A message from BULL RUN ES

**Bull Run Principal's Press #2
September 10, 2015**

Dear Bull Run Families,

What a wonderful first week it’s been at Bull Run!  Classrooms are buzzing with the excitement of a new year – friendships are forming, learning is happening, and everyone is thrilled to be together again.

As we move into the second week of school, please check your child’s Tuesday folder for important information and forms that must be returned to school, including:

* Emergency Care Information
* Health and Medical Information
* PTA Membership
* Student Rights and Responsibilities Parent Signature Sheet

Thank you in advance for returning these important documents in a timely manner.

Check out this [Back to School Resource Guide](http://www.fcps.edu/dss/osp/prc/resources/packets/documents/BacktoSchoolResourceGuide2015_2016.pdf) – that has helpful information about starting the school year off right and re-establishing successful school-year habits.

And, be sure to follow us on Twitter [@BullRunES](https://twitter.com/BullRunES)!  We’ll be sharing updates and photos through social media – a great way to stay tuned to what’s happening at school every day!

Warm regards,

Patti Brown

**NEWS AND INFORMATION**

**Bell Schedule Change**

Our new school hours are 9:15AM – 4:00 PM.  School doors will open at 9:05 each morning; students must be in their classrooms by the 9:15 bell.  Dismissal begins at 4:00 PM.

We ask that whenever possible, please allow your child to ride the school bus.  This is the safest and most efficient method of transportation to and from school.

Because Bull Run ES is a fully bused school (no walkers), our dismissal procedures are quite unique.  We have more than 21 buses that serve our school! If you find the need to utilize our complimentary Kiss & Ride line, please do not block the left turn lane on Lee Highway (going west) while waiting to access the K&R line, as it prevents buses from entering our bus loop – delaying our bus dismissal and route schedule.  Instead, continue driving straight, go to the next intersection and make a U-turn – allowing you access to the K&R line from Rt. 29 going east (right-hand turn into our school lot).  This simple procedure will allow us to facilitate a smooth and timely dismissal for ALL of our students.  We do thank you for your cooperation and school community teamwork! And, remember, allowing your child to ride the school bus is the most desired method of school transportation.

**Back-to-School Night**

Our Back to School Night will be held on Thursday, September 24, from 6:30-8:00 PM.  This event is for parents only.  For your convenience, teachers will present two sessions to accommodate families with more than one Bull Run student.  To alleviate parking overflow, shuttle bus service will be available at Centreville Baptist Church, 15100 Lee Highway.  Please park in the lower parking lot of the church, and a Fairfax County School Bus will shuttle you to and from the school.  For safety reasons, and to avoid ticketing and/or towing, do not park along Route 29/Lee Highway.

**PTA General Meeting – Sept. 24th**

PTA will hold their first general meeting of the 2015-2016 school year on September 24, from 6:00-6:30 PM, immediately preceding Back to School Night.  This meeting is open to all and is an opportunity for you to meet our new PTA Board and to hear a short overview of upcoming events.  Shuttle bus service will begin at 5:45 PM for those who wish to attend.

**FCPS Budget for FY 2017**

Do have ideas about how to solve the major [budget](http://www.fcps.edu/news/fy2017/budget-tool.shtml) deficit expected in 2016-17?  FCPS is eager to hear from you.  Use the new [Budget Proposal Tool](https://budgettool.fcps.edu/)to give your recommendations.

**Strings Classes**

Students in grades 4-6 interested in playing a strings instrument this year will need to register online at <http://www.fcps.edu/BullRunES/> by Sunday, Sept. 13th.   Strings classes will begin the week of September 28th.  If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Ms. Solis at hssolis@fcps.edu .

**Adult English Lessons**

Classes will again be held this year at Bull Run ES for Adult learners of English as a second language.  The fall session will begin on Wednesday, September 30, and will be held each Wednesday evening through December 9.  The classes will meet in the Bull Run Theatre from 6:30-8:00 PM.  Please contact our parent liaisons for registration information:  Maria Lara (Spanish) and Sook Smith (Korean): 703-227-1447.

**Family Life Education (FLE)**

On June 25, 2015, the FCPS School Board voted to approve updates to the Family Life Education (FLE) program related to new state health standards and recommendations from the Family Life Education Curriculum Advisory Committee. These updates will not be implemented until the 2016-2017 school year. For school year 2015-2016, the Family Life Education program will remain unchanged from school year 2014-2015. Parents/guardians will continue to be able to opt their child out of any or all Family Life Education instruction. The family life education lessons for school year 2015-2016 will be available to view on FCPS 24-7 Learning (Blackboard) through Parent View beginning in September 2015. For more information, and to access program descriptions and opt-out forms, please visit the website at <http://www.fcps.edu/is/hpe/fle.shtml>.

**Advanced Academics Information**

Screening for Level 4 services occurs in the fall for students who are new to FCPS and in the spring for all other students. The referral deadline is October 9, 2015 for students who are new to FCPS and January 15, 2016 for spring screening.  Additional information is available in the Parent Information Packet, which can be found on the AAP website at [http://www.fcps.edu/is/aap.](http://www.fcps.edu/is/aap)

**FCPS Go-To Guide**

This FCPS Parent Handbook guide is now available online on the FCPS mobile app and at <http://www.fcps.edu/cco/pubs/handbook.pdf>.  The mobile app is free and available for download on Android devices, iPhones, and iPads, and in the iTunes or Google Play stores.

**Executive Functioning Parent Workshops**

***Mind in the Making – The Seven Essential Life Skills Every Child Needs***

Don't miss this introduction workshop! Mind in the Making workshops are a very different kind of learning experience! Learn the research behind the evidence-based seven essential life skills every child needs. All of these skills involve executive functions of the brain.

Friday, September 18, 2015

10:00 AM – 12:30 PM (lunch provided)

[Register online now!](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MITMKickoff)

***Mind in the Making – Focus and Self-Control***

At this workshop you will learn the research behind why**focus & self-control**is one of the *Seven Essential Life Skills Every Child Needs*. Learn strategies for improving this skill, the importance of it in children's lives and activities to promote the skill at home.

Friday, October 2, 2015

10:00 AM – 12:30 PM (lunch provided)

[Register online now!](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MITMFocusandSelfControlFriday%2C%20September%2018%2C%202015)

Dunn Loring Center for Parent Services

2334 Gallows Road

Entrance 1 – Room 105

Dunn Loring, VA 22027

**Community Flyer Distribution**

Non-profit organizations who wish to distribute program information may do so via our **September 29** Tuesday Folders.  Materials to be distributed must be pre-approved by Bull Run Administration no later than September 22.   Organizations will be responsible for collating and counting packets for individual classrooms.  Please call the main office for details.

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**September 24**

PTA General Meeting, Cafeteria, 6:00-6:30 PM

Back to School Night, 6:30-8:00 PM

**September 29**

Community flyer date for non-profit organizations

**September 30**

Adult English classes begin, BRES Theatre, 6:30-8:00 PM

If you have a question about these or any other events at Bull Run Elementary School, please check our [BRES website](http://www.fcps.edu/BullRunES/) or call the main office at 703-227-1400.

The Keep in Touch subscription service (KIT Plus) is a self-subscribing, self-updating, and self-unsubscribing service. To update your contact information and/or topic selections, or to unsubscribe, go to: <http://www.fcps.edu/kit/index.shtml#update> for instructions. Schools and offices cannot update or delete subscribers.

Parents of FCPS students may update contact information online through weCare@School <http://www.fcps.edu/news/wecare.shtml>, a feature of FCPS 24/7 Learning (Blackboard) or by contacting the student information officer at their child(ren)'s school to have the contact information updated in the student information system.

FCPS employees may update (KIT Basic) contact information through UConnect <http://www.fcps.edu/hr/technology/uconnect.shtml>.

If you are not a parent or guardian of a child who attends an FCPS school please reply to this message with the words “ERROR –NOT MY CHILD” in the subject line.