



MURRAY HILL

Middle School

Celebrating 20 Years of Excellence

Week of February 6, 2017

RESPECTFUL

RESPONSIBLE

READY



MHMS Community

8th Grade News

Reservoir High School New Student and Family Orientation

New Date for Reservoir High School New Student and Family Orientation is Wednesday, February 8th at 7:00 p.m. Pizza and salad will be served from 6:20 p.m. – 6:50 p.m.

Memory Book Seeks Student Artists

The Memory Book team is hosting a Cover Contest. We want to tap into the creative talent that a lot of our students have, but who aren't necessarily part of the Memory Book team. Students were informed this week about the contest (through their math classes). Students are encouraged to create a front cover and a back cover with lots of color! Flyers were handed out to interested students that have all the specifics about what should be included and the necessary margins. Ms. Behrens has extra flyers or if your student needs more information.

All covers must be submitted to Ms. Behrens by February 10, but students can definitely submit their designs early. Once all the submissions have been collected, students will vote on their favorite cover. The winning cover will receive a free Memory Book!!

MAP REPORTS will go home with students on Friday, February 10, 2017.

Dates to Remember:

February 7, 9 and 13-15 – ACCESS Testing for ELL Students

February 9 – Science Fair – 6:00 p.m.

February 9 – 13 – PTA Valentine's Day Shop

February 16 – Parent Advisory Committee Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – Media Center

February 17 – AFI Silver Theater Field Trip – 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

February 20 – Presidents' Day – All Schools and Offices Closed

February 21 – Professional Learning Day – No School for Students

Parent Advisory Committee

Greetings! We want to thank many of you for your commitment to the Murray Hill's Parent Advisory Committee. Our first meeting in January was a success and yielded a plethora of comments and suggestions geared toward improving the MHMS community. As a result of your feedback, a survey has been created to help prioritize recommendations the committee will focus on in the upcoming months. Please use the attached link to complete the survey prior to our next meeting scheduled for **Thursday, February 16th at 7pm in the Media Center**. Please prepare to discuss survey results and identify next steps necessary to continue the work of improving our school community. We look forward to seeing you in February. Survey link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScdySv2UKBWqJ9wCz_monp0xed8PPrqOVm4u6y1IGK2-j3yuw/viewform?c=0&w=1

Honor Roll Recognition

We are very proud of our Murray Hill Scholars! 2nd Quarter Honor Roll students will be recognized with individual certificates, a bumper sticker for you, and congratulatory remarks from Mr. Allan Kittleman, County Executive for Howard County, on **Friday, February 17th** during 7th period. Parents and Guardians are invited to join us for the group picture during the following times:

6th grade – 2:25 to 2:35 PM

7th grade – 2:40 to 2:50 PM

8th grade – 2:55 to 3:05 PM

From the Health Room

“Those who can, do. Those who can do more, volunteer.” ~Unknown

Parent volunteers are needed to assist with Hearing and Vision screening at Murray Hill on March 15, 2017. If you are available or have questions, please contact the health room at 410-880-5897.

Attention 6th grade parents:

1 dose of Tdap vaccine and 1 dose of Meningococcal vaccine is required by the State of Maryland for **all students prior to entering 7th grade**. Many students may have received these immunizations. The Health Room needs the **updated** immunization record. Please contact your child's doctor and send/fax in an **updated** copy of your child's immunizations to the Health Room. Our fax # is 301-317-5048. If you have further questions, please call MHMS at 410-880-5897 and ask for the Health Room.

Also, please note that in accordance with HCPSS policy, students are not allowed to have medications on their person unless they have a doctor's order specifying that they can self-carry. Also students who have the proper orders should make sure medications are labeled and kept secure.

MHMS February Students of the Month

Congratulations to the following students for receiving Student of the Month for February: Solomon King (6th Grade), Kate Brown (7th Grade), Maggie Madden (8th Grade), and Jumobi Adedapo (Related Arts).

Congratulations to the following students for receiving the Respectful, Responsible, Ready award for February: Aidan Shaheen (6th Grade), Riley Galotta (7th Grade), Colin Zorij (8th Grade), and Sammar Jaffery (Related Arts).

These students have been nominated by their teachers for displaying the appropriate behaviors and work ethic both in and out of the classroom.

Teaching the Whole Child - Asset of the Week:

One of the many wonderful things about being a middle school educator is observing how much our students grow during their 3 years with us. This growth is not just physical or in the critical academic arena, but also in their equally important social/emotional domains. In an effort to support the social/emotional growth of our students this year, Murray Hill will be leading our students through an introduction to the Search Institute's 40 Developmental Assets. This week's asset is "school engagement". Each week, 1 asset will be highlighted with MHTV segments, associated quotes, and posters displayed throughout the building. We hope you will reinforce these assets at home with your children and support their individual development with positive praise and recognition.

Want to know more about the 40 Developmental Assets and ideas for helping young people build them? Visit <http://www.search-institute.org/assets>.

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions please don't hesitate to reach out to Mr. Wilson.

Music News and Notes

You have supported your student, come help us support all of our talented students and directors!!!!

"Bye Bye Birdie" Drama Production

These talented students have been and continue to work so hard to make this production the best! We hope to see you during these fabulous performances on February 24th & 25th!

Save these dates:

Friday, March 17th - Family Gift Card Bingo

Come have dinner and play to win wonderful gift cards from our local business community! Volunteers are needed to help with this extremely fun event! Last year we had over \$1,300 in prizes!

Saturday, May 6th

Bands - Music In The Parks Competition at Hershey Park

Last year, our students won so many awards. We are looking to meet or exceed last year!

Volunteers are always needed to make MHMS Music the BEST! If you are able to help in any way (a little time or a donation), please let your Director know so that we may add you to our email list or go to our website at <http://mhmsmb.weebly.com/> and sign up!!!

PTA News

TONIGHT, Friday, February 3rd is our Afro Jazz event at 6:30pm in the gym at Murray Hill. It's a free event! Bring a pair of your most comfortable shoes, your water and perhaps a towel and learn some Afro Jazz Dance, no experience is necessary. This is a family event so make sure you bring your whole family, kids of all ages are welcome and so are Dads! Complimentary Honest Tea will be served!

Upcoming PTA Events

- 2/3 TONIGHT! Family Fun Fitness Friday - Afro Jazz
- 2/9-2/13 Valentine's Day Shop (school day event)
- 2/16 Sweet Frog Yogurt
- 2/20 Pottery Painting
- 2/27 PTA Meeting
- 3/9 Staff Appreciation Dinner

Valentine's Day Shop

It's almost that time of year ~ Valentine's Day! Your PTA will be celebrating Valentine's Day by setting up a booth during lunch periods as an opportunity for your children to shop for their loved ones, whether it's a gift for Mom, Dad, sister, brother, Grandma, Grandpa, Auntie, cousin, friend or teacher. There will be something for everyone! This event will take place on **Thursday, February 9th to Friday, February 10th**, and will run again on **Monday, February 13th**. Your child may choose to participate and purchase an item to take home with them or to give it to a friend or teacher at school. We will also have an opportunity for parents to assist during the Valentine's Day sale. Please check out this SignUp Genius: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090a48ada92bab9-theptas>

Pottery Painting

Join us for a family fun event at Burning Down The House (BDTH) and paint a piece of pottery on **Monday, February 20th between 12pm and 7pm**. BDTH is offering a 20% discount per piece to our Murray Hill families! All you need to do is mention that you are there to support MHMS PTA. So, on your day off school, bring your kids and your friends for a "play date" to BDTH and paint a piece of pottery. You may bring your own food and beverage as well. BDTH is located at 11821 Scaggsville Road in Fulton.

PTA Meeting

Join us at our next PTA meeting on **2/27/2017 at 6:30 pm** in the media center! Come out and see what your PTA has planned for you this school year!

Staff Appreciation Dinner

Thursday, March 9th, your PTA will be feeding your teachers and staff during conferences. If you're interested in helping out, please send an email to mahaptamhms@gmail.com to be added to our distribution list. A SignUp Genius will be shared in the next week or so. Stay on the lookout!

PTA Membership

If you're not a PTA member, it's not too late! You can still join your PTA. It's only \$15 per individual or \$20 per family. Membership forms can be found on our website at http://media.wix.com/ugd/ed7733_186e5364d7f145279ef0ff62a62d972d.pdf or at the table in the lobby of Murray Hill. Complete the form and send it in with your child to give to their 1st period teacher.

Box Tops

NEW DEADLINE – February 24th!!! Continue clipping your Box Tops! We are collecting Box Tops again! Check your Kleenex boxes, cereal boxes, Land O Lakes butter, etc. for the box top symbol and clip it out and send it in with your child; make sure you include their name and homeroom teacher's name on the envelope/baggie. Your child will give the envelope to his/her teacher. All box tops must be turned in no later than Friday, February 24th!

Facebook

If you'd like to stay in "the know," find us and "Like Us" on Facebook (Murray Hill Middle School PTA) to stay up to date with our most current events and happenings during the school year! Our website will also have up to date information as well: <http://mhmsptawebmaster.wixsite.com/mountainlion>



Look at These Smiling Faces!

These kids are happy because they just checked out a library media book! Would you like to see these happy faces in person? You can!

WE NEED YOU for just 30 min!

We need volunteers (parents, grandparents, grown up kids living at home) to help in our Library Media Center for **just a half hour a day (or week!)** during **6th grade recess (11:15-11:45)** and **7th Grade Recess (12:00-12:30)** to check out books. Ms. Jones is there for 8th grade recess. We already have 2 wonderful parent volunteers for 2 days (shout out to Mrs. Bailey & Mrs. Smith-Bacon!), but we could use more help – your help!

Email Gwyneth_Jones@hcpss.org to claim a day & get more information!

Let's keep these cute kiddos smiling & READING!



Thankyou!

HCPSS News

Public Hearing on School Start and Dismissal Time Report Tuesday, February 7, 7 p.m., Department of Education

The public is invited to provide the Howard County Board of Education with input on the School Start and Dismissal Time Report during a [public hearing](#).

Weather Information Notifications

In times of emergencies or [school closings](#), information will be shared with the community through the school system [homepage](#), [HCPSS News](#) and text message alerts, the HCPSS Information Hotline (410-313-6666), [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and via HCPSS cable TV (Comcast 95/Verizon 42).

Announcements of Upcoming Community Events

Please visit the Community News and Programs page on the HCPSS website (<http://www.hcpss.org/community-news-and-programs/>) for announcements of upcoming events and programs sponsored by non-profit organizations.

The Council of Elders Community Academy

The Council of Elders Community Academy will host a session on Healthy Relationships and Dating Dangers on Saturday, February 25, 2017 from 9:00 – 11:15 a.m. at Oakland Mills Middle School. This session is open to parents and students of all levels. Peer interactions and dating can impact students' lives. Representatives from HopeWorks, a Howard County Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Center, will share characteristics of healthy, unhealthy and abusive relationships involving children. Separate sessions for all student levels will be held. Please register at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdgBC8MAPauht0RpXDNBUZjLYVgtvx0SZATMygZNqM2t_yEeQ/viewform?c=0&w=1

River Hill GSA to Hold County Gathering

Alisha Tronetti, President of the Gender Spectrum Allegiance (or Gay-Straight Alliance) at River Hill High School, invites all Middle School and High School students to a gathering in the River Hill Cafeteria from 5pm to 10pm on February 4th, 2017 to raise awareness of the LGBTQ+ presence within our county as well as provide a place for all schools to be one, together and make new friends. Admission will be \$3 and there will be monitored drinks and food there for all. The River Hill H.S. sponsoring teacher is Richard McCready and his email is richard_mccready@hcpss.org.

Howard County Association of Student Councils (HCASC)

- All Middle and High School students interested in
- Learning about Leadership and Service Opportunities
 - Sharing the Student Voice on HCPSS Policy and Community Issues
 - Gaining Leadership Skills
 - Practicing Community Service
 - Working with student leaders from across HCPSS

Please attend Howard County Association of Student Councils (HCASC) meetings. Next Meeting **Wednesday 2/8 7-8:30** at the Homewood Cafeteria 10914 MD 108 Columbia, 21042.

Come join your fellow student leaders and work together to make Many Students One Voice.

For more information please contact cindy_drummond@hcpss.org or visit

<http://hcasc.hcpss.org/>

Community News (These programs are neither sponsored nor endorsed by HCPSS)

The Faith Community Partnership Presents Soup'R Sundae: SAVE THE DATE

This is a "soup'r" event and it benefits Grassroots! Grassroots supports many of our own Murray Hill families. Please add Soup'r Sundae to your calendar! Share this event within your circles of influence. In addition to ticket sales, we are always looking for sponsorships! Information for volunteers will be sent out in a few weeks. Attached is flier and sponsorship information.

Soup'r Sundae & Silent Auction

Sunday, April 2, 2017

Noon - 3:00 pm

Wilde Lake High School

Howard County Adolescent Mental Health Symposium Call-to-Action Master Plan Released

In September 2016, the Howard County Health Department and partner agencies held an Adolescent Mental Health Symposium to devise an action plan to prevent and treat mental health and substance misuse among Howard County adolescents. For more information and to read the full report, visit the Howard County School Health Council webpage at

<http://www.howardcountyschoolhealthcouncil.com/events.html>