



THE VILLAGE BLUEBIRD

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2012

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 1

SUMMER GREETINGS!

Dear Village School Families,

We hope you are enjoying the remaining days of summer and looking forward to the new school year as much as we are. The Village School team is excited to welcome back our new third and fourth graders and look forward to an exciting and productive year of learning experiences. Everyone is invited to meet our teachers and tour the building during the **Open House on Wednesday, September 5, 2012**. Please see the schedule below.

During the summer months, groups of teachers worked with administrators to revise and enhance our language arts writing curriculum while others participated in professional development workshops designed to support our curricular programs. Our teachers are ready to incorporate new learning into their repertoire of assessment, teaching and learning strategies.

The Montgomery Elementary School PTA will be led by co-presidents, Mr. Greg Swerdlow and Mrs. Christine Zoffinger-Guidette. They and their team of volunteers have a host of events scheduled for the school year and invite you to get involved. For more information please review the enclosed letter on page 6 and the materials that will be sent home during the first days of school.

On opening day, PTA volunteers will also help students to their classrooms in the morning

and to their buses during dismissal. A special thanks to the PTA for generously providing color coded maps and balloons that will help students find their hallways with ease during the first few days of school!

Village School continues to take great pride in building character and will highlight a different pillar of character each month. We will begin the school year by celebrating *responsibility!* To further develop these pillars, fourth graders may choose to volunteer as Peer Partners. Peer Partners model the pillars of character at all times and facilitate school-wide service projects under the guidance of Ms. Ciosek, Ms. Lucas and Mrs. Pignataro. Students perform these tasks during their recess time working a few days each month. Our pillars of character will also be highlighted during classroom discussions and through Character Education "Thoughts of the Day" scripted by third grade teacher, Mrs. Kenney. These guiding statements are presented on our live daily broadcast of the widely-known VES News, directed by technology teacher, Mr. Dolan and hosted by fourth grade volunteers.

Look for our next issue in November! We can't wait to see all of you!

Ms. Susan Lacy, Principal

Mr. Alfred Hadinger, Vice Principal

IMPORTANT DATES:

- September 5: Open House (Schedule appears below.) School Stuff Sale!
- Sept. 6: First Day of School
- Sept. 17: Rosh Hashanah, Schools Closed
- Sept. 18-25: Scholastic Book Fair
- Sept. 19-20: School Picture Days
- Sept. 19: 3rd Grade Back to School Night & Book Fair Parent Night 7:00
- Sept. 20: PTA meeting 9:45 (OHES) 4th Grade Back to School Night & Book Fair Parent Night 7:00
- Sept. 26: Yom Kippur, Schools Closed
- Oct. 1-5: Red Ribbon Week of Respect
- Oct. 8: Staff Development, Schools closed
- Oct. 8-12: Food Allergy Awareness Week
- Oct. 18: PTA meeting 9:45 (VES)
- Oct. 19: 4th Grade Bingo 4-5 p.m.
- Oct. 26 3rd Grade Bingo 4-5 p.m.
- Oct. 31: Halloween Readers' Theater & Parties
- Nov 2: Dad's Night Out
- Nov. 8-9: NJEA Convention, Schools Closed
- Nov. 15: PTA Meeting 9:45 (OHES)
- Nov. 15, 16, 19, 20: Parent Teacher Conferences, 1:30 Early Dismissal
- Nov. 21: 1:30 Early Dismissal
- Nov. 22-23: Thanksgiving, Schools Closed
- Nov. 30: MES PTA Family Indoor Carnival at MHS

Class Lists Are in the Mail!

Your child's class list and teacher welcome letter with supply list information were mailed home on Thursday, August 23rd. General and individual teacher supply lists can also be found by clicking on the link on our VES homepage or by visiting www.mtsd.k12.nj.us/supply.

OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE

Wednesday, September 5, 2012

3rd Grade
8:30-9:30 a.m.

4th Grade
10:00-11:00 a.m.

Back-to-School and Parent Book Fair Nights

3rd Grade - Wednesday, September 19th, 7 p.m.
4th Grade - Thursday, September 20th, 7 p.m.
Related Arts/Community Fair at 6:30 p.m.

This night is for parents/guardians only. We invite you to learn about VES programs and attend an important presentation by the classroom teacher. Be sure to visit the media center for the Scholastic Book Fair !

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Staffing & Guidance News</i>	2
<i>VES School Day Procedures</i>	3
<i>Attendance/Policy Information</i>	4
<i>Chartwells Lunch Program</i>	5
<i>MES PTA Information</i>	6&7
<i>School/District Information</i>	8

**Our pillar of character for
September is Responsibility!
In October it's Respect!**

Changes in Our Village School Family!



- Mr. BJ Meurer, former third grade teacher and K-4 Math/Science Supervisor is the new vice principal at OHES who will work with the new Orchard Hill Principal Mrs. Kathie Scotti. Mrs. Shari Goldberg will serve as our K-4 Language Arts/Social Studies Supervisor. A new K-4 Math/Science Supervisor is expected to be identified by the start of the school year.
- As part of our K-4 Child Study Team rotation, Mrs. Debra Rothwell will return to VES along with our new third graders to join Ms. Meghan Foster, who is moving up with our fourth graders. Mrs. Donna Siani returns to OHES.
- Ms. Stephanie Osbourne, Mrs. Arlene Maroli and Ms. Kia Santoro will join our Teaching Instructional Aide team.
- Nicole Meyer joins us as Mrs. Kellie Cramer's leave replacement through December. Ms. Meyer is a magna cum laude graduate of Rider University with a double major in Elementary Education and Fine Arts with an art concentration. Another Rider alumnus joining our staff is Ms. Jackie Leone, also a magna cum laude graduate who majored in Elementary Education and Psychology and taught in Bridgewater. Ms. Leone will be replacing Erika Fedo until January.
- Brittany Titus from The College of New Jersey will be a student teacher in Mrs. Donna Potter's classroom this fall.

Guidance Offerings from Mrs. Fornal and Ms. Laera

Hello! We are very excited to begin the school year! Throughout the year, we will provide many opportunities for students to work with one of us when they need help. We will work with students both individually and in small groups. Parents and teachers may refer students when they feel a child needs a safe place to go to express their thoughts, feelings and concerns. Listed below, you can learn a little more about different groups we will be offering this year.

The first group of the year, the Newcomers Club, will be held during the first few weeks school to assist new students with their transition into Montgomery Township Schools. The students will be given the opportunity to talk to other new students, ask questions about the school, and to participate in activities. Other groups that will be offered throughout the year focus on helping students with Social skills, Controlling Emotions, Self-Esteem, Separation/Divorce, Loss, How Your Engine Runs, Organization, Relaxation and Siblings of Special Needs. These groups will begin in late September or early October. Parents are encouraged to contact us if they feel their children would benefit from any of these groups. Mrs. Fornal can be reached at lfornal@mtsd.us. Ms. Laera can be reached at alaera@mtsd.us. You may also call 609-466-7606 and press 5 for the guidance office. We will provide more information in September about Ms. Laera's shared OHES/VES schedule and how we will share guidance responsibilities.

As the year progresses, we will be providing monthly guidance lessons following the Steps to Respect Anti Bullying Program and emphasizing the pillars of character. The pillars include: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, Citizenship, Sportsmanship, Friendship, Honesty, and Leadership. We will also work closely with teachers, administrators, and other faculty to monitor the academic, social, and emotional needs of students to determine the appropriate interventions that can help students reach their full potential. We look forward to a successful year and to working with many students and parents. If you would like to learn more about guidance programs, please visit our guidance page located on the Village Website.

The History of Blazer, Our Bluebird



Bluebirds were harbingers of spring until their numbers were drastically reduced through use of pesticides along with habitat destruction before the era of environmental awareness. Bluebirds thrive in areas of open farmlands where insects and old woodpecker holes exist. Montgomery offers this type of habitat, especially in the land around Village School, and can be enhanced with the addition of bluebird houses.

Cousins of the robin, Bluebirds have made a comeback through the efforts of people who provide and maintain nesting boxes along bluebird "trails." Several bluebird boxes were installed on VES grounds a few years ago. As a result, bluebirds have become commonplace around VES and in many parts of Montgomery. Students can learn about and observe these quiet, beautiful birds right here on our school grounds while practicing caring and responsibility for our fellow inhabitants.

In April 2006, Village Students voted to name our mascot Blazer the Bluebird and in 2007 they voted for our school motto: Blazer says, "Be Your Best at VES!"

Mr. Hadinger

IMPORTANT SCHOOL DAY PROCEDURES—*PLEASE REVIEW*

ARRIVAL, DISMISSAL, VISITING AND PARKING

- **School Hours:** The school day begins at 9:30 and ends at 3:50.
- **Transportation:** Buses will drop students off and pick them up at the main entrance to VES. Your child's transportation arrangements are available on *Parent Resources* accessible from the district home page. Delays during the first days of school are normal.
- **Before School Drop Off:** If you need to drive your child to school, you must travel on Spruce Drive and use the **rear** entrance of the school. This entrance will be open from 9:20 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. When dropping children off at the rear entrance in the morning, if you stop your vehicle **next** to the school sidewalk, your child may exit by his or her self on that side of your vehicle. However, if your child has to walk across lanes of traffic, you **must** walk him or her to the sidewalk. Please do not drop students off in the front of Village School at any time. After 9:30 a.m., park in our front visitors' lot and **an adult must sign children in at the main office.**
- **After School Pickup:** If you need to pick your child up at the end of the school day, park in the large back lot and enter through the cafeteria doors or park on the right side of the back driveway that is between the school and the traffic island and enter through the main rear entrance doors. **Please do not park on the roadway itself as it creates a traffic hazard.** Students will be dismissed to the cafeteria for parent pick-up at 3:45 p.m. as instruction takes place up until this time. **Parents must sign children out in the cafeteria.** Please send a note to your child's teacher in the morning if you plan on picking up your child in the afternoon or if your child is attending an after school activity. **Without a note, children will be sent to their buses.** Midday and end of day pickup requests can be disruptive to instruction and are difficult to honor as dismissal information is confirmed early in the day.
- **Late or Midday Drop off/Pickup:** If you need to drop off or pickup your child between the hours of 9:30 and 3:45, please park in our visitors' parking lot in the front of VES and use the main front entrance. Parking is not permitted in the front driveway as it is a bus driveway only. **After 9:30 a.m., children must be signed in by an adult.** You must submit a request in writing in advance if a late arrival or early pick up is planned. (BOE Policy 5230) **Please sign your child in or out at the main office.**
- **School Day Visits:** All parents/visitors arriving between 9:30 and 3:45 must enter and exit through the front entrance, sign in at the main office, indicate scheduled appointment destinations, and obtain a nametag. During special events, the Spruce Drive/rear entrance hours will be extended. These times will be communicated in advance.
- **School Day Parking:** Parents/visitors may park in our new front visitors' lot, our side lot, or our large new lot in the back between 9:30 and 3:45. When parking in the back lot, visitors will, in most cases, need to walk around VES and enter the front main entrance as all doors are locked at 9:30. **Please do not park on or block roadways.** If you absolutely must park on a roadway, use caution and park on the far right side. **Parking is always prohibited in designated fire zones and in the bus driveway.** Please use caution when parking along the side of the road and driveways. **Always park off the road to the right as far as possible and do not block roadways.**
- **Traffic Flow:** From Main Blvd., turn onto Brophy Circle toward the rear of the school. Bear left, traveling **west** on Spruce Drive or **west** into the driveway. Please maintain a one way traffic flow (counterclockwise) around the school at all times. There are one way signs to serve as reminders. To exit, continue west on Spruce Drive, or left on Schley Road, both will lead you back to Main Blvd.



Facilities Update and Reminders

This summer, the K Building, located behind our playground, was taken down and removed. The ground it occupied will be restored and reseeded. Environmental testing has been ongoing during the demolition process to ensure that our school grounds are clean and safe for students and staff.

Village School has a Visitors Only parking lot in front of VES with direct access to Main Boulevard. This lot is for visitors who need to conduct business during the day or sign their children in at the office after 9:30 or out before 3:45.

Last summer, our main entrance driveway was relocated east and made safer. Our side parking lot was expanded while the front driveway was lengthened and changed to a bus lane only. Parking is not permitted in the bus driveway.

We have a huge 175 space parking lot in the back of VES that will provide paved parking for parent pick-up and evening school events. These improvements have made Village School more functional and welcoming.

We want to recognize our school and district custodial staff for their work getting our schools clean and safe. The director of facilities, Mr. Bob Austin, custodial supervisor Mr. Bruce Fleming and custodians from other schools worked together with Mr. Ken Vaccaro, our VES head custodian, night supervisor Mrs. Debra Newbury, and VES custodians Dan Moore, Hugo Guerrero and Mike Colucci to get all of our schools ready for opening day. Thanks!

DISTRICT POLICY UPDATES

The Montgomery Township School District annually disseminates information on the following school district policies and regulations:

P2260	<i>Affirmative Action</i>	P 5751	<i>Sexual Harassment</i>
P2361	<i>Acceptable Use of Computers</i>	P8431	<i>Preparedness for Toxic Hazard</i>
P 5200	<i>Attendance</i>		
P 5230	<i>Late Arrival and Early Dismissal</i>		
P 5330	<i>Administration of Medication</i>		
P 5331	<i>Management of Life-Threatening Allergies</i>		
P5338	<i>Diabetes Management</i>		
P 5350	<i>Pupil Suicide Prevention</i>		
P 5530	<i>Substance Abuse</i>		
P 5512	<i>Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying</i>		
P 5600	<i>Pupil Discipline/Code of Conduct</i>		


District policy and mandatory regulations can be located on our district web-site at www.mtsd.k12.nj.us. By following the link entitled "Board of Education" and by clicking on the left hand menu entitled "Board of Education Policies", you will be able to access all school policies. For those who do not have access to a computer, copies of the policies are available in the main office of the schools.

Student Attendance Information

Village School students exit buses at 9:20 AM, along with students whose parents choose to drop them off at the rear of the school. This arrival procedure takes about 10 minutes. If you bring your child to school after 9:30 a.m. you must sign him or her in at the office in person. Otherwise, your child may be marked absent. The following are key points of Attendance Policy/Regulation 5200, Tardiness Policy 5240 and Late Arrival and Early Dismissal Policy 5230.

- Students must be in school for 4 hours to be considered present for the day. A child who is in school for less than 4 hours will be marked absent.
- A student absence may be considered an excused absence for the following reasons: NJ State approved religious holidays (N.J.S.A. 18A:36-14), personal illness or medical appointment with health care provider written documentation, family illness or death, court appearance, quarantine or suspension.
- All other absences will be considered unexcused.
- When a student accumulates 9, 14 or 18 unexcused absences, the school will send a warning notice to his or her parents or guardians.
- All excused and unexcused absences are expected to be verified/communicated by the parent with the school.
- In accordance with Policy 5240 students are expected to be on time to avoid the negative educational consequences associated with tardiness. Tardiness will be excused for illness, emergency in the family, observance of a religious holiday, a death in the family or by administrative directive. A warning letter will be sent home when a student is tardy for an excessive number of days.
- In accordance with Policy 5230, an administrator may excuse the late arrival or early dismissal of a student due to a medical appointment, medical disability or court appearance upon the prior written request of a parent or guardian.

More Helpful Information

- 
- * **Communicating With Teachers:** The best ways to communicate or set up an appointment with teachers are by sending an email, writing a note, or by leaving a voicemail message.
 - * **Reporting Absences:** Please call the school's main number (609) 466-7606 and press one to help us verify that your child will not be in on that day. Please state your child's name, teacher's name, the date and reason for the absence.
 - * **Lunch Information:** Students may bring lunch from home or purchase a school lunch. Detailed information about the purchasing procedures are attached.
 - * **Snacks:** You may pack a healthy snack and water for your child. Water helps us maintain a clean classroom environment. Snacks may be eaten in the morning for those with a late lunch and in the afternoon for those with an early lunch.
 - * **Backpacks:** While rolling backpacks are popular and convenient items for today's students, please note that these particular backpacks can pose a tripping hazard in our busy hallways and do not fit into students' individual classroom cubbies designed to hold his/her personal belongings during the school day.
 - * **Games/Electronic Devices/Cell Phones:** Due to the risk of loss, damage, and disruption to the learning environment, the use of these items during the school day is strongly discouraged. Students are encouraged to engage in social interactions with their peers during lunch, recess, and on the bus ride to and from school. If games and electronics are brought to school, students will be required to keep them off and in backpacks during instructional time. Cell phones may not be used during school hours.
 - * **Roller Sneakers:** For safety reasons, students are not permitted to wear roller sneakers to school with the wheels installed.

Dear Village School Parents and Guardians



Welcome back! I hope everyone had a great summer. I invite you to review September's lunch menu online at www.mtsd.k12.nj.us. Simply select Village Elementary School from the main page and click on "Lunch Menu" to access the menu each month. To help your child know what is for lunch each day, it would be helpful if you could go over the menu the night before. This will help prevent unnecessary tears when children find they don't care for the day's hot lunch selection.

Please ensure that your child has the necessary funds in his/her account. You can check on this daily/weekly by calling the kitchen in the morning to find out the remaining balance or go to our new online site www.payforit.net. At the point that your child has five lunches remaining, the cashier will give your child a friendly reminder. Mrs. Armstrong, my assistant Director, will contact you by phone or email in order to remind you to make a deposit to your child's account. Lunch deposit forms are available on the school website. Children are permitted to buy only two hot lunches on credit. If by chance the funds do not get replenished at this point we will offer a Peanut Butter and Jelly Lunch Bag, or Fun Bagel Lunch Bag until the account is replenished. Students with peanut allergies will be offered a bagel as health alerts are in the computerized system and appear on the screen during check out. You will still be charged for these lunches. Lunch at the elementary schools will cost \$2.10 and milk will cost \$.55.

To help ensure that children with peanut allergy's are not in jeopardy of cross contamination only pre-made, pre packaged Uncrustables will be served in the kitchen. Our pizza on Fridays is made with a whole wheat crust, and our chicken nuggets and patties are all white meat. Our goal is to nourish our students. With this in mind, we will be rolling out our new Environments Menu adding more fresh fruits and vegetables.

Your child may choose one item from the main menu, i.e. hamburger, salad, Uncrustable or a premade deli sandwich or the hot alternate that will be featured each week. Children may choose a hot or cold vegetable, fresh or cupped fruit, and 1%white, fat free, strawberry or chocolate milk. A complete lunch comes with five components, meat/meat alternate, bread, vegetable, fruit and milk. Each child must select three of the five components in order for us to ring up a complete lunch and not ala carte items.

We will also be selling baked chips, low fat sherbet and fruit or veggie cups for snacks as time permits during the week. Children may purchase one snack a day. The snacks range in price from \$0.25 to \$1.00. Water is not a part of lunch and is offered as an ala carte item for \$1.00. The State of NJ set this rule stating that water has no nutritional value.

We hope this information will help you and your child have a happy, healthy lunch experience. To learn more about Chartwells, visit our website at www.eatlearnlive.com. We're excited about our long partnership with Montgomery Township Schools and hope to provide a great program while becoming part of the Montgomery community.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 609-466-7602 ext. 6510/6511, or the Village Elementary School Kitchen 609-333-8575 please speak with Lisa.

Patricia Kurczewski
Director of Dining Services
chartwells@mtsd.us

With our computerized debit card system you may choose to pay cash or deposit cash/checks into your child's account! Deposits can be made using our online payment system. Log onto www.payforit.net the screens will guide you through the process to establish your account. Deposits are made available the day the money is received by the staff.

Make checks/money orders payable to Montgomery Board of Education - Cafeteria Account. Please complete the bottom portion of this letter and return with your deposit in an envelope marked "Lunch Program." Though it is preferred that students utilize the debit system, **cash will still be accepted at all registers.** Cashiers will verbally notify children when they have only five prepaid lunches remaining. You will also be contacted by phone or email. Students will be permitted to purchase up to two lunches on credit.

Please detach and return to the cafeteria with your deposit and child's ID # in a sealed envelope marked "LUNCH PROGRAM."

Student's Name: _____ **ID#** _____ **Grade:** _____ **Teacher's Name:** _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____ **Method of Payment: (check one)** _____ **Cash** _____ **Check** _____ **Money Order**



August 2012

Dear VES Families,

Another school year is about to begin and we are so excited to start the year. The MES PTA provides the setting for parents, teachers, principals, and staff to come together and improve the lives of our children through youth programs and activities.

To start, we invite you to join our PTA! Online registration is now available on our website at VESPTA.org or, if you prefer, membership forms will be sent home at the beginning of the school year. There are some great events coming up so mark your calendars and we hope to see you all there. Please check our website for more details, find us on Facebook at "MES PTA", and keep an eye out for the back to school mailing in September!

Finally, we could not do all that we do without the support of all our wonderful volunteers, but we still need more! Please come out and get involved.

Thank you, and we look forward to a GREAT year!

Sincerely,

Greg Swerdlow and Christine Zoffinger-Guidette

MES PTA Co-Presidents

www.vespta.org

Winter Carnival

Carnival Games, Classroom baskets, teacher auctions, food and entertainment for the whole family!

Save the Date!

November 30th 6pm

Montgomery High School

MES PTA

Welcome Breakfast

Please join us for coffee, bagels and treats and learn more about the PTA. Children are welcome!

September 28th
10am

VES Open House

September 5th
VES School Stuff on sale!

Come and stop by PTA table and learn how you can get involved.

Scholastic Book Fair

September 18 -25

VES Back To School Nights -
Book Fair will be open

3rd - September 19th

BINGO

4th - October 19th

3rd - October 26th

Dad's Night Out

November 2nd

Volunteers Needed!

We need volunteers now for the programs listed below, as they will begin in September.

If interested, please email the committee chair listed ASAP. Thank you!

Cafeteria/Recess Helper – Edyth Piechowski at tuska22@gmail.com.

School Pictures – Jignya Patel at jignyapatel@yahoo.com.

School Stuff Back To School Sales – Nancy McCorry at nomccorry@verizon.net.

Book Fair – Amy Berk at dasb9999@yahoo.com.

Winter Carnival – Christine Zoffinger at cmzoff@aol.com

Dad's Night Out – Greg Swerdlow at greg.swerdlow@gmail.com

2012-13 STUDENT DIRECTORY

Online Registration and Ordering is Now Open

Register at <http://bit.ly/montydirectory2012>

The Student Directory (aka the Friend Finder) is a combined directory for OHES, VES and LMS and UMS. One book contains contact information for all Montgomery Township students in grades PreK through 8. You must register online to be included in this year's student directory (even if you were in last year's book). The directory is an important resource for parents to contact other parents and for your children to contact their classmates. Purchase one for home and one for your car!

The deadline to register for and/or order the Student Directory is Friday, September 28, 2012.

If you have any questions, please contact montgomeryff@gmail.com

Committee Chair people still needed!

4th Grade Author Visit

Winter Carnival

BINGO Fridays – 3rd and 4th grades

VES KidsArt

Volunteer Coordinator

Membership

Dad's Night Out

Please email Greg at greg.swerdlow@gmail.com or Christine at cmzoff@aol.com if interested.

Village Elementary School
Home of Blazer the Bluebird
100 Main Boulevard
Skillman, NJ 08558



*Blazer says,
"Be Your Best at VES!"*

SUSAN LACY, PRINCIPAL
EMAIL: SLACY@MTSD.K12.NJ.US
ALFRED HADINGER, VICE PRINCIPAL
EMAIL: AHADINGER@MTSD.K12.NJ.US
Phone: 609-466-7606
Fax: 609-466-7196

Get the latest weather updates and information from our VES weather station and camera by clicking on WeatherBug at the VES site!

MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission as a forward-thinking community is to ensure that students grow into confident, compassionate, and successful learners in a global society by providing engaging and challenging educational experiences in a student-centered environment.

Six Day Rotational Schedule

September	Day
6	1
7	2
10	3
11	4
12	5
13	6
14	1

VES works on a six-day rotational schedule for related arts classes. Your child's teacher will inform you of the class' related arts schedule within the first few days of school. For the entire VES 2012-2013 six-day rotational calendar please visit the VES website at www.mtsd.k12.nj.us.

Village School Hours

Regular Day 9:30-3:50

Early Dismissal 9:30-1:30 (Parent pick up begins at 1:15)

Emergency Delayed Opening 11:30-3:50
(Student drop off 11:20-11:30)

Health Office Request

Any medications that must be administered to your child during the school day may be brought to the VES nurses, Mrs. McGuirk or Mrs. Woodard, in the Health Office on September 4th or 5th.

Please visit the district homepage at www.mtsd.k12.nj.us
under Headlines for the 2012-2013 School District Calendar!

ALERTNOW: HAVE YOU UPDATED YOUR INFORMATION?

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Montgomery Township School District is working to update our student database system with the most current contact information for parents and guardians. AlertNowAccess.com allows you to choose which phone numbers and email addresses your child's school uses to communicate with you.

AlertNow accounts have been established for all families. Should you need to update or revise information, please follow the directions below.

- 1) Open a browser and visit <https://www.alertnowaccess.com>
- 2) Click the "Click here to reset your password" link - Enter the email address at which you received this email
- 3) Press the "Request Password Reset" button - You will receive a password reset confirmation email
- 4) Follow the steps in the password reset confirmation email

Once you have logged in, you may add/delete phone numbers and email addresses. You may also select what types of messages to receive at each phone number or email address. WHEN ENTERING A NEW PHONE NUMBER OR EMAIL ADDRESS, please specify what type of contact it is in the comment box to the right. For example, 609-555-1212 Mother's cell phone number.

Emergency School Closing Information

In the event of inclement weather, hazardous road conditions, or any other emergencies requiring us to close schools for one day, **AlertNow phone messages** will be used to notify families. You may also check the following:

- **Message Line: 609-466-7610**
- **District Website: www.mtsd.k12.nj.us**
- **NJ 101.5 FM**
- **Channel 14 (Local Access Cable)**

VES Families:

In the event of an emergency school closing, the 6-day rotation cycle will remain unchanged. For example: If we have an emergency closing/snow day on Day 1, the following school day will remain Day 2. Missed days will be made up later in the school year. Please see the district calendar for details.



YWCA After School Program at VES

The YWCA of Princeton provides childcare before and after school for children who attend VES. The YWCA tailors its hours to accommodate working families, and offers children diverse and enriching activities in a safe and nurturing environment. Registration packets will be available in the main office. For more information, you may visit our website at: www.ywcaprinceton.org or call the YWCA After School Program Office at: 609-497-2100 X327. Please clearly state your name, your child's name, and a phone number where we can return your phone call.

*This newsletter is available online at www.mtsd.k12.nj.us/ves.
Newsletters will be sent via AlertNow and will also be available online.*