

WAVE NEWSLETTER

October 26, 2023

Important Dates:

- October 28 ~ PTA Fall Festival/Trunk or Treat, 3 - 5 p.m. (Rain Date - Nov. 4)
- October 31 ~ End of Marking Period, Schools Close Three Hours Early
- November 1 ~ First Grade Field Trip to Sharp's Farm
Kindergarten Field Trip to Glenwood Library
- November 6 ~ Conference Scheduling Opens, 8 a.m.
- November 8 ~ Report Cards Issued
- 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 Three Hours Early
- November 22 ~ Parent/Teacher Conferences, Schools Closed
- November 23 - 24 ~ Thanksgiving Holiday, Schools Closed

On Deck with your Administrators

Dear DOES Families:

Veterans' Day is a time for us to recognize all those who have served our country. For one day, we stand united in respect for our Veterans. We are excited to share that we will be acknowledging the contributions and sacrifices that our veterans have made on behalf of our country on Friday, November 10, 2023.

Veterans' Day originally started as a day to reflect upon the heroism of those who died in our country's service and was originally called Armistice Day. It fell on November 11th because that is the date of the signing of the Armistice that ended World War I. However, in 1954, the holiday was changed to "Veterans Day", in order to account for all Veterans that served and currently serve in the armed forces.

We recognize our Veterans each year at DOES. This year we will continue this tradition. We need your help! If you, a family member, or friend has served or is currently serving, we would love to recognize these individuals. Please send us a picture of the service men or women in your family with their name and any special information that you would like to share, using the following [DOES Veterans Day Presentation link](#). By providing this information you agree to sharing it with our community. All submissions are due by Monday, November 6, 2023.

We value the service of our Veterans and look forward to honoring them on November 10th by sending out a slide show presentation to our community. Local Pack #761 will also be conducting a flag ceremony and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance during the morning announcements.

We look forward to the submissions from DOES families and staff so that we can celebrate the remarkable accomplishments and contributions of our Veterans.

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

Counselor's Corner

Dear DOES Families,

As the end of the quarter quickly approaches, the school counselors are celebrating the community building happening all over the school! Homeroom classes dedicate time each day through SEL time, as well as the many opportunities available during academic blocks. To kick off Quarter 2 strong, two events have been planned. You can find the details below! Please reach out to one of the school counselors if you have any questions.

Quarter 1 Dolphin Day on Monday, November 6th: This quarterly event is for all students as we celebrate the effort to learn, practice, and follow our DIVE Expectations as well as encourage connections throughout the grade. Students will have choice around activities within the grade level classrooms and are encouraged to connect to grade-level peers from other classes. This event will take place school-wide during the last 50 minutes of the day. There will be a slight change to the schedule to ensure that the academic blocks are not greatly impacted.

Mix It Up Lunch on Wednesday, November 8th: Mix It Up Lunch Day is an international campaign that encourages students to cross social boundaries, meet someone new, or learn something new about someone! Studies show that interactions across groups like this can help reduce prejudice, biases, and misperceptions. On this day, the counselors will work with the lunchroom staff to support students sitting in different placements during lunch and engaging in conversations using a fun questioning tool on the tables that was created with the help of the Grade 5 student leadership group, FISH Ambassadors.

Thank you for your support!
Stephanie Dix (Stephanie_Dix@hcpss.org)
Alyson Hannan (Alyson_Hannan@hcpss.org)

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!

NEWS WORTH REPEATING

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.