



MONTGOMERY COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Marc Elrich
County Executive

Scott Goldstein
Fire Chief

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Members of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service visited your child's class today. Several important topics were covered including when to call 911, the importance of smoke alarms and practicing home fire drills. As part of this lesson, we are asking your help to reinforce the lessons presented. Please ask your child about today's presentation ~ this serves as important reinforcement of the information they received.

Here is a list of things you can do to help ensure your child is "Fire Safe:"

- Practice memorizing your home address and telephone number.
- Review how and when to call 911, as well as when not to.
- Review rules for matches and lighters. Children should never handle matches or lighters and should be taught to leave them where they find them and get an adult to pick them up.
- Review and practice a fire escape plan, having 2 ways out of every room and establish a family meeting place outside.
- Test your smoke alarms with your child present so they will know the sound.
- Ensure your house number is clearly visible from the street.

Finally, practice a "Home Fire Drill." Here's how:

- Have your child/children lie on their bed and pretend to be asleep.
- Press the test button on your smoke alarm to simulate an emergency.
- Have your child roll out of bed, crawl to their bedroom door and test it with the back of their hand to be sure it is not hot before opening it.
- Open the door, crawl out of the house and go to your meeting place.
- Make this a fun activity and your child will remember how to react to an actual emergency.

Preparation and education are key elements to preventing fire tragedies. Should you have any questions, please call us at 240-777-2463 or visit our website at www.mcfrs.org/mcsafe. Thank you for partnering with the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service and practicing safety every day.

Sincerely,

Scott Goldstein
Fire Chief

Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service

100 Edison Park Drive, 2nd Floor · Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878 · 240-777-2400

Serving with dedication, courage and compassion