

MANOR WOODS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

11575 Frederick Road, Ellicott City, MD 21042

Week of December 12, 2016

CALENDAR

December 16	PTA Spirit Day – Crazy Hat or Crazy Hair Day
December 21	Interim Progress Reports issued
December 24 - Jan 1	Winter Break
January 2	School Back in Session
January 6	MRHS Cluster Chorus Concert
January 6	PTA Spirit Day – School Colors (maroon and teal)

SCHOOL NEWS

(new or updated items in blue)

MANOR WOODS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NAMED 2016–2017 MARYLAND BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) named Manor Woods Elementary School a 2016–2017 Maryland Blue Ribbon School on Monday, December 5th. Manor Woods Elementary School is one of only six Maryland public schools out of 1424 public schools in the state to receive the State's Blue Ribbon award this year.

New Blue Ribbon Schools were recognized on the basis of rigorous state and national requirements for high achievement and significant improvement developed by MSDE and the U.S. Department of Education. All of the six schools scored in the top 15 percent of schools on state tests. The awarded schools are high achievers in reading and mathematics, and economically disadvantaged schools exceeding norms and dramatically closing achievement gaps of their students in reading and mathematics.

Maryland Blue Ribbon Schools go on to compete for National Blue Ribbon Awards, which will be announced by the U.S. Department of Education next September. As part of the award, each school will receive a Maryland Blue Ribbon Flag, a monetary prize, interactive technology equipment, \$1,000 of office supplies, and a school congratulations party. The Maryland House of Delegates and the Senate will honor each Blue Ribbon School at an awards dinner in Annapolis on March 13, 2017.

**Congratulations to the entire Manor Woods' community.
This recognition is the result of many years of combined efforts from the staff and community.**

SOMIRAC'S 2016-2017 YOUNG AUTHOR'S WRITING CONTESTS: Students in grades 2 through 5 can participate in the Young Author's Writing Contest. Students can write a poem and/or short story. Students interested in the Writing Contest can get the guidelines and cover sheet from their classroom teacher (also at end of newsletter). Entries are due by Friday, Dec. 23, 2016. Students can give their entry and cover sheet to their homeroom teacher. If you have any questions please email Natalie_Miskimins@hcpss.org.

TREX RECYCLING PROGRAM AT MWES : **So far in the month of December we have collected 46 pounds of plastic!** Manor Woods is participating in the Trex Recycling Program. Please send in clean, dry, empty plastic bags, film packaging or wrap. The plastic can be placed in specially marked boxes at MWES. The plastic that is collected will be weighed weekly, and the data is sent to Trex. MWES is in competition with other schools in the region, and can win a bench made from Trex decking material. The plastic collection program runs through April. Instead of recycling your bread bags, plastic overwrap or bubble wrap at your local store, please send it to MWES to help us win the competition and win at saving space in our landfills. The plastic will be made into Trex decking supplies. If you are willing to help with this project by picking up the plastic weekly at MWES and delivering it to Safeway, Food Lion or Giant, please contact Mrs. Sorkin at alison_sorkin@hcpss.org.

SCHOOL NEWS

FROM THE HEALTH ROOM: It's that time of the year again to watch for signs and symptoms of Head Lice (Pediculosis Capitis). Head lice symptoms include scratching and complaining of an itchy scalp/head. Lice are spread by direct head to head contact with an infested person and by contact with contaminated articles such as brushes, clothing, bedding, hair bows, etc. Over the counter treatments are available in most pharmacies. Please contact your child's physician with any questions or concerns.

JOIN THE FIFTH GRADE CHORUS AT THE MRHS CLUSTER CHORUS CONCERT: The Manor Woods Fifth Grade Chorus will perform in the *Seventh Annual Marriotts Ridge Cluster Chorus Concert* on Friday, January 6 at 7:00 p.m. in the MRHS auditorium. We will perform with choruses from Waverly ES, West Friendship ES, Burleigh Manor MS, Mt. View MS and Marriotts Ridge HS. It will be a grand night for choral music! Come cheer us on!

FOOD PANTRY FRIDAYS: Thank you to all those who've donated non-perishable food for our Food Pantry Fridays initiative. 5th grade Student Leaders have packed 20 boxes of food for Howard County residents in need. It's not too late to donate! We'll continue collecting non-perishable food throughout the school year. Students can drop off donations in the shopping cart in the front lobby. Thank you again for your generous support.

CRAYOLA COLORCYCLE: As part of our Green School Program, Manor Woods is participating in the Crayola Colorcycle program again this school year. Students can drop off their old, dried up markers in the yellow boxes located in each grade level pod. The markers will be repurposed by Crayola. For more info. visit <http://www.crayola.com/colorcycle.aspx>.

PTA NEWS

Please see the PTA website at www.mwespta.org for the following, plus more news and details!

BJ'S QUARTERLY DISCOUNTS FOR RENEWING OR APPLYING: Renew or sign up through the PTA and you will get a DISCOUNT – \$15 off the \$50 annual membership fee or \$25 off the \$100 Rewards membership fee, PLUS 1 additional month FREE! Applications are available on the PTA web site, www.mwespta.org. December deadline is December 16th. (Send check and application to school by Monday 12/19). Future offers are scheduled for Mar. 1 - 17 and May 1-19.

POSSIBLE CHANGE TO START AND DISMISSAL TIMES FOR THE 2017-18 SCHOOL YEAR! Please complete the online survey and attend a community forum! Short online feedback form available on www.HCPSS.org through December 14. Community forum: Wed., December 14, Reservoir High School, 11550 Scaggsville Rd, Fulton 7–9 p.m., Community forum: Wed., December 21, Hammond High School, 8800 Guilford Rd, Columbia 7–9 p.m., For more information, including details on the proposed models, a comparison chart, and a link to the full report, go to the HCPSS website, www.HCPSS.org.

NEXT PTA MEETING will be held on Monday December 12th at 7 pm. Please join us to speak with Councilmen Fox and Weinstein to discuss our overcrowding issues.

BOARD OF ED MEETING at the BOE on December 15th. Policy 6010 (redistricting) will be discussed. Please come out and express your concerns.

CAC REP NEEDED: If you are interested in attending CAC meetings please contact Aggie Wojdon at mwesptapres@gmail.com.

LOOKING FOR A MASON OR HANDYMAN who may be interested in helping with a PTA fundraiser. If interested, please contact Aggie Wojdon at mwesptapres@gmail.com.

HOMEWORK PASSES: Reminder all homework passes expire on December 31st. Don't forget to use your child's pass before it expires.

SCHOOL SPIRIT DAY : December 16th – crazy hat or crazy hair day!

COMMUNITY NEWS

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

MRHS MUSIC FOUNDATION LAST CITRUS SALE: The MRHS Music Foundation will be offering their citrus fruit sale. Orders are online only this year with payment through PayPal and all major credit cards at mrhsfruit.com. Sale ends Sat. 12/17 Delivery Sat. 1/21* (*Tentative). Please email mrhsfruit@gmail.com with any questions. Thank you for your support!!

MRHS THE MUSIC MAN AUDITIONS: Marriotts Ridge High School seeks middle and elementary aged children to audition for their production of Meredith Wilson's **THE MUSIC MAN**. There are a variety of roles available to students in grades 4-8 attending those schools in the MRHS Cluster (MWES, WES, WFES, MVMS, BMMS). For information <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4bada62fa6fe3-themusic1>.

ANNOUNCING



SoMIRAC's 2016 – 2017 Young Authors' Contest Grades 2 – 5

Who: Students in Grades 2 – 5

What: Write a poem or short story!

- ✎ Entries must be **original work**.
- ✎ All entries must use no smaller than **12 point** font in **Times New Roman** or **Comic Sans**.
- ✎ Be sure to save your file. Winners will be asked to email their entry to the chairperson.
- ✎ Short story entry may range from a minimum of 300 words to no more than 800 words.
- ✎ Poem entry will consist of a single poem, any style from a minimum of 25 words to no more than 150 words.
- ✎ Entries must **not** include graphics.
- ✎ Each entry must include a completed cover sheet signed by the student author, parent, and sponsoring teacher.

*For additional details and guideline, contact your local reading council
Young Authors' Contest Chairperson, Maria Moy maria_moy@hcpss.org*

Entries due: Friday, Dec. 23, 2016



YOUNG AUTHORS' CONTEST SoMIRAC 2016-2017

COVER SHEET

Please type or print very neatly--information is needed for publication and certificates

Student/Author's Name:	Student's name <i>as it should appear in the publication</i>
Student/Author's Home Address:	<i>(Street, city, state. zip)</i>
Student/Author's Home Phone:	
Email Address:	
School Name/ Address: <i>(Full Address with zip code)</i>	Manor Woods Elementary School 11575 Frederick Road Ellicott City, MD 21042
Grade:	Grade: _____
Teacher: First/Last Name	Mr., Mrs., Ms. _____ <i>(circle or choose one/delete one) Full Name Please</i>
Teacher Email: ** Must be included	
Local Reading Council:	Howard County Reading Council
Title of Entry:	Title: <i>Circle or choose one/delete one:</i> POEM SHORT STORY

Permission for Publication

I, _____, give permission for SoMIRAC
Print first and last name
 representatives to reproduce my child's work in an anthology of writing, in the event he/she becomes a state winner.

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Teacher Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Attach a signed copy of this Cover Sheet to the poem/short story that you are submitting.



Recycle your Clean, Dry, Empty Plastic Bags and Film Packaging!

AT MANOR WOODS ELEMENTARY!

Plastics to Collect:

- LDPE / HDPE Films
- Newspaper Sleeves
- Bread Bags
- Product Wrap
- Cereal Liners
- Food Storage Bags
- Ice Bags
- Pellet Bags
- Produce Bags
- Dry Cleaning Bags
- Grocery Bags
- Case Overwrap
- Packaging Air Pillows
- Salt Bags



Look for bins and signage
AT MANOR WOODS ELEMENTARY!

Your plastic bags and wraps
then become Earth-friendly
composite decking & railing!

