

# MWES News - Week of 2/3/2020

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

Dear Manor Woods Parents,

Chinese New Year, also known as Lunar New Year because countries such as North and South Korea and Vietnam celebrate it as well, is China's most important festival. According to <https://chinesenewyear.net>, the Spring Festival, which follows the lunar calendar is technically 15 days, but celebrations begin on New Year's Eve (making it 16 days). This year's Chinese New Year 2020 fell on Saturday, January 25, 2020, beginning the year of the Rat.

We are very fortunate at Manor Woods to have such an engaged Chinese community. This year, parents decorated the school to share with the children the joy of the New Year. Our hallways were decorated, the staff was given special holiday food treats, and two pandas and the God of Wealth visited with the students to greet them when they arrived at school.

A special thank you goes out to our families that contributed to the festivities and decorated our building. We really enjoy learning about our students!!!

Gong Xi Fa Chai!! (Pronounced Gong Hay Fat Choy means congratulations and make a fortune.)

[READ MORE](#)

Thank you,

Carol DeBord, Principal

Jennifer Zinn, Assistant Principal

**FEBRUARY**

**3** - Quarter 2 report cards sent home

**3-28** - MAP testing 1st-5th grades (see table below)

**4** - Schools and Offices Closed - Delegate Election Day

**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

### **MWES School-Wide Events Calendar**

If you would like to 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](mailto:natalie_miskimins@hcpss.org) and our Reading Support Specialist, Elizabeth Shaffer [elizabeth\\_shaffer@hcpss.org](mailto: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**

### **Just Read January Wrap-Up**

Thank you to Mrs. Levy (ESOL Paraeducator) for reading aloud on Thursday, Jan. 23rd on the MWES PTA Facebook page. Here is the link to her read aloud.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/16yPjY3WiM4p5PmS85wITQKIzIocXFrn\\_/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/16yPjY3WiM4p5PmS85wITQKIzIocXFrn_/view?usp=sharing)

Thank you Mr. Weaver (3rd Grade Teacher) for reading aloud on Tuesday, Jan. 28th on the MWES PTA Facebook page. Here is the link to his read aloud.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1W2FzN-cFGe7HdgrewuXssOfpr6fW0wdf/view?usp=sharing>

A special thank you to the MWES Staff Members who performed a Reader's Theater on the MWES PTA Facebook page on Thursday, Jan. 30th. They performed Clever Jack Takes The Cake! Here is the link to the Reader's

Theater: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1EetvB6q1QafJhZjtQZhKY156xhdddVqV/view?usp=sharing>

Reader's Theater Cast:

Narrator # 1 and # 2 – Mrs. Tanis (3rd Grade Teacher) and Mrs. Mathews (Kindergarten Teacher)

Jack – Mrs. Moy (1st Grade Teacher)

Mother – Mrs. Rinaldi (Music Teacher)

Troll – Mrs. Zeitler (Strings Teacher)

Gypsy Woman – Ms. Holocker (Physical Education Teacher)

Bear – Mrs. Zinn (Vice Principal)

Guard – Mrs. Dorsey (1st Grade Teacher)

Princess – Mrs. DeBord (Principal)

Sound Effects Chorus – Mrs. Hornicek (3rd Grade Teacher)

Video – Mrs. Napolitano (Special Education Teacher)

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!

### **4th and 5th Grade MWES Spelling Bee**

Congratulations to our 1st Place winner Mahathi Vavilala in Mrs. Thomas' 5th Grade Class!!!! Our 2nd Place winner and Spelling Bee (alternate) is Connor Chen from Mrs. Wilson's 4th Grade Class!!! We are so proud of both of you! The Howard County Spelling Bee will take place on

Saturday, March 21, 2020 at 2:00 pm at Oakland Mills High School. Best of luck to Mahathi Vavilala!!

### **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**

#### **Congrats to Mrs. Peksa and Family**

We'd like to share with you that Mrs. Peksa will be going out on maternity leave beginning February 5, 2020. We wish Mrs. Peksa, her husband and daughter Emma, congratulations as they add a new little surprise to their family. Mrs. Ugiansky, a familiar substitute at Manor Woods, will be substituting for Mrs. Peksa during this time. Best of luck to the Peksa family.

#### **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. <https://www.hcpss.org/f/connect/synergy-parent-teacher-conference-registration.pdf> Here is an instructional video link: <https://youtu.be/QcMwkkIgkls>

## **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**

### **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\\_glhO2625hBtCf-Ykwj12-T62fMDrr6HLxy47Q9w/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfdD2eoD_glhO2625hBtCf-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.

[Beyond 2020 Flier](#)

[Beyond 2020 Flier2](#)

### **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](http://www.howardcountymd.gov/afterschool)

[WinterClasses](#)