Good evening John Poole Middle School families,

This is Mr. Green with your weekly updates for April 15 - April 19, 2024.

This week begins our state testing with MCAP ELA testing.  Testing will take place on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.  There is no testing on Tuesday.  Report cards will also be distributed to students at the end of the school day on Thursday.  Here is the adjusted [bell schedule](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdocs.google.com%2Fdocument%2Fd%2F1qzt9zGiDKaLsoGNWdS9dpOjG82m8Cx3bHQ0vCZgLGlQ%2Fedit%3Fusp%3Dsharing&data=05%7C02%7Calison_m_d%27aiutolo%40mcpsmd.org%7Cb1d185a05ea946e96df808dc5cd28747%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638487306485616180%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=dm8GEeDbL1w%2BpBu%2Foh%2B7OVnXz%2FesXToeGSpwPBKJFxc%3D&reserved=0) for this week.

Monday, April 22, will be a student Asynchronous Instructional Day.  More information is included below.

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**Monday 4/22 - Student Asynchronous Instructional Day**

Due to the number of inclement weather days MCPS had this school year, there was a need to add an instructional day to the calendar.  **Monday 4/22** will be a professional day for staff and an asynchronous instructional day for students.  Student work will be provided by students' teachers; work will either be linked in students' myMCPS Classroom courses before Monday 4/22 or physically given to students on or before Friday 4/19.  Students will have **10 days (through Monday 5/6)** to complete and submit their work.  **Students' submitted work will also be used to take attendance** for Monday 4/22 (attendance must be taken by the county to meet MSDE requirements for the school year).  Essentially, if a student completes and submits the assigned work for a class, then the student will be marked "present" for that class for Monday 4/22.  If a student does not complete and submit the assigned work for a class, then the student will be marked "absent" for that class for Monday 4/22.  If you and your student(s) have questions about individual assignments for Monday 4/22, then please reach out to individual teachers.  If you have questions about the structure/format of Monday 4/22, then please contact the main office.

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**MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD!  YOUR OPINION MATTERS!**

Parents or guardians of children receiving special education and related services were mailed the Maryland Special Education Parent Involvement Survey from the Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services during the week of February 12, 2024.  Parents are asked to complete the survey and return it in the postage paid envelope by May 24, 2024.  The survey may also be completed online.  Please look for details in your survey packet.  Your feedback will help guide efforts to improve special education and related services in your local school system.  Your voice can make a real difference for your child and many other children across the state of Maryland.  To learn more, please visit [https://www.mdparentsurvey.com](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.mdparentsurvey.com%2F&data=05%7C02%7CJon_Green%40mcpsmd.org%7C4505cec441604708711a08dc5aef9cf3%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638485232368043312%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=qto4QEKyNE1RZmCCbb3yVa5Ion4q7stOFyieJRIwH%2BM%3D&reserved=0)

**JPMS PTSA News**

**The Parents vs. Staff Kickball game is back!**  Mark your calendars for May 8th at 6pm.  We need parents to sign up to play on the team as well as help run the event.  Please sign up here for either – [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C4FAEAE2EA0F8CF8-parent#/](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.signupgenius.com%2Fgo%2F10C0C4FAEAE2EA0F8CF8-parent%23%2F&data=05%7C02%7CJon_Green%40mcpsmd.org%7Cc096da5f8db84ab00fb008dc58b941bb%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638482799939327435%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=yPlAgISQ9e35tAq5XVwhYNsHypkiwR8uo5%2FFnyeG9%2Fg%3D&reserved=0)    Also, the committee needs help with the planning before the event.  If you can help, please reach out to fundraiser Chair, Michelle Bender at [bender\_michelle@htomail.com](mailto:bender_michelle@htomail.com).  Without help, we can't have the event and this is an important (not to mention super fun) spring fundraiser to help fund year end needs for the students and staff at JPMS.

8th Grade Families - The 8th Grade Dinner Dance Celebration is coming up on May 31st.  The event is being held at Bally Cliff Farm in Poolesville from 7-9pm. The theme this year is Midnight Masquerade and it is sure to be a great time for all students to celebrate the end of middle school.  **Tickets are now on sale!**  $35 per ticket covers a full buffet dinner and an evening full of fun, surprises and dancing.  You can purchase your ticket here - [https://jpms.memberhub.com/store/items/1008248](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fjpms.memberhub.com%2Fstore%2Fitems%2F1008248&data=05%7C02%7CJon_Green%40mcpsmd.org%7Cc096da5f8db84ab00fb008dc58b941bb%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638482799939337870%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=tUor6vDykjlBxiITZLPmyWKmjrZ8%2BwxE2oqw%2BMyB0E0%3D&reserved=0)

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Game Changers Conference

Unity Christian Fellowship, Inc. will host its semiannual Game Changer's conference on Saturday, April 20, 2024, from 8:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. at The Universities at Shady Grove. The conference theme is "The World is Shifting Forward! Focus Forward and Compete." The goal is to allow students to succeed as a game changer. The target audience is Black or African American and Hispanic/Latino males in Grades 4–12. There will be separate sessions for elementary, middle, and high school students. In addition, parent workshops will be held every half hour (beginning at 8:00 a.m. and ending with the last session at 1:30 p.m.). Sample topics include: Navigating Montgomery County Public Schools, Financial Planning, The Service Academies, etc. A continental breakfast and lunch will be provided. Although there is no charge for registration, all participants are asked to register in advance [here](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fform.jotform.com%2F240265349327155&data=05%7C02%7Calison_m_d%27aiutolo%40mcpsmd.org%7Cb1d185a05ea946e96df808dc5cd28747%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638487306485625067%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=5qP9rRiyFHkQwWWoMzUOIG%2BZqAT5yWUE4glIvPRn2Fg%3D&reserved=0).

There will be an essay writing competition for students to improve their writing skills and better prepare them for school and college essay writing. Students are encouraged to write and submit a 300-word essay based on the theme, "The World is Shifting Forward! Focus Forward and Compete." Regional transportation will be provided.

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**2024 Montgomery Can Code Summer Camp**

Registration is OPEN for the 2024 Montgomery Can Code Summer Camp! A free summer Coding camp for MCPS Middle School Students.

Montgomery Can Code is an annual free and fun summer camp held in July and August for any MCPS rising 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students.  Campers in the program will learn to code with Swift, Apple’s easy-to-understand programming language used by professional developers to create world class apps. Students will complete creative projects with an established curriculum to learn Swift from coding experts.

 Families have the choice to participate in a full day, in-person camp Weeks 1 and 2 at Montgomery College or a virtual camp Week 3. **The Camp is free to any Montgomery County Public School middle school students.**

This initiative is made possible through a partnership with Montgomery County Public Schools, Montgomery College, Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation, Montgomery County Government and Apple, Inc..

REGISTER NOW [https://www.montgomerycancode.com/](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.montgomerycancode.com%2F&data=05%7C02%7CJason_C_Godfroy%40mcpsmd.org%7Cff072d702e6b4cabe5c508dc59777e37%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638483617032617454%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=YqRCrh8BkKCISSUqCM%2BRYHg8mge0528Ial9nOSfSFRI%3D&reserved=0)

 For more information, learn more at montgomerycancode.com or email [montgomerycancode@mcpsmd.org](mailto:montgomerycancode@mcpsmd.org)

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RecXtra News

**Attention Timberwolves, it's never too late to sign up for RecXtra Clubs.  All RecXtra Clubs are free to join!**

These activities are open to all students. In addition, activity buses are provided at 4:15 p.m. to take members home.  To find more information about RecXtra Clubs, as well as, all after school offerings at John Poole, please visit our after school activities page on the school website. [Click Here](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.montgomeryschoolsmd.org%2Fschools%2Fpoolems%2Fclubs%2Factivities%2F&data=05%7C02%7CAlison_M_D%27Aiutolo%40mcpsmd.org%7C401dff0d16a446aaffde08dc2e220775%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638435970896639459%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=UNqp08jqfB%2FlbRWcr2gYGgEEPwWf971uCUsqQQAKazM%3D&reserved=0)

**RecXtra Tennis Club**

Tennis Club is back!  Whether you are a tennis veteran or someone new to the sport, the RecXtra Tennis Club is for you.  The tennis club will meet on Tuesdays after school from 2:45-4:15. Tennis racquets and balls are provided, and an end of the club party is included.  Sign up forms can be found in the main office or see Mr. Mattingly in room 310.  Tennis Club starts April 9th.

**RecXtra Gaming Club**

Students have the opportunity to explore and play games with their friends.  Make this your club with various creative opportunities including strategy games, retro games, and more.

**RecXtra Leos Club**

Join Mrs. Crutchfield for LEOS Club to plan and implement service projects to support the Poolesville community.

**RecXtra Chill Zone**

Join the Chill Zone to relieve stress and find your center.  Play games, hang out with friends and learn strategies to take stress out of your life.

**NEW** **RecXtra Chess Club**

Join Ms. Rice for our new RecXtra Chess Club.  The Chess club will meet every Wednesday.  Learn different strategies, compete against your friends, and take part in tournaments.

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**Intramurals:**

Intramural activities are open to ALL Timberwolves and are held right after school until 4:15 pm. Permission slips are located in the girls and boys locker rooms.

**Intramural Archery**

If you turned in your permission slip don't forget that we have our first practice on Tuesday, April 2 from 2:50-4:15.

**Table Tennis is with Ms. Gibbs**

Feb. 27, Mar. 5, 12, 19, Apr. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 & May 7

All skill levels are welcome.

All equipment is provided by JPMS

**Basketball is with Mr. Hartley**

Feb. 28, Mar. 6, 13, 20, Apr. 24, May 1 & 15

All skills levels are welcome

Questions: Reach out to our Intramural Coordinator @ [Kimberly\_S\_Gerrie@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Kimberly_S_Gerrie@mcpsmd.org)

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Please continue to check the [myMCPS Classroom](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fclassroom.mcpsmd.org%2F&data=05%7C02%7Calison_m_d%27aiutolo%40mcpsmd.org%7Cb1d185a05ea946e96df808dc5cd28747%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638487306485630121%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ndBZul2SQK5A9AI3ktglvyRdaIAC1PmoPu1ruDoCHS4%3D&reserved=0) calendar or our [JPMS school webpage](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org%2Fschools%2Fpoolems%2F&data=05%7C02%7Calison_m_d%27aiutolo%40mcpsmd.org%7Cb1d185a05ea946e96df808dc5cd28747%7Cddf755e9bcd64a5ea4727c378a78c6c7%7C0%7C0%7C638487306485634675%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=8iLWuUCjEMtqpwYhjnLH36wBJRPhpF8%2FhSDmX%2Fosp%2FI%3D&reserved=0) for the most updated information, including upcoming events, bus routes, and other happenings occurring at school.

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Please mark your calendars for these important upcoming events:

Monday, April 15 - MCAP ELA Testing begins

Wednesday, April 17 - Soccer vs. Kingsview.  Boys are away, girls are home

Thursday, April 18 - Report Cards distribution

Monday, April 22 - Asynchronous Learning Day for students, Teacher Professional day.

Thursday, April 25 - Soccer vs. Clemente.  Boys are home, girls are away

Tuesday, April 30 - 8th Grade Class Panoramic Portrait

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Have a great night and a wonderful week!

Mr. Green