



November 30, 2018

Mark Your Calendars

Tuesday, December 4th - CGIS Fall Band Concert - 5th, 6th, and 7th Grade - The CGIS Fall Band Concert will start at 6:00 pm in the CGIS Gym. Please come and listen to the beautiful music.

Friday, December 7th - International Children's Day - CGIS will be celebrating International Children's Day from 8:30 to 9:30 am in the theater and the gym.

Please visit our CGIS website at www.maryville-schools.org/cgis to find information regarding all our activities, clubs, school calendar, classroom information, and more.

International Children's Day

On Friday, December 7th at 8:30 AM, a school-wide event called International Children's Day will be a day to celebrate and recognize all of the various cultures of the students at Coulter Grove. Our goal is to heighten awareness, understanding, and respect for the many cultures of our students. All grades will be participating in this event in a variety of ways- through music, folk dances, art work, and more. You can think of it like a school-wide family gathering. We look forward to celebrating you on International Children's Day on December 7th.

10 Tips for Parents to Help Stop Bullying

We are talking about how we can put a stop to bullying at school and in life with our students. We are including special intercom announcements and teachers are sharing mini lessons and just in time teaching moments. We want your help! It takes a community to build and spread kindness.

Bullying is serious. Your child needs your help to understand what bullying is, why it's wrong and what he or she can do about it. What you say and do makes a difference!

Bullying can cause lasting harm. Children who are bullied may experience fear, injury, humiliation, depression, isolation, and poor grades. Their confidence and relationships may be affected, even as adults. Some even attempt suicide.

Those who bully can get into serious trouble at school or with police. (Some actions may be criminal.) These children may also get hurt if victims strike back.

- Bystanders (children who see bullying happen) may feel unsafe and helpless.
- Bullying is everyone's problem.
- Bullying can and does happen in every grade.
- Both boys and girls bully. Girls often use more indirect forms of bullying, however.
- Bullying and the fear of it can make it hard for all children to focus on learning.
- Bullying isn't OK! Here are 10 ways to help as parents:

1. Stress respect.

Discuss why it's important to treat others how you would like to be treated, solve conflicts peacefully, not make fun of differences, consider how others feel (have empathy). It is important to set the example for your child. Treat everyone, including your child, with respect.

2. Explain bullying and why it's wrong.

Make it clear that bullying violates your rules and values. Review school policies together too. If you learn that your child is bullying, take it seriously. Bullying is deliberately doing something that hurts a person who is "weaker" (physically or socially), especially if it is repeated. It's wrong even if it seems like "fun". Examples include:

- Physical Acts- hitting, tripping, making someone drop their books, or taking or damaging their things
- Verbal Acts- Name calling, put downs or threats
- Indirect social or relational acts- Excluding people from the lunch table or spreading rumors

Discuss how cyberbullying is wrong too. Examples include sending mean messages (via texts, IMs, emails or social media) and putting embarrassing videos or photos online.

3. Prepare your child.

Discuss how to respond to bullying. For example:

- Avoid trouble, stick with friends.
- Ignore minor teasing.
- Try to stay calm and not cry.
- Be assertive. (See below)
- Use humor or do something friendly to defuse the situation.
- Don't reply to cyberbullies. But save messages or other evidence.
- Get away and tell a teacher if the situation is dangerous.
- Tell a parent or another trusted adult about the situation and report serious or ongoing problems.

Fighting back can lead to worse injury and trouble with the school or police.

4. Teach assertiveness.

Help your child practice expressing his or her opinions or needs in a firm, yet respectful, way. For example, if someone cuts in line, your child could firmly say, Excuse me, I was next. Being assertive earns more respect than being passive or aggressive. People often grow to fear or dislike someone who is aggressive.

5. Build social skills.

Poor social skills, low self-esteem and few friends can make a child an easy target. Help your child learn:

- That he or she is worthwhile and has the right to be treated with respect
 - How to control emotions and handle new situations, conflict and adversity
 - To try new things, make choices, and solve problems
 - How to make friends, introduce yourself, ask questions and do nice things for them.
- Encourage activities with other children who have similar interests.

6. Discuss responsibility.

Bullying often happens in front of other children. It thrives when bystanders do nothing. Your child could:

- Show disapproval. Tell the bully to stop, for example. At the very least, your child could not join in or laugh.
- Support the target. Ask if he or she is OK or befriend him or her.
- Get adult help.
- Report what happened immediately.

7. Recognize warning signs.

If you suspect your child is being bullied, ask gently, don't pressure. Possible signs may include:

- injuries that are hard to explain
- taking an unusual route to school feel sick before schools, avoiding school and/or a drop in grades
- asking for or taking money (other children may be stealing it)
- having few friends and/or not taking part in school activities

8. Stay calm and supportive.

Children often don't tell. They may feel ashamed or hopeless, or worry that telling will make things worse. Ask about your child's day each day. If you learn that your child was bullied:

- Control your anger. Confronting the other child or his/her parents can backfire.
- Be sensitive. Remember how complicated and upsetting social interactions can be at your child's age.
- Let your child know that you love him/her no matter what and that no one deserves to be bullied.
- Brainstorm options together. If your child doesn't want you to get involved, respect this, unless you believe your child is in danger.
- Talk to the school counselor or get other professional help if you're worried about how your child is coping.

9. Form a team with the school.

Your child will need the school staff's help with serious bullying problems. Be your child's advocate. Keep records of the incidents and school responses. Also, keep an open mind. Your child may not have shared the whole story or be aware of the school's actions. (For off-campus bullying or severe cases, you may need to work with police too.) If your child is bullying, work with the school to help your child learn positive behaviors.

10. Get involved.

Support school and community efforts to encourage caring and stop aggression. Volunteer! For example, more supervision means fewer chances for bullying.

To learn more, visit www.stopbullying.gov

Digital Citizenship Announcements Week: Information Literacy 11/30/18

Here are a few words of wisdom regarding digital citizenship. This week, we are focusing on Information Literacy. Did you know that advertising can negatively impact your information literacy skills? Ads use strategies that draw attention to their products and cause you to want the product. At Maryville City Schools, we recommend that each person: Evaluate an ad's intentions and marketing strategies before clicking it. Use the same evaluation process you use when you're accessing other information. Ads aren't necessarily bad, but it's good to use your information literacy skills before you click on one.

Parent Alerts for Low Grades

At this time, parents are already receiving alerts via email or a phone call for student attendance (daily) and lunch balances (Fridays) through our auto alert system. Starting this week, parents will also be receiving Low Grade Alerts, as needed. If your child's average in any class falls into the failing range or becomes an F, you will receive an email to notify you of this (Wednesdays). This should allow you to have a conversation with your student. Students may have opportunities for retakes to improve scores so have a conversation and expect them to share the info. If needed, contact the teacher for support.


Getting Grading Right

Have you noticed a drop in your student's academic grades for assessments? Teachers are adjusting grading practices to be more in line with state assessment cut scores. Students have opportunities for retakes and are adjusting to this adjusted grading scale. We know these adjustments will provide more accurate information to our learners. Support your students in adjusting by ramping up study time at home!

It's Not Too Late.....

FREE FLU SHOTS

For
All School Age Children



December 4th, 2018
Tuesday
4:30 pm to 6:30pm

Blount County Health Department
301 McGhee St, Maryville, TN 37801
(865) 983-4582

CGIS HAWK EYE

INFORMATION MEETING
Monday, December 10, 2018
5:30 pm - 6:00 pm

WHERE
CGIS Library

2025 Sevierville Rd., Maryville, TN

LEARN THE GOALS OF HAWK EYE • Understand School Safety • Discover New Mentoring Opportunities • Foster Arrival & Dismissal Safety • Nurture Lunchroom Culture • Aid Special Events

[HTTPS://CGIS.MARYVILLE-SCHOOLS.ORG/](https://cgis.maryville-schools.org/)
CONTACT: MS. LOWERY 865-982-6345
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**FATHERS,
GRANDFATHERS,
STEP-FATHERS,
&
FATHER FIGURES
(MOMS &
GRANDMOMS
TOO!)**

**VOLUNTEER TO
BE A CGIS
ROLE MODEL &
MENTOR**

Hawk Eye is a volunteer program designed to promote school safety, enrich school culture, and support students.

SPONSORS
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