

Good Evening Snowden Farm Families,

We had a wonderful week at school and are excited to share a few highlights with you!

Our fifth graders had an amazing time on their recent field trip to the Kid Museum. It was a fun and engaging experience for our students, and we are grateful to our staff and parent chaperones who helped make the trip possible.

Thank you to everyone who joined us and planned the Movie Night on Friday. Your support helped us raise funds for our fifth graders, and it was great to see so many families come together for a fun evening.

On Monday, we will hold our Stallion Meet-Ups, where students will be recognized for being safe, studious, and synergic. During this time, students will also learn about Lunar New Year and we will review our school-wide attendance goals and celebrations.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership. We look forward to another great week at school!

New: Can Food Drive 02/09-02/13

To pay tribute to Martin Luther King Jr., we will be holding a canned food drive to stock our SFES pantry as well as other local pantries. Our SFES pantry is something we are starting this year to support our families with clothing and food needs. We will be collecting cans and non-perishable food items from February 9th-13th. The homeroom in K – 2 and 3 – 5 that bring in the most items will win a class reward. Thank you in advance for your help with supporting our school community!

New: Valentine's Day Party on 02/12 and 02/13

If you are planning on participating in Valentine's Day on Friday, please review the check in and check out procedures so we can get families in and out of the building in a timely and safe manner.

- Times for the parties
 - 02/12
 - 1st Grade - 2:00- 3:00 PM
 - 02/13
 - 2nd Grade- 12:30 PM - 1:15 PM
 - Kindergarten and 3rd Grade- 1:30 PM-2:15 PM
 - 4 th and 5th Grade- 2:30 PM-3:15 PM
- Our classrooms will be crowded for the parties, we are asking **a maximum of 2 visitors per student** and **visitors must be school age.**

- As always, it is imperative that you bring a valid driver's license to check in to the building.
- Having your ID out and ready is extremely helpful.

Dismissal is at 3:20.

- If you plan on taking your student out early, you must sign them out with the teacher in the classroom.
- If you are taking more than one student home early, you must check each student out with each teacher.
- Each student must have a 'check out' sticker on their person to leave the building.

Enrichment Night on 02/19 from 6:00-7:15 PM

We're excited to invite families to Snowden Farm ES Enrichment Night 2026 on Thursday, February 19 from 6:00–7:15 p.m. in the All-Purpose Room (APR)! This fun, interactive evening is designed to help students grow, glow, and get inspired through hands-on activities that build critical thinking and a growth mindset. Activities will include Finish the Picture, Story Starters, Word Builders, Guess Box/Bag, Game Master, and more. We hope to see you there for an engaging night of learning and creativity!

New: SFES Read Aloud Day on 03/05- Volunteers Needed

Snowden Farm Elementary is holding our annual Read Aloud Day on March 5th from 9:30-10:15. We've invited community leaders to read aloud to classes and would like to extend the invitation to some of our parents. If you are interested in reading to a class at Snowden Farm, please fill out [this form](#) to show your interest. Emily Pinegar, Reading Specialist will be in contact with you by February 27th to confirm details.

New: Reading Challenge: Bowie Baysox Read and Hit a Home Run

Bowie Baysox Read and Hit a Home Run Challenge starts February 6th. If your child reads 4 books, they earn 2 FREE tickets to the Bowie Baysox Game on April 10th. All parents need to do is fill out this [form](#) once your child has read 4 books. Happy Reading!

New: Career Day on 03/24- Volunteers Needed

Calling all adults with interesting careers! We are excited to host Snowden Farm's 3rd Annual Career Day on the morning of Tuesday, March 24, and we would love your help. Please fill out

the [short survey here](#) to indicate your interest by Sunday, March 1. We will be in touch with more information once we have reviewed responses. Thank you for volunteering!

New: Girls On The Run

Girls on the Run is coming back to Snowden Farm this Spring. We would love for your girl to join us for a season of running, friendship, and FUN! Practices will be held on Mondays and Wednesday after school from March 9 to May 20, with a celebratory 5K run on Sunday, May 17 at Montgomery Mall. Registration opens Tuesday, February 10, at 9 am for all 3rd to 5th grade girls.

- For more details and to register visit:

<https://www.girlsontherunofmoco.org/3rd-5th-grade-program-details>

If you have any questions about Snowden Farm's team, please email our Head Coach, Mrs. Peña: allison_n_pena@mcpsmd.org

New: Observing Ramadan

As we approach the month of Ramadan, which runs from the evening of February 17th through March 19th, we want to share an option available for students who will be fasting during the school day.

Students who are observing Ramadan and do not wish to remain in the cafeteria during lunch may choose to go to the Media Center instead. This space will be available during lunch periods as a quiet, supervised area for students who are fasting.

Participation is optional, and students may continue to use the cafeteria if they prefer. However, they must have written confirmation from parents that they are fasting in order to go to the Media Center. [HERE](#) is a Google Form parents can complete for confirmation.

Thank you for your continued support as we work to be respectful of our students' needs.

New: GT Parent Input

Parents of 2nd grade students, as well as those being rescreened for Gifted and Talented Designation, are offered the opportunity to fill out a survey with parent input on their child's characteristics for learning.

- The GT Parent Input letter directions will be uploaded to ParentVUE on Monday, February 9th in the evening, and mailed to homes starting February 11th.

Keep an eye out for these directions so you can fill out an input survey for your child on ParentVUE if applicable.

5th Grade Fundraiser: Help Raise Some Dough for Fifth Grade!

The fifth-grade class is a little over halfway to our fundraising goal to fully fund a fantastic fifth-grade promotion ceremony, end-of-year celebration, free t-shirts for fifth graders, and a legacy gift for the school.

We would greatly appreciate your support through our latest fundraiser: Mrs. Fields cookie dough! You may place an order using the link below or scan the QR code on the flyer that will be coming home with your child in their Thursday folder.

- <https://brandnamefundraising.com/raise/SnowdenFarmElementaryPTA>
- Each box of cookie dough includes 24 pre-formed discs, ready for the oven.
- Our school keeps 40% of all profits.
- Mrs. Field's has distribution centers all over the United States, for fast delivery of products.

Join the PTA

Join the PTA to become an integral part of your child's elementary school experience.

- Fill out the membership form online,
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc98gaet2hNbdVBLPQMYyjdDemfgWNSvYCWmhazRDuDsSE-8w/viewform?usp=preview>
- Pay Dues
 - Pay online via Zelle: treasurer@sfspta.org
 - Individual Membership \$20
 - Family Membership \$40
 - Staff Membership \$15

New: Important Information from MCPS

New: Making Up the Snow Days

As a result of the recent winter storm, MCPS needs to make up four instructional days. Two non-instructional days will be changed to instructional days: Friday, March 20 and Thursday, June 18, which will be an early release day and the new last day of the school year. Students observing Eid al-Fitr on March 20 will receive an excused absence.

Other make-up days are being considered, but no decisions have been made. MCPS will request a waiver from the state for some of the missed instructional days. Pending the outcome, the district will update its make-up plan and share a revised school calendar with families.

New: New Marking Period, New Momentum: Staying Connected for Student Success

Marking Period 3 officially started on Tuesday, Feb. 3. With the start of a new semester, families have the opportunity to reestablish communication to ensure everyone remains on the same page about student progress throughout the marking period and second semester. [Read more](#) for tips for a strong start and key dates.

New: Superintendent Presents Boundary Recommendations and Regional Secondary Programs Model

During the Board of Education's work session today (Feb. 5), Superintendent Thomas Taylor presented a set of boundary recommendations regarding Charles W. Woodward and Thomas S. Wootton high schools. He also proposed a regional secondary model that would provide students with increased access to a broad range of programs. [Read more.](#)

New: We Must Fund Our Future!

Make your voice heard on the MCPS [Fiscal Year \(FY\) 2027 Recommended Operating Budget!](#) It is critical that our elected leaders hear from you about the essential role school plays in your students' lives, and the importance of giving students access to the opportunities and resources they need to be successful. [Read more](#) for a budget timeline and upcoming meetings where you can provide input.

New: Spotlight on Black History Month

During Black History Month, the Board of Education is proud to honor the power, resilience and enduring legacy of Black history in Montgomery County. Learning, leadership and community first came together at Scotland A.M.E. Zion Church in Potomac, a space that became a foundation for education and opportunity. [Read more and watch Echoes of the Ancestors.](#)

Additional Information

- [Annual MCPS Pest Management Notice](#)

- [Annual MCPS Asbestos Notice](#)
- [At-Home Student Device Request](#)
- [Bullying, Harassment, and Intimidation Reporting](#)
- Food Assistance: Call Manna's main office during regular business hours, Monday through Friday 9:00 am-4:00 pm, at (301) 424-1130.
- [Menus - Department of Food & Nutrition Services - Montgomery County Public Schools, Rockville, MD](#)
- School Cash Online- <https://mcpsmd.schoolcashionline.com/>
- Maryland Anonymous Tip Line - 1-833-632-7233- Report threats or situations that put your safety, or others' safety, at risk.
- In Case You Missed It:
 - [Refrigerator Curriculum](#): See what your children will be learning each marking period.
 - [Register for Saturday School](#). The tutoring sessions are available to students in K-12 in math and English/Language Arts and have in-person and virtual options.
 - MCPS welcomes volunteers! [Here's how to do it.](#)
- More MCPS Resources
 - [School calendar](#)
 - [Parent resource page](#)
 - [Remind, ParentSquare, ParentVUE](#): What's the difference?
 - [Student Code of Conduct](#): [Read the revised document](#) and [watch the video](#).

Upcoming Important Dates

- Monday, February 9th- Stallion Meet Ups
- Wednesday, February 11th- Spelling Bee Finals
- Thursday, February 12th- 1st Grade Valentine's Day Party
- Friday, February 13th- Kindergarten Field Trip to Imagination Stage and Valentine's Day Parties for Kindergarten, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade
- Monday, February 16th and Tuesday, February 17th- Schools are closed
- Thursday, February 19th- PTA meeting and Enrichment Night starting at 6:00 PM

With Gratitude,

Mrs. Michelle Fortune, Principal