

## **Principal's Message on 02/25**

Good Evening Stallion Families,

Thank you to the families that were able to join us for our 2nd parent coffee that focused on the Zones of Regulation and restorative approaches. We will be sharing resources from the coffee shortly.

Thank you to the third grade team for bringing Mad Science, which was an interactive school field trip.

### **New: School Improvement Plan Meeting on 02/27 at 3:45 PM**

The Leadership Team is having a Mid Year School Improvement Plan review meeting on Tuesday, 2/27 from 3:45-4:30. We would love to have multiple parents join us. It is important for the school team to hear your input, suggestions, and ideas, as well as share with the parents the work we have engaged in to help all students reach their potential. The meeting will be held in the media center, so unfortunately there isn't a Zoom attendance option, but we hope to include as many parents in person as are able to attend. Please email [Erin\\_E\\_Kleinman@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Erin_E_Kleinman@mcpsmd.org) if you are able to attend.

### **New: Calming Bins for our Classrooms**

We are collecting donations to assemble Calming Bins for every classroom at Snowden Farm! These bins will be available to all students to support Social Emotional learning and wellbeing. Please review the available slots below, <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F044CAAAB22A4FF2-48096306-calming#/> and click on the button to sign up.

Contact School Counselors, Allison Pena or Danielle Luckett, with any questions.

Purchased donations can be dropped off at school labeled "Calming Bins"

### **New: Maryland Survey Students for 5th Grade**

State law requires that all public schools in Maryland survey students about school climate. The purpose of the survey is to gain valuable information about the quality and character of each

school's learning environment so that schools can promote a climate that supports student learning.

- 5th Grade students will take the Maryland School Survey during the week of March 11 .
- The survey will ask students about topics such as student engagement, interactions with adults and with other students in the school, the school environment, bullying, and safety.
- The survey will not ask about a student's personal experiences, and students will not be asked to provide any information that might violate their privacy.
- The survey is confidential and school personnel will not have access to the responses of specific students.
- The responses your child provides will be combined with the responses from other students in the school, and results will be reported for each school and district.
- We are eager to receive this very important information about your student's school and about schools across the state. Frequently Asked Questions and the Survey Item Bank may be found on the [Maryland School Survey](https://marylandpublicschools.org/marylandschoolsurvey) page at <https://marylandpublicschools.org/marylandschoolsurvey> .

If you have any questions about this survey, please contact Kayla Gross or Michelle Fortune at [Kayla\\_M\\_Gross@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Kayla_M_Gross@mcpsmd.org) or [Michelle\\_L\\_Fortune@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Michelle_L_Fortune@mcpsmd.org) .

### **New: Read Across America Spirit Week (March 4-March 8, 2024)**



- Monday, March 4: Reading is ACTIVE! Dress in your favorite workout or athletic gear!
- Tuesday, March 5: We are WILD about reading! Wear animal print!
- Wednesday, March 6: Hats off to reading! Wear a favorite hat today!
- Thursday, March 7: Reading Gives You Superpowers Day! Dress up as a favorite superhero to represent the superpowers you get from expanding your mind through reading!
  - We will have a Read Aloud Event in the morning with many special community members coming in to be guest readers.
  - They will be reading aloud various Black-Eyed Susan Picture Book Award Nominee titles to students in every grade level!
- Friday, March 8: Stallion School Colors Day! Let's celebrate our diverse yet united Snowden Farm family!

- Please visit the Read Across America site for tips on engaging your young readers in diverse texts all year long!
  - <https://www.nea.org/professional-excellence/student-engagement/read-across-america>

### **New: Read Aloud Day Refreshment Donations**

We are welcoming many community members into our school on Thursday, March 7 to be guest readers during our Read Aloud event and would love donations for our welcome reception.

- Please consider donating the items on the following sign-up genius and drop them off at the designated time!
- <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F044BADAF28A46-48047738-snowden>

### **Traffic Concerns during Drop-Off**

We need everyone's help to ensure that drop-off in the morning is safe for all students.

- We are asking that families use the available area to park and drop off their students.
  - Please do not double and/or triple park on Snowden Farm Parkway, this is unsafe for students to cross and block traffic.
  - If there are no spots available please continue to the car rider drop-off area.
- Please also make sure that you are using the crosswalks to cross the street.

We know these steps take additional time but will ensure all of our students arrive safely. This week you may see additional staff to assist with traffic in the morning when they are available.

### **Are you interested in a Spelling Bee?**

Unfortunately, we missed the opportunity to participate in the Scripps Spelling Bee. However, we're excited to explore the possibility of organizing an informal spelling bee, provided there is enough interest.

- Please take a moment to complete this brief survey and indicate whether your child(ren) would like to participate in such an event, **Informal Spelling Bee Survey**
- This is NOT a sign up

### **Girls on the Run is coming to Snowden Farm!**

Girls on the Run is a transformational physical activity-based positive youth development program. We teach life skills through dynamic, interactive lessons and running games. The program aims to unleash confidence through accomplishment while establishing a lifetime appreciation of health and fitness.

- Completing a 5K on May 19th gives them a tangible opportunity to apply everything they have learned.
- Each participant receives a program t-shirt, water bottle, entry to the GOTR 5K, and a finisher medal.
- The program is open to girls in 3rd-5th grade. Practice is on Monday and Thursday starting the week of March 10th until the week of May 25th.
- The cost is \$187.50. Financial Aid is available.
- The online registration process includes the fee reduction approval process. Simply answer the financial aid questions during registration, and the computer will determine your eligibility and adjust the fee accordingly.
  - Registration begins February 15th.
  - Register on [girlsontherunofmoco.org](http://girlsontherunofmoco.org) to sign up by March 22nd. Space is limited.
- If you have any questions about the program, please contact Mrs. Walsleben by email at [danielle\\_r\\_peters@mcpsmd.org](mailto:danielle_r_peters@mcpsmd.org).

### **New: Coyote Pups Preschool**

Are you, or someone you know, in search of a top-notch preschool experience for your little one? Look no further than Coyote Pups Preschool, located at Clarksburg High School! Coyote Pups Preschool offers a unique educational opportunity where preschool children and high school students learn and grow together. Led by CHS Child Development students, this program fosters a vibrant learning environment for both young learners and student teachers.

Here's what makes Coyote Pups Preschool stand out:

- **Dual Educational Experience:** Children aged four and high school students collaborate in a dynamic learning environment, fostering growth and development for all participants.
- **Practical Application:** High school students enrolled in Child Development courses get hands-on experience by implementing curriculum and techniques learned in class, under the guidance of certified early childhood professionals.
- **Quality Education:** Our program is designed to provide a high-quality educational experience for preschoolers, ensuring they are well-prepared for kindergarten and beyond.

- If your child will be four on or before September 1st, 2024, we invite you to express interest in Coyote Pups Preschool by completing our interest form [here](#).
  - Our preschool coordinator will be in touch with registration details in late March.
- Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity for your child's early education journey! For more information, please visit our website: [COYOTE PUPS WEBSITE](#)

### **Updates from the PTSA**

#### **Please consider joining the SFES PTA**

- Visit the [PTA Webpage](#) for more information and link on how to sign up.
- We are also in need of a chairperson to lead the Spirit Wear and PTA Newsletter committees.
  - Please email [vp2@sfespta.org](mailto:vp2@sfespta.org) if you are interested in volunteering to lead one of these committees.

### **Upcoming Important Dates**

- 2/27- In-house field trip for Kindergarten- Echoes of Nature
- 2/28- 4th Grade Trip to Imagination Stage
- 03/01- Early Release for Students
- 03/04- MISA for 5th Grade and Read Across America/ Dress in your favorite workout or athletic gear!
- 03/05- MISA for 5th Grade and Read Across America/ Wear animal print!

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to reach out to the school, 240-740-5800.

With Gratitude,  
Michelle Fortune