

WAVE NEWSLETTER

April 18, 2024

Important Dates:

April 22 ~ Earth Day

April 23 ~ Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast, 9 - 10 am

April 25 ~ Take Your Child to Work Day

April 27 ~ Culture Festival, 2 - 4:30 pm

May 1 ~ Fourth Grade Field Trip to JA Biztown

May 2 ~ Belonging Night, 6 - 8 pm

May 3 ~ Kindergarten Field Trip to The Maryland Zoo

May 9 ~ Student Showcase; 6:30 - 8:00 pm

On Deck with your Administrators

Dear Dayton Oaks Families:

We are beginning the process of determining student homeroom placements for the 2024-2025 school year. While we seek to maximize student learning opportunities, we also strive to be responsive and child-centered based on the social emotional needs of our students. As partners in your child's education, we would like to provide you with the opportunity to share information that you would like to be considered as teachers determine academic placements for next year. Please click on the following link to provide input for your student(s): [DOES Parent Consideration Form \(SY 24-25\)](#).

When determining student placements, the staff and administration consider several factors to help develop heterogeneous classes that result in groupings that are academically, socially, culturally, and gender balanced. Some of these criteria include, but are not limited to:

- the personality of the child
- the gender balance in each classroom
- math strengths and needs
- written output
- test results
- reading strengths and needs
- special education requirements; IEP goals
- structured versus unstructured needs
- information from previous teachers and school counselor

There are certain concerns that we cannot consider as part of this Consideration Form, therefore, we ask that you not use this form to propose the following:

- specific teacher requests
- grouping based on siblings' experience
- grouping based on friends
- grouping based on hearsay

Your input on this form will be used in our planning for your child rather than a letter requesting a specific teacher. Your response is OPTIONAL but is a very valuable source of information to the school staff and to the next teacher.

All consideration forms are due by **Friday, May 10, 2024**.. Thank you for your continued support and input.

Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast

The week of April 21 - 27, 2024, has been designated as Partnerships in Education and Volunteers Week in the Howard County Public School System. This week is an opportunity to express appreciation to our volunteers and partners for their outstanding contributions of time and talent.

Dayton Oaks would Be "MUFFIN" Without our Volunteers!" We would like to celebrate our fabulous volunteers by hosting a Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast on Tuesday, April 23, 2024, 9:00-10:00 a.m. Please use the following form to [RSVP](#) if you plan on attending.

We look forward to acknowledging the wonderful contributions our volunteers make to DOES each and every day!

Take Your Child to Work Day - Thursday, April 25, 2024

Take Your Daughters/Sons to Work Day is a public education program sponsored by the Ms. Foundation for Women, which was launched in 1992. **This year, Take Your Daughters/Sons to Work Day will be held on Thursday, April 25, 2024.** The Howard County Public School System supports this program, which encourages students to go to work with an adult mentor. It is a great opportunity for students to investigate future careers!

If your student is going to participate in this program, in order for their absence to be excused, please complete and submit the form below by Wednesday, 4/24/24.

[Take Your Child to Work Day Survey \(April 25, 2024\)](#)

Please contact Dayton Elementary School at 410-313-8066 if you have any additional questions.

DOES Belonging Night

The DOES Belonging Group is excited to announce the **first** Belonging Night, being held at Dayton Oaks Elementary School on **Thursday, May 2nd from 6:00-8:00pm!** This is an evening of fun games and activities where families are encouraged to mix and mingle while getting to know each other! Please join us for this meaningful event!

To help the group prepare for the event, please submit your RSVP by Monday, April 29th! [You can find the RSVP Google Form here \(linked\).](#)

To build excitement for this event, we will be having a Belonging Spirit Week. Please see the details below:

- **Monday, April 29th:** We Dream of Kindness so wear your pajamas
- **Tuesday, April 30th:** Color the World in Kindness by wearing your grade level color:
 - Pre-K - Light Blue
 - Kindergarten: Yellow
 - Grade 1: Purple
 - Grade 2: Red
 - Grade 3: Orange

Grade 4: Green

Grade 5: Blue

- **Wednesday, May 1st:** Be a Hero for Kindness by wearing your best superhero outfit
- **Thursday, May 2nd:** To show Kindness around the World, Wear something to represent your culture, family traditions, or kindness.
- **Friday, May 3rd:** Kindness at Dayton Oaks! Wear blue or DOES gear.

What is the Belonging Group? The Belonging Group currently consists of fifteen (15) Grade 5 students, with an invitation recently extended to Grade 4 students to attend meetings and support the mission of strengthening a sense of belonging for all at DOES. This student-led group, which is supported by several staff members including Mrs. Urban, Mrs. Dix, Mrs. Grabowski, and Mrs. Vo, meets monthly to openly discuss and identify areas of need when it comes to belonging at DOES. Together, the group has worked hard on several action items including the planning of events of the Belonging Night with the main purpose of involving families in our mission. We hope to see you on Thursday, May 2nd!

Understanding the Difference Between Peer Conflict and Bullying

As we gear up to finish the school year strong, it's important to address student interactions that can affect both individual students and/or our school community. Peer conflict is something that most students will experience at some point in their school career. . However, it is essential to understand the difference between conflict and bullying, should bullying occur. By understanding the differences, we can better navigate challenging situations and foster a positive school environment where everyone can thrive. We look forward to continuing to work together to end the school year on a strong and positive note. Thank you for your continued support and partnership!

Conflict	Bullying
<p><u>Mutual Disagreement:</u> Conflict typically involves a disagreement or difference of opinion between two or more individuals.</p> <p><u>Equal Power:</u> Those involved in the conflict usually have relatively equal power or standing.</p> <p><u>Occurs Occasionally:</u> Conflicts arise occasionally and may be resolved through communication, negotiation, or compromise.</p> <p><u>No Intention to Harm:</u> While emotions may be involved, there is no deliberate intent to harm or exert control over the other party.</p>	<p><u>Power Imbalance:</u> Bullying involves an imbalance of power, where one individual seeks to assert dominance or control over another.</p> <p><u>Repeated Behavior:</u> Bullying often consists of repeated actions or behaviors aimed at causing harm, either physically or psychologically.</p> <p><u>Intentional Harm:</u> The bully intentionally seeks to harm, intimidate, or humiliate the victim, often deriving satisfaction from the victim's distress.</p> <p><u>One-sided Aggression:</u> Unlike conflict, bullying typically involves one-sided aggression, where the victim feels targeted and unable to defend themselves adequately.</p>

More information can be found on the [HCPSS Stop Bullying website](#). If you have any questions regarding this policy or its implementation, please contact a school administrator. Here is the online link to report an [Instance of Bullying, Harassment, or Intimidation](#) and a link to the [Bullying, Cyberbullying, Harassment, or Intimidation Reporting Form](#) to fill out and return to your students school administrator. More information on HCPSS Policy9460 can be found at [Bullying, Cyberbullying, Harassment, and Intimidation Involving Students - HCPSS](#).

2024-2025 Bus Service Registration

Parents/guardians whose children are eligible for bus transportation are asked to register to receive bus service each year to help the school system plan for student transportation needs. The transportation registration process will run through May 31st. The process will be completed online via HCPSS Connect Synergy. Registration must be done for each eligible student.

To be eligible for bus service, your child's home address must be outside of a school's walk zones. You can verify address eligibility in the [HCPSS School Attendance Area Locator](#). After inputting your address, a window will appear that will indicate either bus or walk for each school level. Please note, the attendance area locator also includes a link for the bus stop locator, which is set for the current school year. Bus stop information for the 2024-2025 school year will be available in August.

You do not need to take any action if:

- Your child is not eligible for bus transportation
- Your child receives transportation as part of their Individualized Education Program (IEP) or 504 Plan, or
- Your child is a graduating senior

Details on [Bus Transportation Registration](#) [Links to an external site.](#) are available on the HCPSS website.

DOES Student Showcase

The Student Showcase is coming up on May 9th! This year there is a Hollywood theme because Dayton Oaks students are STARS! May 9th will also be a School Spirit Day. Everyone is encouraged to dress like a movie star! At the Student Showcase, there will be a red carpet and the whole school will have student projects on display. Students can also participate by making a STEAM project at home. This [STEAM Information Packet](#) can help you get started. Please let us know if your student will be participating by filling out this form. We can't wait to see you at the Student Showcase on May 9th from 6:30-8:00pm!

Reminders Regarding Student Arrival

This is a gentle reminder that our school start time is 8:30 a.m. We appreciate your enthusiasm for getting your children to school on time, but please remember that dropping off too early can create safety concerns and supervision challenges as no adults are assigned prior to 8:30 a.m. Thank you for your cooperation in ensuring a smooth and safe start to the day for all students.

Health Room News

Spring is blooming all around us and that means it is seasonal allergy time. Seasonal allergies can affect anyone and can affect you anytime. We hear "I have not been diagnosed with allergies" or "I have never had allergies before" frequently. Seasonal allergies are something to consider if cold-like symptoms are not resolving.

Signs and Symptoms include:

- nasal congestion or runny nose
- scratchy throat
- sneezing
- dry, hacking cough or a repetitive cough

- itchy, red or watery eyes
- headache
- dizziness
- nausea
- difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- wheezing and flare ups of asthma is common

Treatment includes:

- Consult doctor or pediatrician
- Washing hands with soap and water after being outside.
- Rinsing face with cool water
- Wiping off hair with a wet paper towel after being outside
- Drink plenty of water
- Take over the counter allergy medication
 - There are several to choose from and you need to find the one that works for you
 - It may take several days for the medication start to working

Any medication that needs to be taken at school requires an [HCPSS Medication Form](#) to be filled out by the student's doctor/PCP. This includes **ALL** over the counter medications and eye drops.

Students may not stay inside for PE or recess unless the health room has a doctor's note with information about pollen count restrictions and duration of the restriction.

If you have questions or concerns please call the health room at 410 313-1575.

NEWS WORTH REPEATING

2024-2025 Kindergarten Registration

Do you have a relative, friend or neighbor that has a child who will be 5 years old by September 1, 2024? Tell them it's time to register for kindergarten!

Kindergarten [registration](#) kicked off Monday, March 4. Parents can begin the enrollment process online, after which a member of our front office team will contact you to complete the registration process. Current HCPSS prekindergarten students do not need to be re-registered for kindergarten because they are already enrolled as an HCPSS student. If you have any questions, please contact us at 410-313-1571.

Learning Together Peer (LTP) Program

The Dayton Oaks Elementary Regional Early Childhood Center (RECC) prekindergarten programs are making preparations for classes for the upcoming 2024-2025 school year and are accepting applications for students to participate as peers through the Learning Together Peer (LTP) Program. These classes include children with and without disabilities. The program's focus is helping all children develop communication, literacy, math, problem solving, motor, and social skills. Parents of children who will be 3 or 4 by September 1st, can pick up an application in the Dayton Oaks Elementary School's front office.

In alignment with [Maryland's Blueprint for the Future](#), a limited number of new applications for students turning 4 by September 1 will be available. The Howard County Public School System continues to offer a prekindergarten program for income eligible children who will be

four years old by September 1. For additional information, visit:
<https://www.hcpss.org/schools/pre-k-programs/>

HCPSS is committed to providing instruction based on the statewide Early Learning Standards which are in alignment with Kindergarten Readiness. The fees listed in the application will be collected monthly regardless of the learning model determined by HCPSS throughout the upcoming school year (virtual, hybrid, in person, or class quarantine). If you have any additional questions, please contact Megan Battle at Megan_Battle@hcpss.org or (410) 313-1571.

DOES Culture Festival 2024

We cordially invite you and your family to attend the annual PTA-sponsored DOES Culture Festival on Saturday, April 27, 2024, from 2:00 - 4:30 p.m. Come enjoy unique and exciting musical performances, savor the tastes and smells of international cuisine, and learn more about world cultures as you come out to support your fellow classmates.

Sign up to host a booth and/or performance by April 20, 2024, [here](#).

Please contribute your favorite recipe, craft, or fable to the Cultural Recipe Book by April 13, 2024, [here](#).

Contact Amani Dadzie, Sweta Thaker, or Rachelle Pierre-Mathieu and the Culture Festival Team to volunteer and with questions: culturenight@daytonoakspta.org

Help make sure YOUR culture is represented!

A Family Event Sponsored by the DOES PTA

CULTURE FESTIVAL '2024

Saturday, April 27, 2024 2:00pm - 4:30pm

Travel around the world with the many diverse cultures of Dayton Oaks!

Enjoy cultural booths from various countries represented at DOES!

Help make sure **YOUR** Culture is represented!

Enjoy ethnic cuisine & live performances celebrating various cultures!

Sign-up to host a booth and/or performance
bit.ly/DOESCultureFest
(Due 4/20)

Contribute to the Cultural Recipe Book with your favorite recipe, craft, or fable:
bit.ly/DOESRecipes

For questions or to volunteer, please contact the Culture Festival Committee at culturenight@daytonoakspta.org.

Glenelg Theatre Camp

This summer, the Glenelg Theatre Camp is back (for our third summer) with a 2-week summer theatre camp at Glenelg High School presenting... Annie JR!

When: July 1-12 (no camp July 4) from 9AM-3PM.

Who: All rising 3rd-8th graders; no experience necessary

Where: Glenelg High School Auditorium

Register today at <https://www.glenelgboosters.com/summer-sport-camps/>

SCH Judges Needed

Our 5th graders are getting ready to start preparing for their Simulated Congressional Hearings on May 10th. We are looking for volunteers/community members who would enjoy listening to and speaking with fifth graders as they present their testimonies. No experience is necessary! If you are interested or you know someone who would be perfect for this endeavor, please contact Mrs. Lindahl at allison_lindahl@hcpss.org.

Spring/Summer Grief Camps

- [Camp Kangaroo 2024](#), Seasons Hospice, Baltimore, MD - Summer Camp dates are TBD. Planning for August 2024. Camp is free for children ages 5-18 yrs old who have had a loss of a loved one within the last 2 years. Visit the website to register and the team will reach out with more information.
- [Camp Erin 2024](#) Montgomery County, MD - Children and teens ages 6-17, who are grieving the death of someone close to them. May 3rd-5th. Please visit the website to request a camper application. Contact is Eva Cowen 301-869-4673 evac@caringmatters.org
- [Summer Camp Forget Me Not 2024](#), Washington, D.C. - Ages 6-17 yrs. Three one day, day camps for different age groups this summer (June) at Capitol Hill Day School/Farren's Stable (218 D St, SE, Washington, DC). No registration fee for camp. Applications are now available. Deaths should have occurred before March 2024. Contact camp@wendtcenter.org with any questions.
- [Camp Jamie 2024](#), Hospice of Frederick County - Complete and return the entire packet (available on the website) by mail or in person to 1 Frederick Health Way, Frederick MD 21701, or scan and email to griefsupport@frederick.health.
Overnight Camp Jamie: May 17-May 19 -Skycroft Conference Center, Middletown MD, grades 1-8. Applications due April 26th *One Day*: Sept 28th Thorpewood Retreat Center, Thurmont MD, grades 1-8. Applications due Sept 13th
- [Hospice of The Chesapeake Grief Camp 2024](#), Anne Arundel County - Camp Nabi- Ages 6-18 yrs. August 9th-11th Cost: \$100 (Scholarships available). Arlington Echo Outdoor Ed Center 975 Indian Landing Rd Millersville, MD. For more information or to register, contact 888.501.7077 or griefinfo@chesapeakelifecenter.org

This information is neither sponsored nor endorsed by HCPSS, but serves to extend resources for students and families.

Spring 2024 After-School Classes at DOES

Howard County Rec and Parks provides fun, structured, educational, and enriching activities for students, benefitting both the child(ren) and parents! To register for an after-school class at Dayton Oaks, click [HERE](#).

[DOES Spring 2024 After-School Classes](#)

Handicapped Accessible Parking Spaces

In response to our need for additional handicapped accessible parking for this year, the county offices have provided several additional spaces. These are located in our front lot adjacent to the school.

As a reminder these spaces should be utilized only by those who currently hold a State of Maryland issued plate or placard allowing for use.

Volunteer in the Media Center!

The Media Center is always looking for parent volunteers. Please consider signing up to volunteer by clicking on the link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080A44A5AD2EAA8-47151726-winter>

Student Technology Reminder - Personal Devices

Recently, we have noticed an increase in the number of students bringing personal technology devices to school. These include cell phones, Apple watches, Gizmo watches, and other personal devices that include text messaging capabilities. These items have been disruptive to classroom instruction, therefore, we wanted to uplift the HCPSS Policy regarding personal technology devices in elementary schools:

[HCPSS Policy 8080](#) - Responsible Use of Technology, Digital Tools, and Social Media states that elementary school students “will keep personal technology devices in backpacks during the school day, unless otherwise authorized by school administrators or instructional staff.”

If your child has a personal device, please review this policy with them. As stated in Policy 8080, students who bring these devices to school will be instructed to place them in their backpacks for the duration of the school day. Thank you for your partnership.

HCPSS Emergency Notifications

As we head into winter weather, [families are reminded](#) that in emergency situations (including inclement weather), information will be shared with the community only through the HCPSS website, email and text, Twitter and the HCPSS weather hotline. [Be sure your Family File is up to date](#) and that you have [opted into texts](#) to receive emergency messages.

Volunteer Training Required for Volunteers and Visitors

Anyone volunteering at school in any capacity, including parents joining their children for lunch, are required to complete volunteer training prior to their first visit. Please visit [HERE](#) for more information. Thank you in advance for your willingness to support our staff and students at DOES.

Attendance/Reporting Absences

Parents can email DOESabsence@hcpss.org to report a student's absence. Please include your child(ren)'s full name, parent's/guardian's full name and phone number, the date your child(ren) was absent and the reason. Parents may instead choose to send in a paper excuse

note to their child's teacher with the same information when the student returns to school.

For families requesting local discretionary absences, please complete a [Local Discretionary Absence Request Form](#) and submit it to the front office at least one week in advance.

2023-2024 School Meals Information

Click [HERE](#) to learn more about HCPSS meal information.

Pricing for school meals for 2023-24:

Breakfast (\$2.00)

Lunch (\$2.80)

Many HCPSS families are eligible to participate in the [Free and Reduced Price Meals \(FARMs\) program](#), which provides children with a wide range of benefits including free or discounted college tuition, testing and application fees, academic and athletic program fees and many others in addition to free or discounted meals. Families are urged to check their eligibility and complete a [FARMs application](#) as soon as possible. Families must submit a new application every school year.

[Details on the Free and Reduced Meals program](#), including a link to apply, are available online.

COMMUNITY NEWS

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