

The Stokes Banner

September 30, 2016



Important Dates

October 5: Walk and Roll

October 5: PTA Meeting

October 7: First Friday Coffee/Parent Workshop

October 10: No School, Indigenous Peoples Day

October 17: Community Campaign Begins

October 27: Whole School Fall Outing

October 29: Taste of Stokes

November 2: PTA Meeting

November 4: First Friday/Parent Workshop

The Community Campaign

The Elsie Whitlow Stokes Community Campaign (formerly the Family Campaign) is coming **October 17-30**. The Community Campaign is one of two big school-wide fundraisers that Stokes School holds annually. This year the fundraiser will take place over the course of two weeks as we aim to raise \$30,000 for the school's Activities Fund. The fund helps to support special art, music, and wellness activities, as well as field trips like the Fall Outing, Hard Bargain Farm, the Virginia Beach trip, and the Study Tours to Martinique and Panama. \$30,000 is the difference between what these activities cost, and the money that the school is traditionally able to raise to pay for them. From October 17-30 we will come together as a community to help make up the difference. We ask that each family contribute \$100 to help us reach our goal. After your donation is made your family will be entered into a raffle for the remainder of the campaign for some very exciting prizes. Let's reach our goal as a community!

First Friday/Parent Workshop

Next Friday, October 7, join us for breakfast provided by the fifth grade parents beginning at 7:45 in the large conference room, followed by a parent workshop on achievement data in the library at 8:30.



Above: Ahminah (5F) shakes hands with Democratic House Whip Steny Hoyer. Photo credit: Ben Frey

Ahminah Visits Congress

Last Wednesday, Ahminah (5F), and her fourth grade teacher Mr. Frey had the privilege of sitting in the offices of several U.S. congressmen where they shared their experiences in national parks as part of the Every Kid in a Park Initiative. The initiative allows every fourth grade student in the United States to visit the national parks for free.

"It was really cool to know that our experiences with outdoor learning will be at the forefront of these lawmakers mind's when they make important decisions in the future," Mr. Frey said.

Ahminah enjoyed the day as well. "My favorite park was meeting the Democratic Whip (Steny Hoyer). He was really nice and funny," Ahminah said. "I wasn't nervous because the congressmen are just regular people."

Asado/Soccer Game

Thank you to everyone who made the Asado, and the French vs. Spanish Soccer Game a success! Congratulations to the French team for pulling off a 3-1 victory with a strong team effort. Following the game, the evening was filled with delicious food, singing, dancing, and arts and crafts. A very special thank you to Maryland State Delegate Ana Sol Gutierrez, who spoke beautifully about her experience as a Latina politician, and to musician Lilo Gonzalez, who had everyone singing and dancing with his music. Thank you to all who participated!