students here at Cedarmere. Since the onset of the school year it is evident that great things are happening here. Students are eager to learn, and our staff is focusing on customized learning for all our children.

In order to continue to create a climate where the spirit of excellence abounds, family support continues to be a necessary component. Please use BCPS One, Schoology (online gradebook), Class Dojo, email, phone calls, and conferences in order to work with classroom and resource teachers to ensure the growth of your child/children.

“Achieving greatness together,” is our school theme this year. Our students, teachers and entire Cedarmere community have great expectations for our students. As a unified team we can grow our students and move them forward into becoming productive citizens that can achieve their greatest goals in the 21st century. Thank you for trusting us with your most precious gifts and allowing us to assist you with their growth and development.

Your continued support is appreciated!

Yours in Service,
Regina Matthews
New Early Dismissal Procedure

In order to maintain a safe and orderly environment here at our school. Please be advised that beginning **October 1, 2019** early dismissal will end at 2:45 pm each day. If your child needs to leave early, please send a note with your child’s teacher or call the office no later than 2:30 pm. Parents who arrive after 2:45 pm will have to wait until 3:15 to enter the building and obtain their child.

**Happy Birthday!**

We acknowledge birthdays every day at Cedarmere on the morning announcements. Every child receives a birthday sticker. In order to support a healthy lifestyle and avoid food allergy issues, we ask that you refrain from sending in any food for any celebrations. In order to celebrate your child’s birthday or any celebration, please consider “goodies” like pencils, erasers, or stickers. You may also consider donating a book to the classroom library in your child’s honor. Perhaps a board game or puzzle to be played during indoor recess would help the celebration continue throughout the year. Thank you for understanding how important a healthy lifestyle is for our students.

**NEW STAFF MEMBERS**

My name is Sarah Tapley and this is my 7th year as a special education inclusion teacher in Baltimore County Public Schools. I worked at Deep Creek Elementary school in Essex prior to coming to Cedarmere this school year, and I am very excited to be a proud panther! When I am not at school, I like to read, ride horses, and watch football (go Steelers!).

Hi! My name is Emily Coquia and I am so excited to be a part of the Cedarmere family! I spent the first 9 years of my teaching career at Padonnia International Elementary School. While at Padonia, I spent time as a special educator before teaching 1st, 2nd and 3rd grades. I grew up in Reisterstown and am happy to be returning to this community as a teacher! When I’m not teaching, I love spending time outdoors with my husband, our two children and our dog Sadie!

Ms. Sells is very excited to be joining the Cedarmere ES family as the new dance teacher! Dance is her passion and she is so grateful to have the opportunity to share that passion with the students here at Cedarmere. Ms. Sells graduated from Goucher College in 2010 with her Bachelor’s degree in dance and has spent the last 10 years teaching dance (mostly classical ballet, modern, and creative movement) in studios around the area. She has also enjoyed performing with dance companies throughout the Baltimore-DC Metro area including Charm City Ballet (Baltimore, MD) and ACW Dances (Crystal City, VA). In May of 2019, Ms. Sells graduated from UMBC with her Masters in Teaching. In addition to teaching
here at Cedarmere, she also teaches dance at West Towson ES and continues to teach ballet, pointe, and creative movement at MgM Dance Studio in Shrewsbury, PA. In her free time, Ms. Sells enjoys rock climbing and hiking with her husband. She is looking forward to a fantastic first year at Cedarmere!

MATH HOMEWORK HELPERS

ATTENTION STUDENTS: The new season of Math Homework Helpers begins Wednesday, October 2nd. Get ready to join the fun, call in – 410-494-1459, and win a prize! Math Homework Helpers is a BCPS *LIVE* call in show, hosted by two math teachers and a crazy, fun-loving puppet to help our BCPS friends with math homework. Students are encouraged to watch Math Homework Helpers live every Wednesday, then call in! The call in number for the show is 410-494-1459. **Prizes are awarded to ALL callers**

Why should I watch? Because it’s so much fun, AND you finish your math homework, AND you win a prize!

What Day? Every Wednesday beginning 10/2
What Time? 4:30 – 5:30 pm
How do I Watch? Comcast 73 and Verizon 34
How do I win a prize? Call in, 410-494-1459 during the show
When will I get my prize? If you call in, your prize will be mailed to your school

This LIVE call in show has been airing and helping the students of BCPS with their math homework, for over two decades.

CLASS DOJO

What a great way for you to track your child’s behavior in school! It’s a very user-friendly app that you can download on your phone and get instant notifications about your child. Students earn points for modeling good behavior and giving their Cedarmere best. They can use their points to purchase prizes each quarter. You can also message teachers through the app as well as view class stories. You can visit https://www.classdojo.com/resources/#parents and ask your child’s teacher for more information.
PTA CORNER

The Cedarmere PTA is working hard behind the scenes to get events going for this school year. The first meeting of the year went very well. We were able to gather volunteers for the PTA shadow program, get the budget approved, and put a committee together to plan the fall harvest.

For events, we kicked things off with an amazing assembly. A puppeteer came out and put on a performance for all the children and staff. It was a great performance and fun was had by all. The fall harvest committee has been working hard to prepare for the festival. We hope you will join us on October 11th from 6-730 p.m. at the school, for what will be a great evening of games, dancing, and food. Be sure to mark your calendars so you don’t miss out.

The Cedarmere PTA

NEW DIGITAL -STUDENT BEHAVIOR HANDBOOKS

Mrs. Bull met with every grade level to discuss the BCPS Student Behavior Handbook. This year your child had to acknowledge their handbook online here at school. However, we ask that you please sign the parent portion and have your child return it back to school please. Parents/guardians are required to sign and return the form. In addition, these are the behavior expectations that all students are expected to exhibit throughout their day at Cedarmere Elementary.

BULLYING, HARASSMENT, OR INTIMIDATION INFORMATION

If you or your child has a concern with a situation involving another student, please contact your child’s teacher, school counselor and/or the administration. All incidents are fully investigated and acted upon as appropriate. In addition, below is the MSDE policy on Bully, Harassment and Intimidation.

On July 1, 2008, the Maryland General Assembly directed the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), in consultation with the local school systems, to develop and adopt a model policy prohibiting bullying, harassment, or intimidation in schools. The Maryland State Board of Education approved its model policy on February 24, 2009.

As a result of MSDE’s model policy, the Board of Education of Baltimore County has enacted Board of Education Policy and Superintendent’s Rule 5580, “Bullying, Harassment, or Intimidation,” which prohibits students from engaging in intentional conduct involving bullying, harassment, or intimidation, which can substantially interfere with a student’s educational opportunities, or any acts of retaliation against those who report instances of bullying, harassment, or intimidation.
The “Bullying, Harassment or Intimidation Reporting Form” is used to track alleged instances of bullying, harassment, or intimidation by MSDE. The form is available at your local school or on the BCPS website. You may contact the school for additional information or assistance at any time.

COUNSELOR’S CORNER

Welcome Back! The school counselor at Cedarmere Elementary School is Chris Millirons. I can be reached at cmillirons@bcps.org or 410-887-6944. I will be visiting classes to explain the role of the school counselor and discuss how the students can request to see me. Parents and teachers can also request that I see students through email, note, or a phone call. In addition, students in second grade will learn the steps to take when someone is bothering or teasing them. The students in third grade will learn the difference between small and big problems. Fourth graders will begin a two part lesson on strategies to handle insults and put downs. Students in fifth grade will discuss their magnet school options and receive a brochure to take home. These students will also discuss ways to include others and how to identify if they are excluding someone.

October is “Bullying Prevention Month”. Being kind to each other will be reinforced and encouraged throughout the year. Students in kindergarten will learn how they can fill others buckets to promote positive peer relations. First graders will discuss how to recognize bullying behavior and strategies that can be used to put an end to bullying, including asking for help. The students in second grade will identify the role of a bystander and what they can do to help someone being bullied. Third grade students will learn the acronym M.O.O. (mean, on purpose, over and over) for bullying to help them identify bullying behavior. Fourth graders will learn strategies on how to respond to teases and put downs in a calm manner. In fifth grade students will read and discuss a story about hurtful teasing, a form of bullying, in order to identify strategies to address hurtful teasing.

Feel free to contact me at any time. I look forward to working with all students throughout the year.

Chris Millirons, School Counselor
cmillirons@bcps.org
410-887-6944
NOTES FROM THE NURSE

Back to School Wellness Supply List

You may have all your classroom supplies but did you remember these important supplies?

Water Bottle

Full change of clothing. **Everybody, no matter what age should have a complete change of clothing and extra shoes at school for emergencies. For hygienic reasons, we do not supply clothes.** Athletic shoes are recommended in case they forget to wear them for PE class.

**Discretionary Medication/ Health Contact Information form (Blue)**

These forms were sent home with your children. Please complete all areas of the form and return as soon as possible even if you don’t want any medications given. The information you provide is **very important** so that we may do our best to meet your child’s needs.

- Please notify the school nurse whenever your child has a change in their health.
- Keep records updated when phone contacts and numbers change.
- Make a plan before an illness or emergency at school happens! An adult should be available to pick up your child within an hour for illness; within 15-20 minutes if they have a chronic illness, such as asthma. Safety -911 will be called when symptoms are severe.

BCPS medication policy states **students are not allowed to transport medications to or from school; they must be brought in/picked up by an adult (18 years and older).** This includes medications which are prescribed or that can be bought without a prescription (such as cough drops, vitamins, eye drops etc.). **Only the nurse may accept medications (you may want to call to ensure nurse is available).**

**Medications must also have both:**

1. A Medication Administration Order form completed by a qualified health care provider. Forms are available from the nurse or online at [http://www.bcps.org/offices/sss/health](http://www.bcps.org/offices/sss/health).
2. Medications must be in their original container; prescribed medications must have a valid pharmacy label specifically for the child for whom it was prescribed.

The full medication policy is located in the student handbook and school calendar.

We can reduce the spread of illness by staying home when you are not well. **Children should be kept home until symptom free without medication for 24 hours for:**

- Fever (100ºF or above).
- Vomiting (more than one episode or associated with fever or diarrhea)
- Diarrhea
- Open, draining or infected wounds must be effectively covered and contained with bandage until healed. The bandage must be able to remain intact during the school day and all physical activities. If infected wounds can’t be covered or contained then the student may be excluded from school until wound is healed or documentation is provided from a health care provider clearing them to return to school.
• If your child may have or is diagnosed with a contagious disease **they should remain home until cleared by a healthcare provider. Please, notify the school nurse as soon as a diagnosis is made to discuss BCPS guidelines for when the student may return to school.**

**VISITORS**

All parents and other visitors entering the school must report to the office to sign in, inform the office of the purpose of their visit, and their destination. Once the visitor has been screened, he/she will be allowed to go to the area of the building designated. Should a visitor want to change the destination or purpose of his/her visit, the visitor should report to the office where the office staff will seek approval for the change from the appropriate staff member. All visitors must return to the office to check out before they leave the building.

**EMERGENCY INFORMATION**

It is important that all families return the emergency forms that were sent home with children on the first day of school. Without the emergency forms, we will be unable to contact family members in the event of an emergency. The school will release your children to only the people whose names you have listed on the forms. Please contact the school if there are changes in this information during the school year.

The emergency forms are essential in the event that Cedarmere or all Baltimore County Public Schools need to close early. Information on the back of the emergency forms directs the school about the dismissal option you prefer in the event that all BCPS schools need to unexpectedly close early. If the option is not selected or if parents have selected more than one option, your child will not be dismissed until the parent is contacted. At times, schools are given very short notice about early closings and the office is unable to contact parents when dismissal plans require clarification. In those situations, students will remain at school until parents are notified. If you are unsure of the option that you selected for your child, please contact the school as soon as possible. It is often difficult to determine this information on the day of the unscheduled early closing due to high phone volume in the office.

In the event that all Baltimore County Schools close early, parents are usually not contacted individually. A wonderful free website, **WWW.SCHOOLSOOUT.COM** will notify you through email that schools are closing early if you visit this website and sign up for this free service. If only Cedarmere Elementary closes early or the system-wide closing is unexpected, we will contact parents by phone or email to verify emergency dismissal procedures before releasing children.
INSTRUCTIONAL DAY

The instructional day at Cedarmere Elementary School begins when the children arrive in their classrooms, no later than 8:30 a.m. Children arriving in their classrooms after 8:30 a.m. will be marked tardy. Students arriving late to class on a consistent basis will be unable to fully benefit from this important transitional period as they begin their days at school.

Once again, your assistance and cooperation is greatly appreciated as we work together to ensure the safety of the Cedarmere Elementary School community.

FREE MEAL APPLICATIONS

Students brought home an application for free lunch the first day of school. If you would like your child to be considered for free lunch, please complete the application and return it to school as soon as possible. As in previous years, students who were eligible for a free lunch at the end of the 2018-2019 school year are eligible to receive a free lunch through October 16, 2019. Please be aware that even if your child was eligible last year, you must reapply for the 2019-2020 school year AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. The online application is much faster then sending the form into school.

VOLUNTEER TRAINING

All volunteer training now takes place online, at your own discretion. Every person who plans on attending a school field trip or event must be an approved volunteer. Once you complete the online training you must print your volunteer application and the certificate of completion and bring it in to the main office to Mrs. Millirons. The training only takes about 15 minutes to complete and must be completed every year. The directions for training are attached at the end of this newsletter.
THE LOST AND FOUND CORNER

The Lost and Found is located outside of the cafeteria. Please check this area if your child is missing a jacket, sweatshirt, gloves, etc. There are many nice articles of clothing, as well as other items. Every quarter we donate the articles, so soon all the items will be gone.
VOLUNTEER ONLINE TRAINING

***PLEASE KEEP THIS INFORMATION ALL YEAR. We must have printed copies of your application and certificate to keep on file.

In order to work with students in the school setting or on field trips, you must take the volunteer training every year. Volunteer training information is also on the Cedarmere website. *Please plan ahead and allow two weeks for your application and certificate to be reviewed by school staff.

* To complete the volunteer training:
- Log onto the official Baltimore County Public Schools website.
- Locate the “COMMUNITY” tab. Open the “COMMUNITY” tab and scroll down to “Volunteer with BCPS”. Click to open.
- Follow the directions under “VOLUNTEER INSTRUCTIONS”.
- You must complete the volunteer application, participate in the online orientation, read the handbook, and take the quiz which will then enable you to print your volunteer certificate. TWO documents- volunteer application and certificate must be submitted at the same time to Cedarmere Elementary in order for the information to be accepted and reviewed by the school staff.
- When you have completed the application you may want to save it to your computer or flash drive. It will not be saved on the Baltimore County website.
- Both documents (application and certificate) will be kept on file at each school in which you volunteer.
- Paper copies of the volunteer application are available at Cedarmere Elementary.
- Requests can be made to Chris Millirons, School Counselor. (cmillirons@bcps.org)
- Please plan ahead and allow two weeks for your application and certificate to be reviewed by school staff.
- Once the training is completed, each volunteer must print and submit a copy of the volunteer application and the certificate (2 documents each year) to Cedarmere Elementary or any other school where they will be volunteering.
- The certificate and application (2 documents) should be sent to school attention Chris Millirons, School Counselor.
- Once the application and certificate have been reviewed, a letter will be sent home with your child to verify that the training is complete.
- Keep a copy of your information (application and certificate) to submit to other schools in which you may want to volunteer.
- Feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the online volunteer training. Thank you for your interest in being a Cedarmere volunteer. We appreciate your time and effort.

Chris Millirons, School Counselor 410-887-6944 cmillirons@bcps.org
Elementary, Middle, and High School

Magnet Programs

Application Deadline: November 15, 2019

Magnet applications for the 2020-2021 school year will be available on the BCPS Magnet Programs’ Web site (tinyurl.com/BCPSMagnet) beginning at 12 noon on Monday, September 16, 2019.

Magnet EXPO!

September 28, 2019

Sollers Point Technical High School
1901 Delvale Ave.
Dundalk, MD 21222

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Application Information Meeting at 9 a.m.

Over 100 programs!
Explore the possibilities.

Also on display:
Career and Technology Education Exhibits

Magnet Showcase Events

October, 2019
Schedules available online

For additional information, please visit the BCPS Magnet Programs’ Web site (tinyurl.com/BCPSMagnet) or call (443) 809-4127.

Magnet Application Meetings

Learn about the magnet application process!

Tuesday, October 1, 2019
Kenwood High School
501 Stemmers Run Road, 21221

Thursday, October 3, 2019
Milford Mill Academy
3800 Washington Avenue, 21244

Program starts at 6:30 p.m. in Auditorium
CEDARMERE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

GOURMET Fundraiser

Funds earned will benefit the students and our school!
Our goal is for every family to sell at least 10 items, more if you can!

IMPORTANT DATES
Sale Starts: TODAY
Due Date: Thursday, October 3rd
Delivery Date: Wednesday, October 23rd
Your promptness is appreciated, as we cannot be responsible for products picked up after this date.

SETUP YOUR PARTICIPANT ACCOUNT!
Go to www.clairesgourmet.com and click LOGIN (top of page)
USE ORGANIZATION #2264
Give relatives & friends your six digit participant code to order online!

ATTENTION STUDENTS!!

TOP SELLER – $50 CASH
(Must sell 25 items to qualify for Top Seller Award)

*Sell 15 Items & Receive Your Choice Of Either
A $15 Chick-Fil-A Gift Card OR $15 Target Gift Card*

EARN GREAT GIFTS!
Refer to “HERO PRIZES” Award Program to find out how to.
Check Out Our Prize Video @ www.clairesgourmet.com/prizes

IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS

- Record customer orders on order form inside brochures and collect all money. Keep the customer order forms for your customer reference.

- Total all order form totals and transfer to SUMMARY SHEET. Fill in school name, student’s name, phone number, email and prize selection.

- Return only the SUMMARY SHEET AND TOTAL MONEY DUE in the envelope provided. WE WILL ACCEPT CASH OR MONEY ORDERS ONLY. Money orders should be made payable to: Cedarmere Elementary School

Thank You For Your Support!

Chris Milliron, Chairperson / School Counselor
cmilliron@bcps.org
CEDARMERE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

GOURMET Fundraiser

Los fondos ganados serán utilizados para el beneficio de los estudiantes y para la escuela.
Nuestra meta es para que cada familia venda 10 artículos, más si pueden.

**FECHAS IMPORTANTES**

- **Campaña Comienza**: Hoy
- **Pedidos Vencidos Por**: Jueves 3 de Octubre
- **Fecha de Recogida**: Miércoles 23 de Octubre
  Se aprecia su prontitud, pues no podemos ser responsables de los artículos recogidos después de esta fecha.

**Configurar Su Cuenta De Participante.**

Vaya a www.clairesgourmet.com y haga clic en Login.

Use el código de su grupo #2264. Dé a sus parientes y amigos su código de 6 números para los pedidos en línea.

!!! ATENCION ESTUDIANTES !!!

**PRIMER VENDEDORE - $50 en EFECTIVO**

(Tiene que por lo menos vender 25 artículos para qualificar)

*Venda 15 O Más Artículos Y Gane Su Opción De Una*
Tarjeta De $15 De Regalo Para Chick-Fil-A O Para Target.

**GANÉ BUEN PREMIOS!**

Refiérase al Folleto de Premio “HERO PRIZES” para averiguar como ganar.
Mire Nuestro Video De Premios @ www.clairesgourmet.com/prizes

**INSTRUCCIONES IMPORTANTES**

- Anoten los pedidos atrás de los folletos y recogan el dinero de sus clientes. Guarde los folletos para su referencia del cliente.
- Sumen y anoten los totales en la HOJA SUMARIA. Rellene el nombre del estudiante, número de teléfono y selección de premio.
- Vuelva solamente la hoja sumaria y total de dinero en el sobre provisto. Solamente aceptaremos dinero en efectivo o giros postales. Los giros postales se deben hacer pagaderos a: Cedarmere Elementary School

¡Gracias Por Su Soporte! Este Proyecto!

Chris Milliron, Chairman
(milliron@bcp5.org)
Conversations about school

When you think of parent involvement, do you picture moms and dads volunteering in classrooms? That's one way to help—but research shows that supporting your child's education at home is even more important. Here are conversation starters that will help you stay involved.

“Let’s see what you brought home.”
Look at completed work to find out what your youngster is learning and how well she's doing. You could comment on her math work or social studies project, for instance. (“You know a lot about our state history!”)
Also, respond to notes from her teacher, and sign her weekly folder or daily planner if required.

“Show me what you have for homework.”
It's your child's job to do her homework, but you play a role, too. Make sure she knows what she's supposed to do by having her explain the assignments to you. After she finishes her homework, glance over the work to see that it's complete.

“Describe a book you enjoyed today.”
This gives you an idea of what your youngster prefers to read. Then, build a daily reading habit by asking what she'd like to read tonight. Encourage her reading and listening skills by reading aloud to her and letting her read to you.

“Tell me what you learned that you'd like to know more about.”
Use her interests as jumping-off points for activities to share. If she likes geometry, you might hunt for shapes together. If she's fascinated by how animals adapt to winter, take her to the library to research the subject or to the zoo to see live animals.

After-school questions

Asking “How was school today?” might not get you far. Instead, ask questions like these for a better picture of your youngster's day:

• “What's the coolest thing that happened today?”
• “Pretend you're the teacher. How would you describe the day?”
• “What made you laugh?”
• “What was the most creative thing you did?”
• “How were you kind or helpful today? How was someone kind or helpful to you?”

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What does respect look like?

Your youngster's daily dealings with adults and kids alike will be more pleasant if he speaks and acts respectfully. Try these tips for helping him learn about respect.

Respectful replies. Think about something that you and your youngster disagree on (say, whether his video game time should be limited). Model having a respectful discussion about it. You might say that his brain and body are growing and that he needs to run and play to stay healthy. Then, suggest a respectful response, such as, "I want to be healthy, but I love video games." Have him brainstorm other situations where people have different opinions but still speak to each other with respect.

Everyday acts. When you mow the lawn or clean up after your dog, you can teach your child about respect for neighbors. Explain that keeping your neighborhood clean and neat makes it nice for everyone. Ask him to think of other respectful things neighbors should do. If you share an apartment laundry room, he might say that you respect neighbors' time by removing your clothes when they're done so others get to use the washers and dryers.

A reading challenge

By reading more complex books, your child can learn new words, facts, and ideas. He'll also be exposed to more complicated plots and will grow as a reader. Share these suggestions:

- Knowing something about the topic or setting makes a tougher book easier to comprehend. If your youngster is reading a novel set in China, he could talk to someone who has been there or look up the country online (try a children's site like kids.nationalgeographic.com).

- Encourage your child to look at a simpler book on the same subject. A picture-book biography about Harriet Tubman may help your youngster better understand a textbook chapter on the civil rights movement, for instance.

- Suggest that your child read complicated material with pencil and paper in hand. He can jot down questions, words to look up, or facts he wants to learn more about.

Strong study habits

Q: My third grader has to spend more time studying this year. How can I make sure she studies effectively?

A: Set your daughter up for success by helping her find a distraction-free study spot. Also, have her come up with a study routine. For instance, she could reserve time each evening to review her textbook and notes in the days leading up to a test.

Also, many students find it helpful to jot down a purpose each time they study. Your child might write: "I will learn the definitions of all the boldfaced words in chapter 7, section 1."

Finally, encourage her to experiment with study strategies to find what works best. She could close her eyes and imagine how a word is spelled or draw a grid with 9 squares to solve $3 \times 3$. Or she might find it helpful to spell out the math facts aloud in rhythm or to a familiar tune.

Talking to kids about money

My children were always asking to buy things like new shoes or new games. They didn't seem to understand that these items weren't in our budget.

I wanted them to learn about how we spend our money—and that it is limited. So I got a spiral notebook and labeled it "Family Spending Journal." I explained that for two weeks, everyone would keep a record of what they spent money on. I listed items like my subway fare, the electric bill, and food at the grocery store. The children wrote down expenses such as school lunch, soccer cleats, and field trip fees.

After a few days, they were surprised by how many things we needed money for. Our kids had no idea, for example, that we paid for taxes on our income, several types of insurance, and membership in our homeowners' association. Sometimes they still ask to buy too many things at the store, but when I say no, at least they understand why.