

# MWES News - Week of 1/31/2022

**January 25th-February 18th** - MWES Kindness Challenge

**January 31st** - Report cards issued in Synergy after 5 pm - A reference sheet has been developed to support families in [understanding the Elementary School Report Card](#).

**January 31st** - Hearing and Vision Screening (makeup)

**February 1st** - Professional Learning Day - Schools Closed for Students

**February 3rd** - School Spelling Bee (Virtual invite to participants' parents)

**February 4th** - Back-up date Spelling Bee (Virtual)

**February 8th - 22nd** - Rising 6th Grade MS Fine Arts Course Selection Window

**February 10th-11th** - 3-Hour Early Dismissal for students (dismiss at 12:15 pm)  
Parent/Teacher Math Conferences

**February 16th** - 3-Hour Early Dismissal for students (dismiss at 12:15 pm)

**February 18th** - Famous Person Day (dress up as a famous artist, scientist, author, athlete, musician, you choose!)

**February 21st** - Presidents' Day - Schools and Offices Closed

## A Note From Mrs. DeBord and Mrs. Zinn

Dear Parents,

As we move into the month of February, we wanted to share that the children will be celebrating Valentine's Day with their classmates. Classroom activities will occur on Monday, February 14th, with crafts and games. We will not be having snacks at this party; however, the children will be exchanging Valentine Cards!!!

Thank you!

Mrs. DeBord and Mrs. Zinn

## A Special Video Announcement From Mrs. DeBord

[Click Here](#)

## From Our School Counselors

### MWES Kindness Challenge 2022

In recognition of *The Great Kindness Challenge* and *Random Acts of Kindness Week*, Manor Woods will combine these initiatives to celebrate **The Manor Woods Kindness Challenge** January 25 - February 18. Students and staff will use this [28 Day Kindness Challenge Calendar](#) to spread daily acts of kindness at school, home and in the community. We encourage families to participate in the Kindness Challenge as well. "Sometimes it takes only one act of kindness and caring to change a person's life." ~ Jackie Chan

We have such an amazingly generous community!

**Food Drive Update:** Many thanks to everyone in our community who donated nonperishable items during our November food drive to support the *Howard County Food Bank*. We collected **500 lbs.** of food to help others in need! We're so grateful for your kindness and generosity. Visit [The Community Action Council of Howard County](#) for more info. about how to support community members in need.

Ms. Heinlein (grades 1, 2, 4 & 5) and Mrs. Salapata (grades K & 3) are here to support our students. If we can be of assistance to you or your child, please contact [monica\\_heinlein@hcpss.org](mailto:monica_heinlein@hcpss.org) or [christina\\_salapata@hcpss.org](mailto:christina_salapata@hcpss.org).

## **New Information**

### **Council of Elders**

Each school year, The Howard County Council of Elders holds The Celebration of Academic Achievement honors which highlights students who are in grades 4 – 9 and have achieved the following levels of academic success during last year's academic school year as 3rd through 8th graders:

Grades 4 – 6: students earned As or Bs in all areas of mathematics AND Language Arts in all 4 quarters and did not receive any Ds or Es in any of the following subjects – language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, health education for all 4 quarters.

The following Manor Woods students were recognized on January 20th in a virtual celebration by the Howard County Council of Elders:

*Opemipo Awolowo*

*Antwan Johnson*

*Amaar Mohammed*

*Aiden Okomo*

*Jaden Vernet*

### **FIFTH GRADE PARENTS: Mark Your Calendars!**

#### **Please Read the Attached Letters for Instructions to Register for Fine Arts Courses**

This letter will help guide you and your child through the selection process for their 6th grade fine arts course. We encourage you and your child to have a conversation and

make selections based on strengths and interests to ensure a successful transition to 6th grade. **Registration for these courses will be available online during the window of February 8th - 22nd.**

[BMMS Course Letter Information](#)

[MVMS Course Letter Information](#)

## Accessing Quarter 2 Report Cards

Report cards will be accessible via HCPSS Connect Synergy after 5 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 31. Parents/guardians may access them following the [instructions for accessing report cards online](#). [Answers to frequently asked questions on grades and testing](#) can be found online.

## News From Our Music Department

We are so proud to announce the following students auditioned and were accepted into the Howard County GT Band:

*Edward Yang in 4<sup>th</sup> grade and Dinuga Herath in 5<sup>th</sup> grade.*

## News From Our DEI Committee

### Lunar New Year begins February 1st.

These lovely slides were made by ESOL teacher, Mrs. Unjung Shin, and Counselors, Ms. Monica Heinlein, and Mrs. Christina Salapata! Wait until you see the contributions in the slides from our MWES families! Thank you to our staff, and our families who shared their time to create this beautiful slide show!

[Click Here for Slide Show](#)

## **Black History Month Virtual Art Show**

[Click Here for Flier](#)

## **PTA News**

### **Thank You For Your Support**

Thank you Manor Woods' families for participating in Restaurant Night around the world. Last night's stop was at Zen Garden. If you had an opportunity to participate, I know there were long wait times for pick up and dine in. I would like to apologize for that! I think they underestimated how we would show up and support our school! We even had Xin Li try to step in and assist. I too, waited a long time, so I know and understand the frustration. However, I am so proud that we handled it with a pleasant response. The children that were there enjoyed fellowshiping with one another, and they loved seeing their teachers and Mrs. DeBord and Mrs. Zinn. Going forward, for our next restaurant night, we will inform the restaurant how well Manor Woods participates so that they can be prepared for our arrival. Thank you again for your continued support, and we hope to see you at our next stop on Manny's cuisines around the world!

Sincerely,

Marva Booth

PTA President

### **DUCK DASH - Corporate Sponsors Needed**

The much anticipated Duck Dash is ON!!! The big day is scheduled for **April 22, 2022**.

The Duck Dash is a fundraiser that culminates with the kids participating in a team building obstacle course "fun run" in April. This is an engaging event that promotes fitness, character building, and school pride for our students. The kids love the event,

and the fundraising aspect helps the PTA to provide technology in the classroom, Brainpop access, Cultural Events and other school and PTA activities.

Yes, this is still MONTHS away, but we need your help! If you, or someone you know, has a business and would like to partner with us for this event, please let us know!! The Corporate Sponsorship Form can be accessed [here](#)

More information will be coming later on [individual fundraising](#), and [volunteer sign ups](#).

## **LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION with the Panda**

Shhh! A group of Chinese parents have planned to surprise our Children with panda characters greeting them at the front door one day in February. Ask your children if they have noticed any Lunar New Year decorations set up by our Korean and Chinese parent groups. If you have an idea to share and celebrate your culture with our school, please contact Xin at the PTA Cultural Committee. [xin.louise.li@gmail.com](mailto:xin.louise.li@gmail.com)

## **PTA MEETING - February 15th**

Our next PTA meeting will be held virtually via Zoom on Tuesday, February 15th at 6:30PM. PTA meetings are a great opportunity to hear directly from administration, ask questions and hear more about what's coming up here at Manor Woods. We hope to see you there!

## **Important Reminders From Past Newsletters**

**Repeated Information** [Click Here](#)

## **Weather Guidelines**

[Click Here](#)

## School Wide Reading Challenge

**The reading challenge began on January 14th and continues to Monday, Feb. 14th, which is currently the 100th Day of School.** (We will adjust the date if there are any days off due to the weather). Students will be given a 100 Book Challenge document. Each time they read a book, the student can color in a book on the paper. ***Please note: For students in grades 3-5, 25 pages = 1 book since upper grade level books are more complex.*** Once the student reaches 100 books (or 2500 pages for intermediate students), they will turn in their paper to the classroom teacher. The student will earn a special “I read 100 books” challenge bookmark to keep and decorate. Then, the student will be entered into a special drawing that will be announced on the 100th Day of School. The winners of the drawing will get a special afterschool virtual reading with Mrs. Debord and Mrs. Zinn at a time agreed upon by the winner and admin. Happy Reading!

[100 Book Challenge Document](#)

## Conference Registration Begins Friday, January 28th! Firm Sign-up Deadline is February 4th!

**Preparing for a Parent-Teacher Conference:** The HCPSS Family Engagement Committee has developed a [Parent-Teacher Conference Tip Sheet](#). Please share with families in preparation for February conferences.

Please join your child's **math Teacher** for Parent-Teacher Conferences. Online conference registration **begins on Friday, January 28th, and will go through Friday, February 4th. No conferences will be scheduled after February 4th.** Directions on how to schedule a conference with your student(s) Math teacher are [attached](#). **5th Grade GT Math** conferences are available at this time as well (**4th grade GT math conferences were held in the Fall and will not be held at this time**).

All conferences will be held via Google Meet on February 10th -11th. If you find it necessary to meet face to face with your child's teacher, please email them directly. (HCPSS vaccination protocols must be followed. Any vaccine/testing verifications process in place at that time will apply to in-person conferences.)

**Below is a summary of the attached directions:**

- Login into [HCPSS Connect \(Parent Account\)](#) Go to the **navigation pane (left side)**, **Select Conference**, then **Select Parent Scheduled Conferences (upper right-hand corner)**.
- You should be able to see all your students in the top, left corner of the screen.
- Conferences will be 15 minutes in length (30 minutes for ELL only). Please keep this in mind when selecting a slot for additional children. It is best not to select back-to-back time slots due to the virtual setting.

Once you have completed your conference registration(s), you can see the schedule in your **parent connect access account** by selecting **More Options, Conference Scheduling, View My Conference Schedule in the navigation pane (left side)**.

## Upcoming Spirit Days

Before winter break, intermediate students were surveyed about their **spirit day preferences** and student leaders reviewed the responses.

Based on popular vote, student leaders identified the spirit days listed below.

**Feb. 18** Famous Person Day (dress up as a famous artist, scientist, author, athlete, musician, you choose!)

**Mar. 18** Career Day (wear an outfit that matches a career you might like)



**Apr. 22** Wacky Hair Day

**May 27** Dress Up Day

**June 10** Hat Day

## **News From the Health Room**

### **Updated Quarantine Isolation Procedures**

[Click Here](#)

### **Vaccine Information For Children**

Swansfield Elementary School, Pfizer (5-11) first dose  
**Wednesday, Feb. 2, 2022, 4-6 p.m.** 5610 Cedar Lane, Columbia — vaccine [Schedule an appointment](#)  
in partnership with Soleil Pharmacy [and complete the online consent form \(Feb. 2\)](#)

[Click Here](#)

[\*\*Letter From Health Officer Dr. Maura Rossman, County Executive Dr. Calvin Ball, and HCPSS Superintendent Dr. Michael Martirano about COVID-19 vaccination for children ages 5-11\*\*](#)

Thank you parents for keeping your children home when they are experiencing various illnesses. If you are unsure, please do not hesitate to contact the health room, either calling 410-313-8326 or email school nurse at [laura\\_ruiz@hcpss.org](mailto:laura_ruiz@hcpss.org). If you want to test your child, please don't go to the ER unless their child is having difficulty breathing.

[mobile covid testing sites](#)

## Community News

### Sensory-Friendly Sundays @ Robinson Nature Center

Join Robinson Nature Center, Therapeutic Recreation, and Park Ranger staff in enjoying outdoor, self-paced activities designed for families with kids, teens, and adults with sensory-processing differences, autism spectrum disorder, or developmental disabilities. Activities include sensory bins and pathways, scavenger hunts, and crafts or games. The center opens early, allowing visitors to enjoy a calm environment. Sensory alert maps, quiet areas, and sensory backpacks, which include headphones and various fidgets, are available. Be sure to preregister to receive additional information prior to the event. Please see the [Sensory-Friendly Sundays flyer](#) for further information.

- Time:
  - 11am - 12:30pm
  - *General operating hours begin at noon and guests of this program are welcome to stay after 12:30pm.*
- Cost:
  - \$5, adult; \$3, child;
  - *Free, members & children under 3 yrs*
- Programs:
  - Spring in Here - March 27
  - Natural Art - May 29
  - River Romp - July 24
  - Fantastic Fall - September 11
  - Nature's Harvest - November 13

### Greetings from the Maryland Council on Economic Education!

**POSTER CONTEST: "A PICTURE IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS"**

**Elementary and Middle School Teachers!**

Have your students design a poster (8 ½ x 11 inches) depicting one of the ten economics and/or personal finance concepts in the MCEE Poster Contest. Additional information and registration materials are available in the [Poster Brochure](#)

**All entries must be sent to:**

**Maryland Council on Economic Education**

**8000 York Road**

**Towson, MD 21252**

**postmarked on or before MARCH 1, 2022**

## **Howard County Conservancy Summer Camp**

[Click Here for Flier](#)

## **Stay up-to-date on vaccine clinics, Covid testing and more**

[Link to the Howard County Health Department](#)

In response to community requests for resources, HCPSS' new [Community News and Programs](#) website makes it easy for families to find educational and recreational resources, events and after-school programs beyond the school day by non-profit organizations.”

Community organizations requesting their announcements be shared in school newsletters should visit [community-programs.hcpss.org](http://community-programs.hcpss.org) for more information. Questions should be directed to the Public Information Office at [publicinfo@hcpss.org](mailto:publicinfo@hcpss.org).

