

WAVE NEWSLETTER

May 2, 2024

Important Dates:

- May 2 ~ Belonging Night, 6 - 8 pm
- May 3 ~ Kindergarten Field Trip to The Maryland Zoo
- May 6 - 10 ~ Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 9 ~ Student Showcase, 6:30 - 8:00 pm
- May 10 ~ Simulated Congressional Hearings
- May 10 ~ Deadline to Submit Parent Consideration Forms
- May 10 ~ Deadline to Submit Memory Book Photos
- May 10 ~ PTA Movie Night, 6:45 pm
- May 14 ~ Schools and Offices Closed - Primary Election Day
- May 16 ~ Field Day (Rain Date: 5/31/24)
- May 17 ~ Schools Close Three Hours Early - Professional Learning Day
- May 22 ~ First Grade Field Trip to the B&O Railroad Museum
- May 24 ~ Spring Band and Chorus Concert, 5:30 - 9:00 pm

On Deck with your Administrators

Dear Dayton Oaks Families:

There have been lots of happenings recently at Dayton Oaks!

On Friday, April 26, 2024, students in Grade 5 participated in an exciting Arbor Day activity. In partnership with the Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks as well the Department of Natural Resources, our Grade 5 students planted seventy (70) trees at the fields that we share with the Recreation and Parks. The planting of these trees symbolizes the community's commitment to supporting the environment. County Executive, Dr. Calvin Ball, along with various community members, visited Dayton Oaks on Friday to participate in a proclamation recognizing Arbor Day and the wonderful partnership between DOES and the Department of Recreation and Parks. Dr. Ball also assisted Ms. Grabwoski's class as they planted trees. Please take a moment to read the press release here.

On Saturday, April 27, 2024, families and community members came together to celebrate the rich diversity our community has to offer. During the PTA's annual Cultural Festival, participants had an opportunity to engage in presentations, performances, and taste delicious food from around the world. County Executive, Dr. Calvin Ball, stopped by again to offer words of welcome as our students were shining bright! Many thanks to our PTA for organizing this well attended and inspirational event.

As we celebrated Arbor Day and the success of our annual Culture Festival, we also wanted to acknowledge and lift up May as Jewish-American and Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. From the early settlers to influential figures in politics, arts, sciences, and every facet of society, Jewish Americans and Asian Pacific Americans have played a vital role in shaping the cultural tapestry and democratic ideals of the United States. This month serves as an opportunity for DOES students to learn about the struggles, triumphs, and cultural heritage of these Americans, fostering understanding, empathy, and respect for diverse perspectives within our

classrooms and communities. Let us commemorate the resilience, achievements, and enduring spirit of Jewish American and Pacific Asian Americans, reaffirming our commitment to inclusivity, equality, and the principles of pluralism that define our nation.

Educationally yours,

Ms. Williams-McKinney, Principal
Ms. Lorch, Assistant Principal

Counselor's Corner

Dear Families,

Next week is Children's Mental Health Awareness Week! This month is a great opportunity to have intentional conversations with your children on what mental health is. In simple terms, we tell children that mental health is something everyone has, and it is just as important as your physical health. Mental health is how you feel about yourself, how you feel about others, and how you handle challenges! Below you will find a few questions that I hope can lead to meaningful discussions at home around your child's mental health at school.

- When are you the most happy at school?
- Which teachers do you feel the most comfortable talking to?
- When you are feeling sad at school, what can you do?
- If you had a problem at school, who would you go to for help?
- What is something you are looking forward to at school this week?
- What was your biggest challenge at school this week?
- How do you feel around your friends at school?

Mrs. Hannan and Mrs. Dix are available to support you and your child, if there are concerns related to mental health. Please reach out to them via email to schedule a time to talk: Alyson_Hannan@hcpss.org and Stephanie_Dix@hcpss.org

Lastly, I wanted to share the mindful video that our Grade 5 leadership group, the FISH Ambassadors, enjoyed the best for a mindful break at school: [Bubble Bounce Mindful Video](#) ([links to SafeShare](#)) Enjoy!

Dayton Oaks Field Day

This year, Dayton Oaks will host Field Day on Thursday, May 16, 2024 (rain date: Friday, May 31, 2024). All students in RECC - Grade 5 will be participating in Field Day. Below, please find the Field Day schedule:

- Grades 3-5 (10:00-12:00)
- Grades K-2 (1:00-3:00)
- AM RECC/Preschool (9:30)
- PM RECC/Pre-K (1:00)

In order to make this fun-filled day a success, we will need many volunteers to help run the stations that have been designed for students. Please use the link below if you are able to help out. Thank you in advance for your support of this fun day with the children!

Field Day station Sign up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090B4DAFAC2FA5F58-49269621-field>

All volunteers need to complete the two required HCPSS volunteer trainings prior to coming in. If you haven't already done so, you may bring your printed volunteer certificate with you on Field Day. Please access volunteer information and training at: <https://www.hcpss.org/parents/volunteer-information/>.

Students are encouraged to wear their team colors on Field Day. Please find the team colors below:

- RECC (Silver/Gray)
- Kindergarten (Yellow)
- Grade 1 (Purple)
- Grade 2 (Red)
- Grade 3 (Orange)
- Grade 4 (Green)
- Grade 5 (Blue)
- Staff (Tie Dye)

To ensure the safety of all Field Day participants, all volunteers and visitors MUST check in at the front office to receive volunteer and visitor credentials prior to visiting the activity areas on Field Day. Thank you in advance for supporting and adhering to these safety measures.

Band Notes

Band Musicians of the Month

Congratulations to the Band Musicians of the Month for May! These students will have their names displayed on the Band Bulletin Board and will see their names in the Howard County Times!

Owen Interiano Saavedra - Clarinet
Ellie Dodson - Flute
Jaiden Richa - Trombone
Trey Hoskey - Trombone
Owen Painter - Trumpet
Kai Aneja - Trumpet
Carter Boston - Trumpet
Alex Halasz - Trumpet
Noah Choi - Clarinet
Zach Soldavin - Clarinet
Aarushi Patel - Flute
Warner Shipe - Percussion
Ethan Guzman - Trombone
Colin Lloyd - Trumpet

Stop by the Band Instrument Petting Zoo at the DOES Student Showcase

DOES students and their families are invited to the 1st Grade area at the Student Showcase on May 9th with a one-of-a-kind Band Instrument Petting Zoo! Join Band Director Mrs. Syversen and LKMS Band Director Mrs. Tracy, along with some super cool RHHS and GHS band members who USED to be in the DOES Band (how cool is that?!). Music and Arts will also be there with some fun giveaways and to answer any questions you may have about

instrument rentals. They'll be there to help you unleash your inner musician and let you try out a bunch of awesome band instruments:

- Flutes that sound like singing birds
- Clarinets with smooth, jazzy tones
- Saxophones that can wail like rockstars
- Trumpets for epic fanfares
- French horns for regal melodies
- Trombones that slide and groove
- Euphoniums with rich, warm sounds
- And a whole percussion section to keep the beat going!

Whether you're in Pre-K, Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, or 5th grade, come on down to the Band Petting Zoo and find your perfect musical match! You might just discover the instrument that makes your heart sing (or rock out!).

See you there!

Musically,

Mrs. Amy Bejm Syversen, Director of Bands (she/they/them)

Dayton Oaks Elementary School - Mondays (AM only), Tuesdays, and Thursdays

PTA Movie Night

The DOES PTA invites you to Movie Night featuring Super Mario Bros. on Friday, May 10, 2024, at 6:45 p.m. Doors open at 6pm There will be food trucks as well as a special guest appearance from Mario and Luigi! There will also be a gaming truck where you can play video games before the movie starts! The weather forecast looks great, so make plans to spend your Friday night with dinner and a movie at Dayton Oaks!!

Memory Book Photo Submissions

All memory book picture submissions are due by **Friday, May 10th**. The memory book committee will not be able to accept pictures past this deadline. The memory book is an amazing keepsake that highlights all students, staff, and school-sponsored events throughout the school year. The memory book committee is currently collecting pictures from these recent school events:

Band Concert

Black History Month

Any kindergarten events

All upcoming Field Trips

Please send your pictures to: memorybook@daytonoakspta.org

Message from the Office of Safety and Security

We appreciate everyone's help in making sure that our school is as safe as possible. All exterior doors are locked at all times. To maintain safety and security it is important that we all do our part:

- Do not let anyone in through exterior doors around the school.
- All visitors or anyone arriving late needs to check-in at the front lobby using the buzzer. We know it is in our nature to be nice and hold the door, but please do not let in people you do not know. The front office staff will be focusing on groups coming to the buzzer and ensuring that all parties check-in properly.
- Doors should not be propped open.
- If you see something suspicious, report it to a teacher, administrator, or other staff member.

Thanks for doing your part to help keep our school safe.

NEWS WORTH REPEATING

Parent Consideration Form

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.

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.

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

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.

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.

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/>

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.