

MWES News - Week of 12/7/2020

Important Dates

December 24-January 1st - Schools Closed for Winter Break (Virtual Learning Resumes on January 4th)

January 18 - MLK Birthday Observed (Schools and Offices Closed)

January 28 - Quarter 2 Ends

January 29 - Professional Work Day (Schools Closed for Students)

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.

News from Ms. Heinlein, School Counselor

Family Resiliency: How to Cope During Stressful Times

On Mon., Dec. 7, from 6:00-7:00pm, the National Family Resiliency Center (NFRC) is offering a FREE Zoom mental health wellness presentation. NFRC counselors will share information for parents, grandparents and caregivers on what you can do for yourself and your children to build your family's level of resilience and cope with the many stressors that these challenging times may be causing. Use this [link](#) to register and for more information.

Food Bank Donations

The Howard County Food Bank has seen a significant increase in demand for services this year. The HOCO Community Action Council is asking the community to help meet the increased need. To donate, navigate to their website [here](#), click the donate button, and complete the form. All donations are safe, secure, and most importantly go directly to those who need assistance during this critical time. Food donations can be dropped off in a collection bin at the Howard County Food Bank parking lot (located at 9385 Gerwig Lane Columbia, MD 21046). Thank you for considering this opportunity to help others in need.

Mayo Clinic Resource

[Stress, Depression and the Holidays Tips for Coping](#), is a great resource from the Mayo Clinic for helping families during the holidays and throughout the year.

New Information

Parent Academy

Thank you to all of the families who joined us for our first Manor Woods Elementary Parent Academy on Wednesday evening. If you were unable to attend, but would like to know what was discussed. The slides used may be viewed [here](#).

To continue to help you support your children with virtual learning, we are [providing the survey link](#) used at the end of Wednesday night's presentation. Please let us know what other questions or needs you may have about virtual learning. (If the needs are specific, we may be able to respond individually.) The common needs that arise will aid us in planning potential future Parent Academies. We are grateful for your feedback and partnership as we continue to

adapt and refine ourselves in this virtual learning world.

Important Reminders From Past Newsletters

[click here](#)

Experiencing Chrome Issues: Black Screen?; Not Seeing Presentations?; Can't Access Chat Room? Here are some things to try to fix the problem:

- **UNINSTALL CHROME EXTENSIONS**
- **CLEAR THE CACHE AND COOKIES BY DOING THE FOLLOWING:**
 1. Click on the 3 dot menu in the top right of Chrome
 2. Go down to 'More Tools' and over to 'Clear Browsing Data'
 3. This will open an advanced settings window.
 4. The students can clear cookies and cached images and files.

If that doesn't work, please reset and refresh computer by following the steps at this link https://hcpss.instructure.com/courses/77796/pages/chromebook-system-errors?module_item_id=3556756.

After School Activities

Kids on Campus Program

Howard Community College's well-known Kids on Campus program provides enrichment education for youth ages 8 to 17. Topics range from Art from Around the World, Roblox, Nature Explorers, World Languages, and SAT Prep. HCC Kids on Campus has something for every interest! Registration is now open for Winter and Spring courses, and several scholarships are available. For additional information, please click [here](#) and plan to attend the information session on Wednesday, December 9th at 6:30pm

(<https://hcpss.zoom.us/j/98975834650>).



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

Reservior High School's Young Activists Club Holiday Toy Drive

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

[Toy Drive Flyer](#)

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