

WAVE NEWSLETTER

November 9, 2023

Important Dates:

- November 10 ~ Kindergarten Field Trip to Sharp's Farm
Second Grade Field Trip to Toby's Dinner Theater
- November 13 - 17 ~ American Education Week
 - November 14 ~ Fourth Grade Field Trip to Museum of Natural History
 - November 15 ~ Fifth Grade Field Trip to The Science Center
 - November 16 ~ Picture Retakes
 - Conference Scheduling Closes, 4 p.m.
 - Family Academic Night, 6:30 - 8 p.m.
- November 20 - 21 ~ Parent/Teacher Conferences, Schools Close 3 Hrs Early
- November 22 ~ Parent/Teacher Conferences, Schools Closed
- November 23 - 24 ~ Thanksgiving Holiday, Schools Closed

On Deck with your Administrators

Dayton Oaks Families,

November 13 - 17, 2023 has been designated as American Education Week. Designed to raise awareness about the need to provide every child with a quality public education, we celebrate the amazing partnership between home and school. This year's theme for American Education Week is "Together for Safe, Just & Equitable Schools." The celebration highlights the importance of bringing together educators, parents, students, and communities in a unified effort to build great public schools.

This year, we will be welcoming families and friends to visit their child during the instructional day to see firsthand what a typical day of school looks like at DOES. Grade level teams have identified days/times that families are invited to participate in instructional activities:

Grade	Date of Activity	Time	Location	Description of Activity	Content Area Focus
RECC	Tuesday, 11/14	Varies by class RECC will send announcement with times for each class	Homeroom Classrooms	Visitors will be invited for a center time activity and possibly a portion of circle (will articulate in Canvas announcement)	SEL/ELA
Kinder-garten	Thursday, 11/16	10:15-11:05	Cafetorium	Visitors are invited in to eat lunch with their students. There will be conversation starters on the tables. We are encouraging families to build	SEL

				community with one another.	
Grade 1	Tuesday, 11/14	10:00-11:00	Homeroom Classrooms	Visitors are invited to participate in our reading rotations	ELA
Grade 2	Friday, 11/17	10:15-11:05	Homeroom Classrooms	Visitors are invited to homeroom classrooms to watch their students perform a reader's theater play.	ELA
Grade 3	Tuesday, 11/14	2:15-3:00	Homeroom Classrooms	Visitors are invited to participate in a Thanksgiving writing activity	ELA
Grade 4	Monday, 11/13	2:05-2:55	Homeroom Classrooms	Visitors are invited to participate in a Social Emotional Learning (SEL) lesson focusing on kindness	ELA/SEL
Grade 5	Tuesday, 11/14	10:10-11:25	Math Classrooms	Visitors are invited to visit and participate in Math lessons. Activities will vary based on current math standards that are being taught.	Math

If your schedule does not permit you to visit during the planned activity for your child's grade, please know you are welcome to visit any day during American Education Week. Please email your child's teacher to let them know if you will be visiting during another day/time.

To keep classroom disruptions to a minimum, please adhere to the following:

- Only adult family members are permitted to visit during the school day.
- For safety and security, please sign in at the front office and be prepared to show identification.
- Silence cell phones. If you need to make a call, please do so in the front lobby.
- Food and drinks are not permitted in the classrooms.
- The HCPSS Student and Parent Handbook prohibits visitors from photographing students during the school day. You may only photograph your own child(ren).
- As a reminder, we do not allow younger children in the classrooms when parents visit.
- Unless invited to do so by the teacher, please do not try to have a conversation with the teacher or students.
- Limit your conversations with other parents while in classrooms observing.
- Some teachers will ask you to help the students, others will want you to be an observer. Please follow the directions of the teacher.

Note: Prior to your visit, please review the [HCPSS Volunteer Information](#) page, which includes the completion of [Visitor Confidentiality Certificate](#). Please note that item 1, "Provide 24 hours advance notice prior to the visit/observation" does not apply during American Education Week.

If you have already completed this form this school year, you do not need to complete it a second time.

Thank you for joining us! We hope that you enjoy your visit and learn something new!

Counselor's Corner

November has been an exciting month at DOES! We held our first schoolwide Dolphin Day on Monday, November 6th. As a Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) school, we recognize the value in all students participating in events that encourage mixing among the grade and celebrating the efforts made during Quarter 1. The next Dolphin Day will be in January, to celebrate the hard work in Quarter 2.

On Wednesday, November 8th, the school counselors facilitated a "Mix It Up Lunch". This event encouraged students to mix among the grade during lunch by sitting at different tables and with peers they do not sit with on a regular basis. Events like this aim to support an inclusive school environment by strengthening relationships among the students. Students were given prompts on the table to support new connections. Mrs. Hannan and Mrs. Dix will schedule similar opportunities throughout the school year!

Next week, we look forward to a spirit day as DOES recognizes World Kindness Day! Monday, November 13th will be "Dress like a rockstar day!" because Kindness Rocks! Students and staff are encouraged to use their creativity to show off their best rock star style. This event was initiated by the Grade 5 FISH Ambassadors, a student leadership group. During the morning annexments next week, students and staff will hear kindness challenges from the FISH Ambassadors to encourage small acts of kindness all week long!

The counseling program at DOES values school-wide events in addition to the regular classroom lessons provided to all students Kindergarten-5th grade. Please reach out to one of the counselors with any questions or suggestions for additional support.

Lost and Found Items

If you will be visiting DOES during American Education Week or for Parent Teacher Conferences, please be sure to check the Lost and Found. We have accumulated a number of sweatshirts and jackets/coats, lunch boxes, water bottles, eyeglasses, etc. Please consider labeling your children's belongings – particularly coats, lunch boxes and water bottles. This makes it easier to return lost items rather than placing them in lost and found. Any unclaimed clothing items will be donated.

Music Notes

Congratulations to the Band Musicians of the Month for November! These students will have their names displayed on the Band Bulletin Board and will have their names in the Howard County Times. Keep up the great work and awesome attitudes!

Darren Kim - Alto Saxophone
Jack Formica- Alto Saxophone
Mateo Viveros Santacruz- Euphonium
Owen Struve - Percussion
Arzoe Mattu - Trombone
Simon Narvaez - Trombone
Jack Ren - Trombone
Clay Bogard - Trumpet

Brian Miranda Giron - Alto Saxophone
Tanu Vishal - Flute
Audrey Guzman - Flute
Eileen Feng - Percussion
Carter McKenna - Percussion
Riley Bruns - Trombone
Claire Jasi - Trombone
Hannah Ball - Trombone
David Siwajuola - Trumpet
Istvan Turcsanyi - Trumpet

Musically,

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

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

Outdoor Dining

As we look forward to the arrival of the winter season, bringing the possibility of snow and colder weather, we are also aware that this limits the availability of some of our other outdoor opportunities. Beginning December 11, 2023, outdoor dining will be closed. We expect to be able to resume outdoor dining in March 2024 with dates to be determined by HCPSS central offices.

Health Room News

A special thank you to all of the volunteers who helped with our flu/covid vaccine clinic: Katie Burke, Charlene Depry, Westley Griffin, Sandy Go, Aashi Kaur, Ilana Lowy, Kelly Marquart and Kristen Vega. We managed to give 217 vaccinations that day and could not have done it without the help of our wonderful volunteers!

Community Health Fair

Join us for a vibrant and informative Health Fair. Everyone is welcome to this free event. Discover a wide array of booths that will share health education information, conduct preventative screenings, raise awareness of health risks, and demonstrate healthy habits. Our professional healthcare partners are eager to share their insights. Bring your friends and family along to enjoy the event filled with valuable knowledge and free screenings. Your journey to a healthier lifestyle begins here!

Date: Saturday, November 11, 2023

Time: 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Location: Glen Mar Church, 4701 New Cut Road, Ellicott City, MD 21043

Planned Activities:

- Annual Flu shots (for 6-month-old and up)
- Hearing & Vision screening (for pre-school & up)
- Blood pressure and stroke risk assessment
- Women, Infants, & Children information
- Domestic Violence prevention information
- Mental Health related information
- Crisis Intervention info and referrals
- Health and Wellness coaching
- Living Wellness Chiropractic
- Senior Placement Navigator

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

COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR FLYER

Howard County Family Support Center is Now Open!

The Howard County Family Support Center is now open! The [Family Support Center \(FSC\)](#) offers comprehensive, family-centered, community-based programs for parents and caregivers of children from birth to age five. Center staff promote the full development and well-being of children, enhance the quality of parent and child interactions, and are the link to services for overall parent and family self-sufficiency and sustainability.

- **Location:** 9790 Patuxent Woods Drive, Columbia, MD 21046
- **Operating Hours:** Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- **Questions:** email Kristin Reel at kreel@howardcountymd.gov

NEWS WORTH REPEATING

DOES Fall 2023 Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher Conferences provide teachers and parents with a wonderful opportunity to discuss progress made through the first quarter and identify areas for growth. Conferences will be scheduled in 15-minute increments, focusing on ELA and scheduled with your child's homeroom teacher. GT Math Teachers will conference with Grade 4 families for fall conferences. Below, please find the dates that teachers will be hosting in-person and virtual parent-teacher conferences:

- Monday, November 20, conferences will be hosted **in-person**
- Tuesday, November 21, conferences will be hosted **virtually**
- Wednesday November 22, conferences will be hosted **virtually** (based on teacher schedules)

Beginning Monday, November 6, at 8:00 a.m., and continuing through Thursday, November 16, at 4:00 p.m., you can log on to HCPSS Connect at www.hcpss.org/connect to access the Synergy Conference Management System. You can then select your desired 15-minute conference time based on the teacher's availability. [Click here for directions](#) to schedule your conference. Parents needing assistance with scheduling a conference should contact the DOES front office staff at 410-313-1571.

Tips for Scheduling Conferences:

- Parent Teacher Conferences will be scheduled in 15-minute increments.
- Conferences will focus on ELA and will be scheduled with your child's homeroom teacher.
- You will use your [HCPSS Connect/Family File](#) account to schedule Parent Teacher Conferences.
- It is suggested that you include a 15-minute buffer between conferences to allow for travel time within the building for in-person conferences. Teachers will not be able to accommodate additional time beyond the scheduled 15 minutes.

More information will be forthcoming including virtual conference Google Meet Codes for virtual conference days. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact the DOES

front office at 410-313-1571 for assistance

Family Academic Night

Dayton Oaks is pleased to host its second annual Family Academic Night that focuses on math and ELA! We invite parents and students to join the DOES staff and community organizations on November 16, 2023, from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. to learn more about how to support learning at home! On this night, you can create make-&-takes to support specific skills in each grade-level, gather information about ELA and Math, and connect with community organizations focused on academics. You won't want to miss this!

FAMILY ACADEMIC NIGHT FLYER

Holiday Assistance Donations Needed

Dear Dayton Oaks Families,

During this time of year, many of our families are looking for ways to give to others in need. It's more important than ever that we provide support and care to our families who may be struggling this year. This season, we are continuing our gift card collection initiative. DOES will be collecting donated gift cards in any amount from a grocery or clothing/toy store such as Giant, Safeway, Walmart, Target or Amazon starting October 30, 2023. Please drop off gift cards to the front office or utilize the black drop box in the front lobby of our school between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

The Student Services Team at DOES will distribute the donations to local families in need. Even the smallest donation can make a huge difference in the lives of others. Thank you for your consideration and support.

Employment and Volunteer Opportunities at Dayton Oaks

Dear Dayton Oaks Community and Families,

Are you looking for a job where you can give back, pay it forward, or are you just interested in working with the most fantastic group of children? Great news! Dayton Oaks is currently seeking the positions below:

These include:

- Substitutes (Teacher, Paraeducator & Student Assistant)
- Lunch & Recess Monitor (New!)
- Temporary Employee (4 days a week, afternoons only in our RECC program)

If you are interested in becoming a Substitute at DOES, please apply below. Information on HCPSS pay rates is also included here:

[Substitute Employment \(Teachers, Paraeducators, Student Assistants, Lunch and Recess Monitors\)](#)

If you are interested in becoming a lunch and recess monitor or a temporary employee please reach out to our Assistant Principal, Ms. Shari Lorch at shari_lorch@hcpss.org. She would be happy to speak with you further regarding this wonderful opportunity to support our students. Our Media Center is also requesting volunteer support for book shelving. They particularly need help on Blue Days. If you are able to help, please email valarie_graham@hcpss.org. We hope to see you gracing our hallways soon!

Young Author's Contest

The Howard County Literacy Association invites students in grades **1-5** to submit their original poems and/or short stories to the annual writing contest called **The Young Authors' Contest**. Please see the attached [Young Authors' Contest Guidelines](#) for information about the rules and guidelines. All entries must have a completed [YAC Cover Sheet](#) sent as a PDF. Submissions may be emailed to jennifer_hipp@hcpss.org by **December 11, 2023**. Contact Jennifer Hipp with any questions at jennifer_hipp@hcpss.org. All Young Authors' Contest information can be found on the [HCLA website](#).

Howard County Literacy Association welcomes parents as members. Visit the [HCLA Welcome Page](#) for information about joining.

Howard County's Annual MLK Contest and Days of Service

Save the Dates for the 2024 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Celebration and Days of Service!

The MLK Holiday Commission, the Howard County Office of Human Rights & Equity, County Executive, Dr. Calvin Ball and community partners invite you to join us celebrating and honoring the life of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

On Sunday, January 14, 2024, we're hosting a family-friendly, multi-cultural event that includes musical performances, dramatic presentations, a keynote address and recognition of the 2024 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. "Living the Dream" Award recipients and student oratory, essay and poster contest winners.

Monday, January 15, 2024, join us at the Harriet Tubman Cultural Center for an interactive Day of Service that includes an MLK tribute room, a Read-In with community members reading books about Dr. King and service activities for all ages! For more information, click [HERE](#).

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.

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.

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.

COMMUNITY NEWS

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