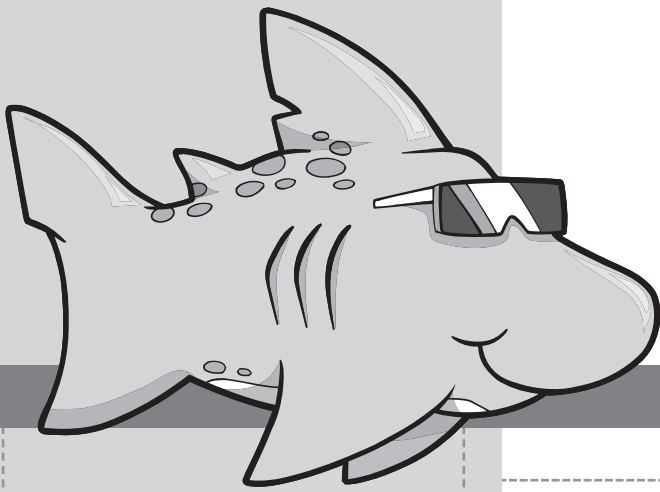


Sharkbytes

ALWAYS MOVING FORWARD



Mark your Calendar!

March

- ICE SKATING PARTY
Mar 27/Fri 6:00 pm–8:00 pm

April

- PTA MEETING
Apr 1/Wed 7:00 pm
- HANSEL & GRETEL
Apr 1/Wed 7:00 pm
- KINDERGARTEN ROUNDUP
Apr 16/Thurs
- SPRING FAIR
Apr 18/Sat
- ENVIRONMENTAL FAIR
Apr 24/Fri

May

- TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK
May 4–8
- PTA MEETING
May 6/Wed 7:00 pm
- VOLUNTEER TEA
May 15 11:30 am
- SPRING CONCERT
May 19

June

- READING INCENTIVE FINALE
June 3
- PTA MEETING/LUNCHEON
June 4 11:30 am

To contact the Sparks PTA

✉ 601 Belfast Road, Sparks MD 21152

☎ 410.357.0046

@ kimgraybill@comcast.net

HELP WANTED

The PTA needs you! We're looking for Moms or Dads to help make this year's Spring Fair another big success!

If you can help, contact Dawn Lasure at drlasure@comcast.net or 410.472.2704. Thank you!

Auction Items Needed

Can you donate a basket or an item for the Spring Fair Auction? If so, please call Tammy Waechter at 410.329.8099. **Thank you!**

Sparks Ice Skating Party!

The Sparks PTA invites students and their families to join in us for a skating party at the Mount Pleasant Ice Arena.

Where: 6101 Hillen Rd. (Baltimore)
When: March 27th from 6:00–8:00pm

Please note that all children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Admission is free! Skates can be rented at the rink for \$2.00 per pair. Pizza, snacks and drinks will be provided at no charge.

If you are interested, please RSVP. Space is limited to the first 150 people. To register, please pick up a flyer in the front office or download one at www.sparkspta.org. Return forms to the front office, attn: Tracy Blair.

This event will benefit the Hereford Food Bank. Donations can be brought to the event or dropped off in the Sparks lobby from March 23–27.

Environmental Fair

Bring in your washed recycle-ables from March 2–April 3 and turn your trash into treasure during a special activity at the Environmental Fair on Friday, April 24th!!

Deposit your recycle-ables in the marked bins located in the Sparks lobby. Some great items to bring in are: plastic containers, lids, egg cartons, cardboard rolls, and packaging “popcorn/peanuts” (in bags, please!). Let's see how creative you can be!

Sparks Library Gift Fund

Spark's Library Gift Fund Committee would like to thank the families of the children listed below for making a contribution to the fund. New books have been purchased for the benefit of Sparks Elementary Library honoring these student who recently celebrated their birthday. **Thank you and happy birthday!**

Emily B.	Kelsey P.
Anthony C.	Madison P.
Tommy C.	Elisa V. R.
Ellie G.	Joseph A. S., Jr.
Megan L.	Claire T.
Sydney L.	Austin W.

NEXT UP

Please donate new and used sports equipment to NEXT UP. A box will be placed in front of the school during the Spring Fair for your donations. All equipment will be given to My Neighbor's Foundation, the Police Athletic League and the Boy's and Girl's Club of Middle River. Please contact the Turner Family with any questions at 410.472.9192. **Your support is greatly appreciated!**

WOW!

This year's theme is also a great way to describe our outcome! We saw a 20% increase in participation this year and ended with a wonderful award celebration for all participants. Our Sparks-level winners went on to boast 14 Baltimore County winning entries. And, one of our Sparks students won at the State level and is now moving on to the National competition! Claire T. won the highest award "Outstanding Interpretation in Visual Arts" and will compete nationally, representing MD in the Primary Visual Arts category. **Good Luck Claire!!**

Arts in education has proven to be an invaluable experience for our children. When children express themselves through words, pictures, music, and other art media, they grow intellectually as well as creatively, learning how to analyze their thoughts and feelings and render this in their creation. Because of all our volunteers and donations we can continue to provide this experience to our children. Thank you to all the parents, staff and teachers that continue to support this wonderful program.

Special thanks go to: Joani Lucas, Sharon Kearney, Missy Fanshaw, Tammy Kincaid, Chuck Ament, Stephanie Chaney, Kim Graybill, Trish Redding, Ginger Kremer, Lisa Turner, Meg Kimmel, Manda Simon, Adelaide Sabatino and all our building service workers.

A BIG thanks goes to my PTA Reflections committee: Judy Townsley, Alicia Bowers, Jeannine Conover.

Next year's theme is "Beautiful is..." I can not wait to see what beauty lies in the minds of our creative Sparks students!

Thank you,
Kelly Tannian
Reflections Chair

Fifth Grade Farewell

The Fifth Grade Farewell Committee has begun planning a fun and exciting sendoff for our fifth grade students.

Attention parents...We need your help!

For a Farewell Powerpoint presentation, we are asking for pictures of your son or daughter. Please contact Barbara Purdie at madatomi@aol.com or 410.472.1522 for more information.

We are also asking for a \$45 contribution per student to cover the cost of these events. The donation will pay for:

- Class gift to school
- Class t-shirts
- 5th Grade Class panoramic photo
- Class picnic
- Farewell Ceremony decorations and refreshments
- CD/DVD of Power Point presentation shown at the Farewell Ceremony, including photos of every child
- Yearbook Party (Please note: This does not include the cost of the yearbook.)

Please make checks payable to **Sparks PTA 5th Grade Account** and send them to school in an envelope marked 5th Grade Farewell. (If this contribution is not possible for your family, please contact Mrs. Hudson.)

We don't yet have a date for this event!

It depends on the BCPS end-of-year calendar. We will be in touch as soon as we hear.

For other questions, contact Mary Hough at frenchhough@comcast.net or 410.472.4021.

Graul's Cash for Kids

Graul's Cash for Kids program ends this month on March 22nd. Please send in all green Graul's receipts promptly. Send them to school with your child in a small envelope or ziploc bag. There is a collection bin in every classroom.

Parents, please send in the entire receipt. Do not cut or tear the receipt in half. We need the whole receipt! Thank you for all of your help and support with this program. We are currently tallying the thousands of receipts we have collected so far, and next month we will be able to update you on the amount of money this program has earned our school.

Hansel and Gretel: The Musical

On Wednesday, April 1, Sparks' students will perform the musical "Hansel and Gretel."

Performance times are:

2:00 pm for students and faculty
7:00 pm for families and friends

No homework will be assigned that evening so please take advantage of this great opportunity to support our Sparks performers!

Thanks to all parents who have given of their time to make it possible! We look forward to having you join us for this exciting event.

Mrs. Brack | Vocal Music teacher

Time for the Spring Fair!

Sparks Elementary's Spring Fair will be held April 18th
from 11:00 am-2:00 pm rain or shine!

Enjoy games, prizes, face painting, a DJ, dancing, food,
baked goods, and much, much more at the fair!

Bring your family and friends and come join the fun!

