

# Colt Country News

Monthly Notes to Our Christopher Farms Families from the Office  
November 2009

## Dates of Note:

### November 5

Parent Night for  
rising 6<sup>th</sup> grade  
students

### November 11

Veteran's Day –  
school closed

### November 18

Educational  
Support  
Professionals  
Recognition Day

Algorithm Night

### November 20

PTA Movie Night

### November 23

Report cards  
issued

### November 25

Adjusted  
dismissal

Grandparent's  
Day

### November 26 - 27

School closed

## From Our Principal:

Dear Colt Families,

November certainly is shaping up to be a very busy month here at The Farm! The month will begin with Parent/Teacher Conferences as we wrap up our first grading period of the school year. Your child's teacher is anxious to meet with you to share important information about your child's progress so far this year. If you aren't able to make it in to school for a conference, please don't hesitate to set up a phone conference with your child's teacher. Report cards will be issued to all students on Monday, November 23rd. Please be sure to return your child's signed report card envelope to school as soon as possible.

This month we have several special programs happening here at Christopher Farms. We are all looking forward to our annual Veteran's Day program which will be a special presentation for our students, organized by Mrs. Hernandez, a retired military officer, parent, and Partners In Education coordinator, which will honor those who serve and have served in all branches of our US military! Also, we are enthusiastic about Grandparent's Day which will take place the day before Thanksgiving. Please stay tuned for more details about Grandparent's Day which should be coming home soon! We are hopeful that if all goes well with the installation of our new CFES playground (funded by our fabulous PTA) we may be able to have a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new playground as part of our Grandparent's Day festivities. You don't want to miss it! So, be sure to have your child's grandparent(s) or designated special person, mark their calendars for Grandparent's Day!

As you prepare for the upcoming Thanksgiving Holiday, I wish you and your family all of the best! May you have a restful and wonderful holiday with family and friends. And, in the spirit of Thanksgiving, I'd like to take the time to let you know how thankful I am for our wonderful school! We are truly blessed to have such amazing students, a committed staff and dedicated parents!

Fondly,

Amy E. Cashwell, Ed.D.  
Principal

**Thanksgiving**

# Specialists' Corner

## PE Corner



The PE staff would like to thank everyone who participated in the Family/Health and Fitness Night. It was nice to see all the parents running and participating in the fitness events. Our upper grade students have been busy working hard on their Fitnessgram Test which includes the following tests: pacer, cadence curl-ups, cadence push-ups, trunk lift, backsaver test, flex arm hang, pull ups, one mile run/walk, and timed curl up. Please ask your child to show you how each test is performed. We would like to remind all the students to dress appropriately for the weather. We do conduct most of our PE lessons outdoors in the fresh air...free of the flu virus☺. So, please have your child bring their coat/jacket, hats, and gloves to PE. In the next few weeks the students will be working on their striking skills (batting & tennis), Aerobics (Geo Mats), throwing & catching skills. Please feel free to email [may.jango@vbschools.com](mailto:may.jango@vbschools.com) if you have any concerns or questions regarding PE.

## Guidance Corner

Parent Information Night for 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents is Thursday, November 5 at 7:00 PM in the Cafeteria to discuss Academic Plans for Middle School.

## Technology Corner



Wow! October is already gone and we're just getting started with all the instructional technology tools we have to explore. The upper grades were able to enter and analyze data in a spreadsheet, then create graphs to help them better understand the effects of European exploration on the New World. The early grades were introduced to computer graphics using the Pixie paint program while they learned about holidays. Can you guess which one was their favorite this time of year?

Hint:



Next month we will take our first virtual field trip using video conferencing technology as we learn about John Smith's exploration and mapping of the Chesapeake Bay. We're excited about that. We're also working to improve writing skills by using web logs (blogs). Feel free to join us in the fun while we engage your children in "rigorous and relevant" learning activities.

## Nurses Corner



Reminder for all rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders...you must have an up to date Dtap prior to entering Middle School!!! Once you receive your immunizations, please bring documentation to the clinic so it can be placed into your records!!!

Don't forget to WASH YOUR HANDS!!! Hand washing will help reduce the spread of germs!!! If your child is home with the flu, please contact the School Nurse to make her aware!!!