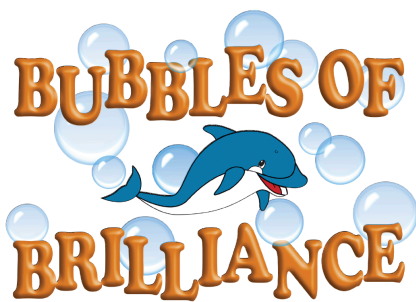


S E P T E M B E R 7 , 2 0 1 7

# The Wave

*The Dayton Oaks School community will provide a safe, nurturing environment that fosters individual potential through academic excellence, appreciation of diversity, and commitment to college and career readiness and life-long learning.*

*Every student is engaged and inspired in a rigorous and empowering environment, in order to develop a love of learning, discover strengths, and excel in all endeavors.*



## IMPORTANT DATES

### Friday, September 15

Ice Cream Social  
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

### Back-to-School Nights

#### Monday, September 18

6:00 p.m. – RECC & Kindergarten  
7:00 p.m. – Grades 1 & 2

#### Tuesday, September 19

5:30 p.m. – Band Meeting  
6:00 p.m. – Grade 3 & GT Math  
7:00 p.m. – Grades 4 & 5

### Thursday, September 21

Schools Closed – Rosh Hashanah

### Friday, September 22

Schools Closed – Professional  
Learning Day

## Message from the Main Deck

Dear Dayton Oaks families,

Welcome to another school year. It has been so wonderful to see students coming into school with such happy smiles on their faces. We are all excited for the year ahead. Our theme for this year is *Bubbles of Brilliance*, supporting our vision that each and every child possesses strengths and assets to bring to the classroom. Ms. Tracy and I hope we can help every child reach his/her potential. This newsletter will be distributed every two weeks this year and will be a useful source of important dates, tips, and other school information. We are pleased to add a new section to *The Wave* this year. *Counselor's Corner* is a place where our wonderful counselor will provide guidance and tips to support our families and students.

As students become acclimated to their new teachers and classmates, they will practice a variety of procedures (transitions, hallway, etc.) and review school-wide expectations (PBIS) necessary for a smooth year. Every child can reach his/her goals if we value school-wide expectations. These expectations can be found in the attached PBIS brochure. Please take a moment to review the information contained in this brochure with your child. As Ms. Tracy and I walk around the building, it is also evident that classroom activities are focused on promoting collaboration, teamwork, respect, and problem solving.

This year, we look forward to partnering with parents as we help Dayton Oaks reach our goals for students. Our teachers have been busy, preparing all summer for the start of the school year, and have been focused on building communities of learners in their classrooms. They can't do it alone, and when the school, parents, and PTA all work together, there is nothing we can't accomplish. Please consider how you might be able to support your school as well as joining the PTA. The PTA has been so supportive of Dayton Oaks!

Lastly, thank you so much for your collaboration, investment, and support of Dayton Oaks Elementary School. When we all work together in a positive and proactive manner we can accomplish much. I am reminded of this with a quote from Henry Ford: *Coming together is a beginning, keeping together is progress, and working together is success.*

Nigel La Roche  
Principal  
[nigel\\_laroch@hcpss.org](mailto:nigel_laroch@hcpss.org)

Heather Tracy  
Assistant Principal  
[heather\\_tracy@hcpss.org](mailto:heather_tracy@hcpss.org)

## Did You Update Your Family File?

It is imperative that each and every one of our families update/complete their Family File. Should an emergency arise with a student, we need to be able to contact a parent or an alternate emergency contact. To date, 82% of our families have updated their Family File.

Use HCPSS Connect to update your Family File. HCPSS Connect provides access to a variety of student information and classroom instructional tools offering personalized communication and timely, relevant and easily accessible information relating to your student. To access HCPSS Connect, go to [www.hcpss.org](http://www.hcpss.org). Log in to HCPSS Connect and select the Family File tab to update your child's emergency contact information. Adjusted contact information will automatically update your HCPSS News subscription. Please contact the front office at 410-313-1571 if you have any difficulty completing your student's emergency contact information.

## Music Notes

The Dayton Oaks 4th and 5th Grade Chorus is a singing group that is open to all 4th and 5th graders. No audition is necessary. Interested students should simply report to Ms. Hammer's music room on September 15th (5th graders) at 10:30 a.m. and September 19th (4th graders) at 9:10 a.m. There, the students will be given a Chorus Commitment Letter, stating they are promising to attend weekly rehearsals and stay in the chorus until our January concert. After the January concert, Chorus members may elect to stay in the group and begin working on new material for our spring concert, or may choose to not be in the chorus during the second semester. Questions may be directed to [patricia\\_hammer@hcpss.org](mailto:patricia_hammer@hcpss.org).

## Attendance Policy

Attendance is an important part of making sure students thrive in the learning environment. Students are permitted to enter the building when the first bell rings at 8:50 a.m., and should be in their classrooms no later than 9:00 a.m. Students who arrive after 9:00 a.m. must check into the front office to receive a pass. Please be aware that traffic does back up in the car loop lane, and we encourage students to ride their assigned buses to cut down on the amount of traffic in the car loop.

Students should also turn in early dismissal notes, absence notes, and discretionary absence forms to their homeroom teacher. Following any type of absence, please send a note in with your student within two days stating the nature of the absence so that it can be recorded as excused. If a note is not turned in, the absence will remain unexcused.

## Transportation Changes

Kindly remember to send a note into school with your child(ren) for any transportation changes. In order to avoid confusion and/or errors at dismissal time, the front office is no longer permitted to take transportation change requests over the phone. Also, due to liability and safety issues, children are NOT allowed to ride home on a bus that is not assigned to them through the HCPSS Pupil Transportation Office. Not only are our buses filled to capacity, but if there were to be a bus accident, we would not have accountability of your child. If you need to email the front office, please copy all secretaries:

[judith\\_sharp@hcpss.org](mailto:judith_sharp@hcpss.org)

[patti\\_waldman@hcpss.org](mailto:patti_waldman@hcpss.org)

[mary\\_lewis@hcpss.org](mailto:mary_lewis@hcpss.org)

## Counselor's Corner

Welcome to Dayton Oaks' **Counselor's Corner!** Does your child enjoy time with friends at school? Does your child reach out to others to include them at recess? Is your child shy and in need of help initiating friendships? Is your child new to the school and wanting to get to know others? Starting next week and continuing throughout September, your child will learn about an exciting new addition to our playground called the BUDDY BENCH! Students in grades 1-5 will learn the buddy bench rules when I visit each classroom for their monthly guidance lesson. Keep your eye on this "corner" of *The Wave* for updates about guidance activities and parent tips to help get you through the school year.

Your child's Thursday folder was sent home today. Please review for important academic information and general school notes and return on/before Monday. Thank you.

**Dayton Oaks Elementary School \* 4691 Ten Oaks Road, Dayton, MD 21036 \* 410-313-1571**  
**School Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. \* Office Hours: 8:15 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.**

For more school information, please visit our website at: <http://does.hcpss.org> and our PTA's website at <http://www.daytonoakspta.org/>

Follow Dayton Oaks on twitter @hcpss\_does

Please visit the Community News and Programs page (<http://www.hcpss.org/community-news-and-programs/>) on the HCPSS website for announcements of upcoming events and programs sponsored by non-profit organizations.