



PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I'm pleased to share that we have had a phenomenal first month of school! Your children have come to school motivated, prepared, positive, and are working very hard. We are taking the time this school year to emphasize the responsibility of each student to be a good school citizen. Being the friendliest school in the country isn't easy. We are asking each student to make a contribution to their school each day and to actively participate in creating a positive school culture. Some of the behaviors we are expecting from our students each day are to be kind and friendly to each other, to be respectful, and work hard for their teachers. We are pleased that our students are stepping-up and responding to the challenge!

We are still looking to balance the size of some of our classes. We want every student to be in the optimal learning environment. Where we can, we are trying to lower the number of students in larger classes and place them in classes with fewer students. We will work on leveling class sizes through next week.

We have a lot of fun and exciting activities planned for October. Please take a moment to look through the newsletter for important dates and information.

Thanks as always for sending us such wonderful young people to work with.

Have a great weekend!

Sincerely,
Dave Strothers, Principal

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

October 2019

10/7-10/8: MAP Testing

10/7: ELMS Night at the Library

10/9: Schools and Office Closed

10/10: PTA Meeting at 7pm—Media Ctr.

10/14-10/17: MAP Makeups

10/18: Schools Closed for Students

10/21: PTA Fund-raiser at Tinos (Columbia)

10/23-10/25: Grade 6 Outdoor Ed Trip

10/29: Flu Clinic (registered students only)



October 4, 2019

Important Information/Tips

- ⇒ **MAP Testing Week:** Math MAP testing will take place on 10/7 & 10/8. Algebra 1 and Geometry classes will not be testing. Language Arts MAP Testing will take place on 10/11 & 10/11. Grade 8 ELA GT will not be testing. Makeup testing will be done on 10/14 to 10/17.
- ⇒ **Night at the Library 2019-2020:** ELMS is partnering with the Elkridge Library again this year! If you need any research help or writing help, then please come to library night on Monday, 10/7 from 3:30-5pm. Ms. Bosilovich, Ms. Holy-Ilanda, and Ms. Bradcovich will be there! ***Please note there is no transportation provided. Students will need to find their own transportation.***
- ⇒ **Student Absences:** To report student absences, please call **410-313-5043** (voicemail is available). You may also report absences online at <http://elmsstudentservices.weebly.com/report-an-absence.html>. In addition to your call or email, please send a note to Student Services with your child on the day of their return stating the reason for the absence.
- ⇒ **6th grade Outdoor Education** is October 23th, 24th, and 25th. It's an overnight adventure and an event both students and staff are very excited about. We hope all of our sixth grade students are able to attend.
- ⇒ **Family File:** Remember to keep your child's Family File updated throughout the school year!
- ⇒ **Community News:** Please visit the Community News and Programs page: <http://www.hcpss.org/community-news-and-programs/> on the HCPSS website for announcements of upcoming events and programs sponsored by non-profit organizations.
- ⇒ **Planning to chaperone or volunteer in the school?** According to HCPSS Board Policy, all parent volunteers must complete a confidentiality training course about protecting the privacy of our students, staff, and schools. Please complete this course before chaperoning or volunteering and print out the certificate to bring to school. The course takes about 5 minutes to complete. <https://www.hcpss.org/parents/volunteer-information/>

A large, stylized, pink cursive word "Bravo!" with a thick exclamation mark, set against a background of horizontal light blue brushstrokes.

Congratulations to our Students & Staff

Members for the Month of September!!!

Students of the Month

Zoey Manack
Sage McClarty
Avery Lockwood
Ben Raver
Jake Langrill
Mathew Piper Bennett
Ava Buckhalt
Jeremiah Braimoh
Chloe Chen

Teachers of the Month

Chelsea Bradcovich
Adam Herod
Stacey Belsky

Specialists & Support Staff

Pattie Holy Ilenda
Melissa Cheadle
Cindy Lazzari

~ HC/HCPSS News & Updates ~

HC DrugFree Updates: Free Parenting Classes for Parents/Guardians of 9-14 Year Olds: HC DrugFree and the Howard County State's Attorney's Office will once again provide the evidence-based series Guiding Good Choices for parents to gain skills and knowledge to reduce the risk that their children will use drugs. This 4-week series will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, October 22, 29 and November 5, 12 at Wilde Lake Middle School in Columbia. Parents are expected to attend all 4 sessions. To register, go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GGCOct2019> or see flyer on the next page. Free workbook included. If you have questions, email Joan Webb Scornaienchi, HC DrugFree's Executive Director at Admin@hcdrugfree.org or call 443-325-0040.

Community Service Hours: All students (elementary through college) can receive community service hours for volunteering during any HC DrugFree event. For information, please email Admin@hcdrugfree.org or call 443-325-0040.

Drive-thru EpiPen, Medication and More Collection: Howard County's next convenient drive-thru collection for over-the-counter and prescription medication and "sharps" (needles, syringes and EpiPens) will be held on Saturday, October 26 between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. in the Wilde Lake Village Center parking lot near the Swim Center and The UPS Store. HC DrugFree and the Howard County Police urge you to clean out your medicine cabinets. Teams, clubs, students, PTAs/PTSAs, families, scouts, etc. are welcome to volunteer at the event and receive community service hours. Please visit HC DrugFree's website at www.hcdrugfree.org and go to the Events/Drug Take Back Day page for more information about medication disposal, or let us know you plan to volunteer by emailing, Admin@hcdrugfree.org or calling 443-325-0040.

RISE Program: To ensure quality programming, it's been decided to postpone the launch of the RISE (Recreational-Inspired Sports for Everyone) pilot co-ed after-school sports program until February 2020.

HCPSS is implementing RISE in partnership with the Horizon Foundation and Howard County Recreation and Parks (HCRP). If you signed up, HCRP will issue refunds as appropriate. Thank you for your patience as we work toward launching RISE, a program that supports healthy lifestyle habits as students enjoy team play and exercises led by certified coaches.



Guiding Good Choices®

Sessions:

How to Prevent Drug Use in Your Family

How to Develop Healthy Beliefs and Clear Standards

Avoiding Trouble: How to Say No to Drugs

Managing Conflict: How to Control and Express Your Anger Constructively

Involving Everyone: How to Strengthen Family Bonds

This 4 week program is FREE, but you must register.

This program is offered by the Howard County State's Attorney's Office and HC DrugFree in partnership with the Howard County Health Department.

Guiding Good Choices® is an evidence-based, interactive prevention program that provides the families of children age 9-14 with the skills and knowledge to reduce the risk that their children will use drugs.

The program is for parents. Children age 9-14 are invited to attend the third session with their parents.

After completing the program, families will be able to:

Influence their children to help prevent drug use and other risky behaviors.

Develop clear family guidelines and expectations about drug use.

Teach children how to stay out of trouble, keep their friends and still have a good time.

Dates: Tuesdays, October 22, 29 and November 5, 12, 2019

Time: 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Wilde Lake Middle School, 10481 Cross Fox Lane, Columbia 21044

To register, click link below

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GGCOct2019>

For more information, contact Joan Webb Scornaienchi, Executive Director, HC DrugFree at 443-325-0040 or Admin@hcdrugfree.org.

HCDrugFree
Empowering the Community

ELMS BULLY PREVENTION WEEK

October 28 – October 31

Date	Objective I will...	Spirit Day
Monday, 10/28	participate in the blue pinky promise to stand up to bullying	Paint your pinky blue during lunch
Tuesday, 10/29	understand how to handle bullies	Wear blue (national bully prevention color)
Wednesday, 10/30	be an upstander and think before you post.	Funky feet day "stand" up to bullying by wearing funky socks and/or shoes
Thursday, 10/31	mix it up at lunch	Wacky tacky day!