

Good Evening Snowden Farm Families,

We want to wish a very Happy Mother's Day to all of the moms and mom-like figures in our school community. We are so grateful for the care, support, and love you provide to our students each and every day.

This week was certainly a busy one, but it was also filled with so many joyful experiences for our students and staff. We enjoyed two wonderful in-school concerts as well as a fantastic evening performance. A special thank you goes out to Ms. Jackson and Mr. Spitzeberg for their dedication in preparing our chorus and instrumental music students.

We also had a special opportunity for our students thanks to Mr. Benco, who arranged a virtual visit with Olympic champion Katie Ledecky. She spoke with students about the importance of both mental and physical health, leaving them with an inspiring and meaningful message.

Our first and second grade students had a great time on their field trips this week! First grade visited Green Meadows Farm, and second grade explored South Mountain Creamery. These trips were filled with hands-on learning and memorable moments. Thank you to our 1st and 2nd grade teams for organizing such engaging experiences, and to all of our chaperones for your support in making these trips possible.

We also want to recognize our 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students, who have been working incredibly hard during MCAP testing. They have shown focus, perseverance, and a commitment to doing their best. Thank you to our staff for preparing them so thoughtfully throughout the year.

Finally, we are incredibly appreciative of our PTA and families for the many thoughtful ways you celebrated our staff during Staff Appreciation Week. From breakfasts and lunches to desserts and kind gestures, your generosity and support mean so much to our entire team.

### **MCAP Assessments continue this Week**

3rd, 4th and 5th grade students will continue taking the Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP) test this week on May 11th and 12th.

- There will be four days of English/Language Arts testing and four days of Mathematics testing.
- Please help to ensure that students are ready for testing by getting a good night's rest, eating a nutritional breakfast and coming to school on time on those days.
- Please encourage your students to do their best and take their time!

### **New: School Improvement Plan Review: You're Invited!**

The Snowden Farm Instructional Leadership Team will be holding our Marking Period 3 School Improvement Plan Review on Tuesday, May 12th, from 4:15-4:45. We will share updated data from the third marking period, including expected proficiency progress on the MISA and ACCESS assessments, as well as DIBELS and math assessment progress, and attendance data.

- We invite any and all parents who would like to attend to come on Tuesday May 12th at 4:15 to the media center.
- Please email [Erin\\_E\\_Kleinman@mcpssmd.org](mailto:Erin_E_Kleinman@mcpssmd.org) if you plan on coming. We hope to see you there!

### **Spring BOGO Book Fair from 05/13-05/20**

The Scholastic BOGO (Buy One, Get One free) Book Fair will be coming back Wednesday, May 13 - Wednesday, May 20!

- We have [volunteer slots available](#) and older students may earn SSL hours if accompanied by an adult.

### **Cookies & Milk Event on 05/14 at 6:00 PM in the APR**

Coinciding with the Spring Book Fair will be a new evening event called "Cookies & Milk." Taking place on Thursday, May 14th from 6-7:30 pm, come join us for free treats, storybook readings from your favorite teachers, and shopping at the Book Fair! We can't wait to see you there!

### **Save the Date: Field Day on June 8th and 9th!**

We are excited to announce our upcoming Field Days! Please mark your calendars:

- June 8th: Kindergarten, 2nd Grade, and 4th Grade
- June 9th: 1st Grade, 3rd Grade, and 5th Grade

Field Day is always a highlight of the year, and we'll need your help to make it a success! We are looking for family volunteers to donate time, tents, and supplies. More information, including a sign-up through SignUpGenius, will be shared soon.

### **Chinese Language and Culture After School Learning Program on Thursdays from 05/07-06/04**

The Chinese After School Program is specifically designed for elementary students, aiming to ignite their passion for Mandarin Chinese through a vibrant, immersive environment. We provide interactive language learning, and cultural arts & activities, focused on essential vocabulary & communication. We believe that learning a language is more than just mastering vocabulary; it is about opening a window to a diverse world.

- <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1g7KfPuT4MZN3N48xZMQxV64MRYAIDDuj/view?usp=sharing>
- Please return permission slips to the main office.

### **Kindergarten Registration Now Open**

For the 2026-2027 school year, [kindergarten registration](#) is now open and being held online through the [ParentVUE portal](#). Children who will be 5 years old by Sept. 1, 2026 are eligible. If your family is new to MCPS, you will need to create a ParentVue account [here](#). After creating an account, you will be prompted to register when you first log in.

Registration sessions will be held in person beginning Monday, March 16. Schools will share further information about kindergarten registration with families. Early entrance to kindergarten and first grade opens on Monday, March 9.

### **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](mailto:treasurer@sfspta.org)
  - Individual Membership \$20
  - Family Membership \$40
  - Staff Membership \$15

### **New: Important Information from MCPS**

#### **Time is Almost Up ... MCPS Needs to Hear From You**

There are only a couple of days left to reply to the survey, and it will take less than 10 minutes! Share with us what's working well and where we can improve as a district, from academics and communication to the overall school and office climate. **Your input does matter.**

- This important annual survey is open until May 10. [Learn more](#) and [take the survey](#).
- Families: [Take the survey](#).
- Students: [Take the survey](#). **No student ID required!**

### **Parents, Keep Up the Great Work at Home!**

It is testing and assessment season, and we are so proud of the way students are showing perseverance and focus.

Your support at home remains important:

- Maintain consistent sleep routines.
- Encourage positive thinking and effort.
- Remind your child to use strategies such as taking their time and checking their work.

### **Learn More About MCPS Summer Programs**

[Registration for Summer School!](#): MCPS is offering the Ignite Middle School Academy, which will offer math and literacy at six sites. Register on [ParentVue](#). There is also in-person high school and virtual high school summer school. Check out College Essay Writing and Test Prep to build student confidence and reduce test anxiety. Talk with your high school counselor to sign up.

### **Other Student Opportunities**

- KID Museum is offering upcoming opportunities for students, including summer camps and a free Invent the Future Expo. [Summer camps](#) are available for K–8th grade students from June 22–Aug. 21, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. The Invent the Future Expo will be held from 10 a.m.-2p.m. on Sunday, May 31, at 3 Bethesda Metro Center. [Register](#).
- **Montgomery Can Code**: This free weeklong summer camp is open to MCPS rising 6th, 7th and 8th grade students.

**Learn more:** [English](#) / [español](#) / [中文](#) / [français](#) / [Português](#) / [한국어](#) / [tiếng Việt](#) / [አማርኛ](#)

### **Additional Information**

- [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.schoolcashonline.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.
- More MCPS Resources
  - [School calendar](#)
  - [Parent resource page](#)
  - [Student Code of Conduct](#): [Read the revised document](#) and [watch the video](#).

### **Upcoming Important Dates**

- Monday, 05/11- MCAP Math for Grades 3-5
- Tuesday, 05/12- MCAP math for Grades 3-5 and 5th grade panoramic picture
- Wednesday, 05/13- Book Fair Preview and 5th Grade Survey
- Thursday, 05/14- Book Fair Preview and Cookies and Milk at 6:00 PM in the APR
- Friday, 05/15- Patrol Picnic and Book Fair
- Tuesday, 05/19- 3rd Grade MD Science Center Field Trip

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend!

Thank you, as always, for your continued support of our school community.

With Gratitude,

Mrs. Michelle Fortune, Principal