A Note From Mrs. DeBord and Mrs. Zinn

Dear Manor Woods Parents,

Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans and a time for recognizing their central role in U.S. history. Also known as African American History Month, the event grew out of “Negro History Week,” the brainchild of noted historian Carter G. Woodson and other prominent African Americans. Since 1976, every U.S. president has officially designated the month of February as Black History Month. Other countries around the world, including Canada and the United Kingdom, also devote a month to celebrating black history.

We welcome Black History Month at Manor Woods and are proud to acknowledge the accomplishments of African American heroes, past and present. Our hallways have been decorated with trivia and posters of contributions African American heroes have made in the United States and Canada.

Please click on the link below to find Black History Month activities that are being held in Maryland. These events would provide many opportunities for understanding and growth for our students.

https://www.visitmaryland.org/list/black-history-month

Thank you,

Carol DeBord, Principal

Jennifer Zinn, Assistant Principal
7 - PTA Family Duck Disco 6:30 pm

11 - PTA Meeting 6:30 pm

13-14 - Parent Teacher Conferences - 3 Hour Early Dismissal for Students

17 - Schools and Offices Closed - President's Day

19 - PTA restaurant night @UNOs (Long Gate Location)

20 - 5th Grade Parent Puberty Education Meeting 6 pm

**MARCH**

6 - Quarter 3 interims sent home

9 - PTA Meeting 6:30 pm

9-13 - Kindergarten Registration Week (details coming soon)

16 - Change Matters Campaign

18-20 - 5th Grade Puberty Education

23-24; 26-27 - 5th Grade Puberty Education

20 - PTA Culture Night at MRHS

23 - MISA Testing for 5th Grade 11am-1pm

**MWES School-Wide Events Calendar**
If you would link to sync your phone to our website calendar, please click on the subscribe link on the MWES calendar page on our MWES website and follow the prompts.

**Screening for Students at Risk for Reading Difficulties**

In accordance with Maryland’s Ready to Read Act (2019), all HCPSS kindergarten students* will be administered a screener assessment that includes a battery of four one-minute reading measures (DIBELS 8th Edition) to examine their letter naming, decoding, and word reading skills. The assessments will occur throughout winter, 2020. Parents and guardians will be notified if assessment results indicate that your child would benefit from an intervention. Testing will be administered by our Reading Specialist, Natalie Miskimins natalie_miskimins@hcpss.org and our Reading Support Specialist, Elizabeth Shaffer elizabeth_shaffer@hcpss.org.

*This includes kindergarten students who do not have a current Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) with reading foundational skills goals.

**WINTER MAP TESTING SCHEDULE**

Winter MAP Testing Dates

**NEW SCHOOL NEWS**

The Kindness Pantry is a local initiative created to help fill the need for snacks and school supplies in Howard County Schools. It was started by a few Howard County parents to support children that are not able to bring a snack to school or cannot replenish their own school supplies. Please see the attached flyer. During the week of Feb. 10-14 Manor Woods will be collecting items for the Kindness Pantry. We will keep be keeping some
snacks/supplies for students at Manor Woods in need and any extra items will be donated to schools throughout the county. We appreciate your donations.

[kindesspantry.jpg]

**Just Read January Bookmark Contest Winners**

Thank you to our MWES students, families, and staff for making Just Read January such a special month for our school!! It has been so fun to celebrate reading!

We hope you have enjoyed all of the reading activities that were planned for this month. As a culmination of our JRJ, we’d like to announce the winners of the bookmark contest. The first place winner in each grade will have their bookmarks published and given to the students in their grade. Thanks!

K  
1-Betsy Jia  
2-Gwen Miller  
3-Ammna Adil

Grade 1  
1- Vihaan Thumbigere Math  
2- Nishat Khan  
3- Leen Matit

Grade 2  
1- Finley Ferguson  
2- Elena Shin  
3- Olivia Delossantos
Grade 3
1- Ayaana Palnecha
2- Sara Fannegra
3- Nathen Kim

Grade 4
1- Nathan Belschner
2- Olivia Maggio
3- Avika Agarwal

Grade 5
1- Mya Chen
2- Haritha Balasubramanian
3- Abigail Lyu

**National School Counseling Week 2020 (#NSCW2020) is Feb. 3–7, 2020**

The week, sponsored by the American School Counselor Association (ASCA), highlights the unique contribution of school counselors within U.S. school systems and the tremendous impact they can have in helping students achieve school success and plan for a career. Take a moment to thank your local school counselor(s). Follow #NSCW2020 on social media. To learn more about National School Counseling Week, visit [www.schoolcounselor.org/nscw](http://www.schoolcounselor.org/nscw).

**INFORMATION FROM PAST NEWSLETTERS**

**February Parent-Teacher Conferences**

Parent-Teacher conferences for elementary schools will take place on February 13th and 14th. Parents can schedule conferences through Connect Access Jan 30th – Feb 11th. Parents
can log into HCPSS Connect beginning Thursday, January 30th at 9:00 a.m. through Tuesday, February 11th at 3:30 pm. Parents will be able to view and select from the time slots provided. Due to the shortened window and fewer conference spots, those parents that feel comfortable with their child's performance in the area of math, their child's data, and report card information **DO NOT** need to schedule a conference during this conference window. GT conferences for all 5th grade GT students are also available. If you have any questions, please feel free to email Mrs. DeBord, Mrs. Zinn or your child's homeroom teacher. Please access the attached guide for step-by-step instructions to log in on 1/30/2020.


**Trex Recycling Challenge**

Tired of throwing away all the soft plastic packaging and plastic bags in the trash because it can’t be recycled? Send that clean, dry plastic to school! MWES is participating in the Trex recycling program.

**READ MORE**

trexrecyclingposter

trexrecyclingchallenge

The plastic then needs to be taken to a collection site nearby - one of the grocery stores on the list. We need assistance from some parents or PTA members to help collect, weigh and transport the plastic. If you are available to help, please sign up through the link below.

**SignUpLink**

**Reporting Absences**
Please use the following link to report your child’s absence. Your child needs a note to return to school each time they are absent. Please be sure to state the reason for their absence. If a reason is not included, the absence will be recorded as unlawful. [MWESAbsences@hcpss.org](mailto:MWESAbsences@hcpss.org)

**INFORMATION FROM THE BOARD**

**Boundary Review Update:** Updates and information can be found at the [Boundary Review](#) page.

**Board Approves 2020–2021 Academic Calendar:** The [next school year](#) will begin on Tuesday, August 25, 2020, for students and on Monday, August 17, 2020, for school staff. Winter break will be December 24–January 1, with schools reopening on Monday, January 4, 2021. Spring Break will run from April 2–9, 2021. The last day of school is scheduled for June 10, 2021.

**COMMUNITY NEWS FROM OUR FEEDER SCHOOLS**

No news this week

**COMMUNITY NEWS AND PROGRAMS**

**Free Dental Exams February 17th, 2020**

The Dental Hygiene Center at Howard Community College is offering free pediatric exams and cleanings on Monday, February 17th. See attached flier for more information.

dentalhygieneflier
**HCPSS Educator Recognition Program**

The annual HCPSS Educator Recognition Program sponsored by the Gifted and Talented Advisory Committee (GTAC) celebrates educators who demonstrate exemplary commitment to the needs of advanced-level learners and/or the Howard County G/T Education Program. Now through February 14, families and students have the opportunity to recognize a G/T Resource Teacher, content or classroom teacher, or administrator who has enriched the educational experience of advanced-level learners. ALL educators for whom submissions are received will be recognized at the annual Educator Recognition Event to be held March 31 at 7 p.m. at Howard High School. All families and students who recognized an educator are invited to attend.

Submissions will be accepted via an online form, which includes a minimum 150-word description of the educator's contribution to the education of advanced-level learners. Information and submission instructions are available here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfdD2eoD_gIhO2625hBtCf-_Ykwj12-T62fMDrr6HLxy47Q9w/viewform by February 14th.

Find out what is going on within Howard County and surrounding areas. Notices are neither sponsored nor endorsed by the Howard County Public School System.

**READ MORE**

**Free Eye Exams and Glasses**

The Beyond 20/20 Maryland Optometric Association (MOA) outreach program will provide FREE Eye Exams and Glasses to participating Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) students in February and March.
Summer School Program Information

Each summer, HCPSS offers learning experiences and educational opportunities through a variety of programs and classes. Contact Information for Summer Institute is available through the following links.

Summer School Programs 2020

Summer School Preview 2020

Columbia Association Summer Camps

CLICK HERE FOR FLIER

AFTER SCHOOL CLASSES WITH HOWARD COUNTY RECREATION AND PARKS

For Complete information on these Before & After School classes, including how to Register, please go to www.howardcountymd.gov/afterschool

WinterClasses