



November 15, 2018

Dear Parents,

This year **Calcott** Elementary has an exciting opportunity to participate in the Operation Smile Shamrock Final Mile. This program is an extension of the Shamrock Marathon held annually in March. The goal of the final mile program is to have elementary students complete their own marathon, 26.2 miles, by running one mile at a time. Our students who wish to join the Running Club will run 25.2 miles immediately after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays over the next 4 months. On race day, **March 16, 2019**, the students have the opportunity to run the final mile of their marathon at the Virginia Beach Oceanfront with 5,000 other elementary students. It is truly an awesome experience for the students.

The Operation Smile Shamrock Final Mile gives students an exciting goal to work towards in addition to the benefits of a healthier lifestyle. Seeing the students accomplish their goal of running or walking a marathon is truly amazing. In addition, our students have an opportunity to help other children around the world through Operation Smile. This worldwide children's medical charity is headquartered right here in Hampton Roads. Operation Smile has provided free surgeries to over 100,000 children worldwide born with cleft lips and cleft palates since 1982.

In order to participate in the Operation Smile Shamrock Final Mile students must register for the race. **You can register your child for the race online at any time at www.shamrockmarathon.com.** The Operation Smile Shamrock Final Mile coordinator then contacts me to let me know your child has been registered. The registration fee is \$20.00 through January 14, 2019 and \$25.00 January 15, 2019 through race week. Students **MUST** be registered before they can stay to participate in the after school Running Club. All participants receive a race T-shirt, goody bag, surprise gift, special medal, and certificate upon completion of the race. Participants also receive coupon incentives beginning in January from various local restaurants, museums, etc.

I hope you consider this wonderful opportunity to have your child participate in a great event. If you have any questions regarding the event, please contact the Operation Smile Shamrock Final Mile coordinator, Lori Cooper, at (757) 412-1056 or lori@jandaracing.com.

Sincerely,

E. Burns, Physical Education Teacher