

MWES News - Week of 11/16/2020

Important Dates

Friday, November 13th - Reflections Entries Due

Monday, November 16th - Qtr. 1 Report Cards Issued (info. below)

Monday, November 23rd - Tuesday, November 24th - 3-Hour Early Dismissal/Parent-Teacher Conferences

Wednesday, November 25th - Friday, November 27th - Schools Closed

Absence Email Reminder

Dear Manor Woods Parents,

Please do not send your child's absent note through Canvas. All absent notes must be emailed to MWESabsence@hcpss.org and **include student name, date of the absence and the reason for the absence.** If this information is not included, the note will not be accepted. This email goes directly to our Attendance Secretary. You may cc: your child's teacher in the same email.

Thank you in advance for adhering to our absence reporting procedures.

A Note From Our Administrators

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Last week, you received an email with information about Google Play Parent Opt In for educational apps that will be used in your child's classes during virtual learning. We want to provide some additional information to help clarify the importance of these

instructional apps. There are a variety of apps that teachers can use to enhance their lessons during virtual learning. The HCPSS Google Play Store will provide students with access to a limited number of apps such as BookRoom, which allows students to access and read various digital texts at their personalized reading level. Also included in the Play Store are app versions for web-based applications we currently use such as Jamboard and Google Earth. These app versions provide additional features and tools to enhance the user experience. HCPSS Google Play Store apps connect to a wide variety of curriculum units and are vetted by curricular program staff.

During Instructional Technology lessons, several of our computational thinking units may include the use of coding apps such as Scratch, Scratch Jr. and BlueBot. These apps allow students to engage in hands-on learning involving coding and programming. In some instances, they provide virtual robot environments for students to manipulate and explore. If you choose to opt out, your child will not be able to use these educational apps in that lesson. Instead, your child will engage in an alternate activity that provides them the opportunity to practice coding in a non-interactive environment.

Keep in mind that students will be limited to only these specific apps that are vetted and connected to curriculum units and at this time parents are unable to opt into individual apps.

If you have not done so, please take time to follow the directions here to

[Opt In Google Apps directions page](#) to access HCPSS Connect and give consent to opt in, thereby giving your child permission to access these educational apps.

Please know that these apps have been chosen and approved because they follow all data privacy policies. Unfortunately, these educational apps are only available for download through the Google Play Store. We have created a HCPSS Google Play store to provide approved educational apps to enhance our students' virtual learning experience.

Thank you for your time on this important matter.

Please use this link to Opt-in:

https://hcpss.instructure.com/courses/77796/pages/chromebook-google-play-store?module_item_id=5460800

Sincerely,

Carol DeBord, Principal

Jennifer Zinn, Assistant Principal

News from Ms. Heinlein, School Counselor

Hello, Manor Woods families! I'm happy to begin offering weekly grade level lunch bunches for all students in grades K-5. Lunch bunches will begin next week, Nov. 16- Nov. 20.

The drop-in lunch bunches are an opportunity for our students to socialize with peers, make new friends and have fun together. **Please note: there will be no lunch bunches scheduled during conference week, Nov. 23 - 27.** Lunch bunches will resume the week of Nov. 30.

Lunch Bunch Schedule & Codes:

Kindergarten: Tuesdays 11:30am Google meet nickname: mwes-heinlein-lb-K

First Grade: Mondays 11:15am Google meet nickname: mwes-heinlein-lb-1

Second Grade: Tuesdays 12:00pm Google meet nickname: mwes-heinlein-lb-2

Third Grade: Mondays 12:00pm Google meet nickname: mwes-heinlein-lb-3

Fourth Grade: Thursdays 11:30 Google meet nickname: mwes-heinlein-lb-4

Fifth Grade: Wednesdays 1:00pm Google meet nickname: mwes-heinlein-lb-5

Parent Resource: The Howard County Health Department's Bureau of Behavioral Health is available to support families in need of community resources such as crisis response, mental health, substance abuse, insurance services and more. Click [here](#) for more information & to contact a Behavioral Health Navigator who will help link clients to community services and resources.

New Information

Canvas HELP!!

Parents/Guardians: (adults only)

Is Canvas making you crazy?

Are you feeling lost when helping your children navigate Canvas?

Would you like a quick tutorial?

We're here for you.

Join Manor Woods staff for a brief overview of Canvas

When: December 2, 2020

Time: 7:00-7:30pm

2 Simultaneous sessions (one for primary grades (K-2) one for intermediate grades (3-5))

Codes will be forthcoming!

First Quarter Report Cards

The 2020-2021 quarter one report cards will be available online via Synergy beginning at 4 p.m. on Monday November 16. Printed report cards will not be issued.

[Learn how to access](#)

Access MAP Scores

Detailed fall reports are now available in PDF form in Synergy. Parents can follow the directions here <https://help.hcpss.org/grades-testing/fall-2020-MAP-scores> to download and access their child's report.

CogAT Information

The Office of Assessment and Reporting shared that HCPSS will not deliver the CogAT for grades 3 and 5 this December. As plans are finalized for the second semester, HCPSS will explore options for administration and we will share updates with you.

Parent-Teacher Conference Registration Begins Today!

Parent-Teacher Conference online registration will begin at **6 am on Friday, November 13th through 11:59 pm on Thursday, November 19th**. Directions on how to schedule a conference with your student(s) Language Arts teacher are [attached](#). 4th Grade GT Math conferences are available at this time as well. All conferences will be held via Google Meet on November 23rd - November 25th.

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 of 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 by selecting **More Options, Conference Scheduling, View My Conference Schedule in the navigation pane (left side)**.

Thanksgiving Break Meal Service Adjustments

To ensure children have access to essential nutrition over the holiday period, families may pick up meals in advance to cover the holiday break. Pre-ordering will not be available for meals picked up on Monday, November 23 or 30. [See all service and schedule adjustments.](#)

Important Reminders From Past Newsletters

[click here](#)

AN ART CONTEST – CALLING HOWARD COUNTY RESIDENTS OF ALL AGES AND ABILITIES!

2020 marks the 30th Anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), a civil rights law prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability. The Howard County Department of Community Resources and Services and the Howard County Commission on Disabilities invite you to mark this milestone anniversary by entering the ADA30 Art Contest. The Contest is free and open to all Howard County

residents. Contestants are invited to enter up to two (2) works of art (digital submissions only). Prizes will be awarded in each category: 1st Place Prize \$200, 2nd Place Prize \$100. Deadline for submissions is November 30, 2020. Winners will be announced on December 18, 2020. Visit the web page at www.howardcountymd.gov/CDI for full rules and instructions.

Young Authors' Contest

The Howard County Literacy Association invites students in grades 1-5 to submit their original poems and/or short stories to the annual writing contest called The Young Authors' Contest. Please see the attached [YAC Flyer](#) Announcing Contest for information about the rules and guidelines. All entries must have a completed [coversheet](#) sent as a PDF. Submissions may be emailed to Mrs. Moy maria_moy@hcpss.org by December 2, 2020. Contact Mrs. Moy with any questions.

Young Authors' Contest information can be found on the [HCLA website](#). Howard County Literacy Association welcomes parents as members. Visit the [HCLA Welcome Page](#) for information about joining.

After School Activities



Virtual Family Code Nights

[Virtual Family Code Nights for Elementary Schools](#) are a great way to connect and collaborate through computer science! Schools can select a session between **October 19, 2020 and December 9, 2020** by signing up [here](#). This is a great way to engage students and their families in computer science--each K-5 child pairs up with a family member or guardian and they code together. No experience needed! It's great fun,

proven in thousands of schools nationwide, and now provided via a live stream to any school.

Schools select a date at CSisElementary.org and receive an invitation and link to distribute to families. That's it! Students, family members, and educators then join the live stream from home or school to enjoy a learning experience they'll love and value. A live prize drawing for a **Home Robotics Bundle from Wonder Workshop** will be featured at each National Family Code Night.

Maryland Arts Institute of Racial Justice

As institutions move toward Racial Equity, it is necessary to examine and reconcile the past, understand the present, and create change for the future. [The Maryland Arts Institute of Racial Justice](#) has two types of offerings to explore racial justice together as the Maryland Arts sector. Registration is FREE.

Lunchtime Book Club

Connect with members of Maryland's arts sector to build shared language and understandings about racial justice through guided discussions and sharing. This event occurs on select Tuesdays at noon.

For dates, times, and registration, visit the [book club registration page](#).

Community News

Reservoir High School's Young Activists Club Holiday Toy Drive

Drop-off bins are available at area high schools. Please click link for details.

[ToyDriveFinal](#)

Please visit the HCPSS website [Community News and Programs page](#) for upcoming events and programs sponsored by non-profit organizations.