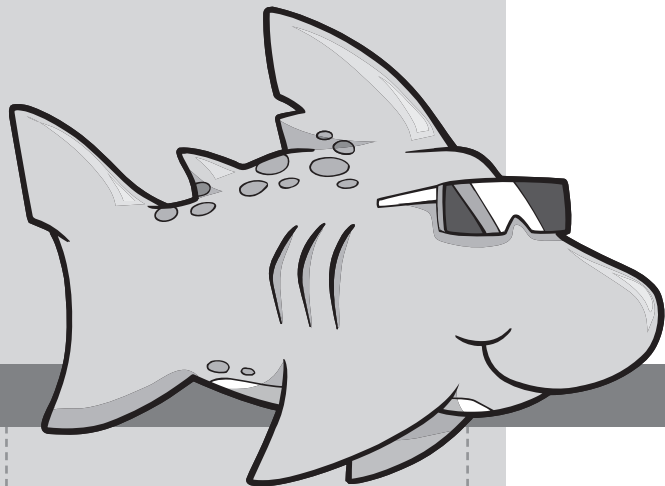


Sharkbytes

ALWAYS MOVING FORWARD



Mark your Calendar!

April

- 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

The Sparks PTA Needs You!

Please see our request (at right) for committee heads needed for the upcoming school year.

To contact the Sparks PTA

✉ 601 Belfast Road, Sparks MD 21152

☎ 410.357.0046

@ kimgraybill@comcast.net

A great, big THANK YOU!

The PTA would like to acknowledge and thank the teachers who were behind the incredible production of Hansel and Gretel earlier this month. We were all so impressed by the show—the music, the sets, the sound, the story-telling. It was obvious that a lot of time, energy and creativity went into this production and we are very appreciative. You created a very special event for the kids as well as the entire Sparks community.

Thank you Mrs. Brack, Mr. Briscuso, Mrs. Chaney and Mrs. Ludwig!

Ice Cream Celebrations

Several more classes have reached their goal of collecting 800 box tops and have already enjoyed ice cream parties: Mrs. Ballard, Mrs. Mc Nelly and Ms. Laude. We expect at least 5 more classes to reach their goal soon!

Keep sending in those box tops!

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!**

Ellie D.	Cindy P.
Ali D.	Julian S.
Maddy D.	Callie S.
Justin K.	Molly S.
Jack L.	Becky W.
Alyssa M.	Michael Z.
Collin M.	

Environmental Fair

The Sparks Environmental Fair is an all-day event for Sparks students. This year, our theme is Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: What is Your Footprint? During the school day students in grades 2-5 will rotate through a variety of presenters on environmental topics as well as participate in various hands-on projects which include expanding our rain garden, planting trees to increase our riparian buffer, installing a rain barrel, creating a recycled art project and more!

Parents, please continue to send in:

- recycled items for a craft (berry containers, yogurt containers, bottle tops, etc.)
- gently used books for our "New to Me" Book Swap (REUSE)
- old newspapers and magazines for our paper recycling drive (RECYCLE)
- encourage your child to ride the bus or carpool (REDUCE)

Please contact Pokey Fair at efair@bcps.org with any questions or to help out.

Sparks Needs You!

The Sparks PTA needs committee heads for the 2009-2010 school year:

- **American Education Week**
- **Book Fair**
- **Environmental Education/Nature Trail**
- **Grandparents Day**
- **Health Fair**
- **Science Fair**
- **Technical Support**

Please contact Kim Graybill (see left) to volunteer or for more information.

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!

Fifth Grade Farewell

Parents, if you haven't already done so, please send in your child's contribution to the Fifth Grade Farewell. There are many fun activities planned yet we can't move forward without the order forms and contributions.

The contribution goes toward:

- Class gift to school
- T-shirts
- 5th Grade Class panoramic photo
- Class picnic
- Farewell Ceremony decorations and refreshments
- CD/DVD of the Power Point presented at the Farewell Ceremony (includes photos of every child)
- Yearbook Party (Does not include the cost of the yearbook)

Financial assistance is available to anyone who needs it. Please contact Mrs. Hudson for information.

Hula for Hopkins Wrap

The Sparks PTA would like to thank all of the parents, teachers and administrators who helped make Hula for Hopkins such a tremendous success.

We raised approximately \$2,500 for the Johns Hopkins Children's Center!!

Special thanks to our teachers and staff members! Sparks faculty and staff helped to publicize the Hula, donated prizes, collected forms, set up, clean up, and danced the night away with our students.

Thanks to Rachel Einhorn, Davette Stewart, and John Adams for donating so many Hula Hoops, Pam Kohlenstein for coordinating the Speaker, and to the enormous support of our Sparks community that donated hula hoops, baked goods, and their time.

Thanks to Kim Graybill, Tracy Blair, Diana and Phil Weiss, and rest of the PTA executive board... family events are made possible thanks to your continued efforts.

Finally, we would like to especially thank: Hope Grenzer (food drive), Karen Rallis (t-shirts), Meg Kimmel (communications), Lisa O'Neill (decorations), Meghan Parker (food and beverages), Berna Oates (middle schoolers), Susan Stephenson (entertainment) and Michele O'Connor and Aimee Klink who co-chaired the event. **Thanks to all who participated!**

Box Tops and Receipts Update

Our year-end numbers are in! Our school has earned over \$1,500 from the Giant A+ Bonus Bucks and \$1,800 from Box Tops. We also earned \$750 from the Graul's Cash for Kids program. That's a total of over \$4,000!! Way to go! Thank you for diligently clipping box tops, saving those Graul's receipts, and shopping at Giant! We could not have done it without your effort!

Please remember to keep clipping box tops all year long! You can send them in to school with your child at any time!

Sparks Elementary Paper Drive

During April we will be sponsoring a number of activities leading up to the Environmental Fair on April 24th.

One activity is a school-wide paper drive. Please collect paper products and bring them to school beginning today! Bins will be set up for each grade level.

The grade that collects the most recyclable paper will win an environmentally-friendly treat to enjoy.

Approved products includes: newspaper, copy paper, cardboard, brown bags, phone books, magazines/catalogs, wrapping paper, and junk mail.

