

Good Evening Snowden Farm Families,

We had a wonderful week of learning and excitement at school!

Our 5th graders enjoyed a fantastic field trip to Strathmore, where they had the opportunity to experience live music and connect it to their learning in meaningful ways. First graders celebrated “Operation Day” with hands-on activities that made learning fun and engaging. Thank you to the PTA for sponsoring Trunk or Treat. It was great to see so many students come out and thank you to all the caregivers who helped make this event such a success!

Please remember when dropping off or picking up students to please use the car loop at the front of the building. While in the car loop please pull all the way forward in the lane before letting your student out in the morning or picking up in the afternoon.

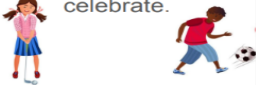
New: Mental Health Awareness Week (Friday 10/31- Friday 11/7)

Taking care of our mental health is so important! When we prioritize our mental health and wellness, we are happier, healthier and more productive.

- Join us for Spirit Week and Family Zumba Night on Wednesday 11/5 from 6:00- 7:00pm in the Gym!



Snowden Farm Mental Health Awareness Week October 31st–November 7th

*Friday 10/31 Feel Good Friday Wear something that makes you happy! 	Tuesday 11/4 Trusted Adult Tuesday Trusted adults help us feel safe and heard. Dress like a trusted adult in your life! 	Wednesday 11/5 Winning Wednesday When we care about mental health, we all win! Wear your favorite sports gear to celebrate. 	Thursday 11/6 Thinking Cap Thursday Have a clear and open mind to think and learn. Wear your favorite hat! 	Friday 11/7 Bright Future Friday Looking forward to brighter days ahead! Wear sunglasses and/or neon colors. 
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*No School Mon, 11/3!

ZUMBA Family Event!
Time: 6:00–7:00 pm

Fall Book Fair and Volunteers are Needed!

Our Fall Book Fair is right around the corner! Kicking off Monday, November 10th (Preview Day) - Tuesday, November 18th, our school is excited to promote the love of reading.

- Please click on the <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040D48A8A629A2F49-59721111-sfes#/> for Volunteer Slots being offered every day of the Book Fair; 8am-10am, 10am-12pm, 3-5pm, and a few special late night slots from 5-7pm.
- E-Wallet information will be forthcoming!

NEW: Grandparents/Special Friends Day (November 13th or 14th)

The PTA will be hosting breakfast for our students and their Grandparents/Special Friend(s) on Thursday, November 13th and Friday, November 14th from 8:00 am-8:45 am in the all-purpose room. We will provide coffee, juice, donuts and fruit. It's also a great time to visit the Book Fair!

If your student will be attending along with their Grandparents/Special Friend(s):

- [please RSVP](#) no later than Monday, November 11th.
- Please only select the one day they will attend, not both dates.

New: Updates from the Student Wellness Committee

Each month, our **Student Wellness Committee** will share a short activity or conversation starter families can try at home to support students' social and emotional well-being. These simple ideas will help families slow down, connect, and build healthy habits together whether it's taking a walk, sharing about your day, or trying a moment of mindfulness. By setting aside time for connection, reflection, and fun, we help students feel supported both at school and at home because wellness grows stronger when we grow it together. ***If your family participates in one of these monthly challenges, please take a picture and send it to your teacher so we can put it on display!***

- For this month:
 - Try this: **Gratitude Walks**-Take a short family walk and have everyone share one thing they're grateful for.
 - Why: Gratitude helps kids (and adults!) focus on the positive and build resilience.
- November:
 - The student wellness committee wants to remind you to prioritize your social and emotional well-being!

- Try this: **Family Dinner Conversations** -During dinner, go around the table and each share one “high” and one “low” from your day. Why: Regular family check-ins help kids feel heard and connected while strengthening communication skills.

New: Lost and Found

This is a reminder that our **Lost and Found** will be cleaned out and donated this Friday, 10/31. Please have your students stop by and claim any items they are missing.

New: Updated Chromebook Policy

As part of our commitment to enhancing the learning experience of all our students, we are pleased to provide each student with access to Chromebooks in school for educational purposes. These devices are valuable tools that empower students to engage in digital learning, conduct research, collaborate on projects, assessments and access educational resources both in and out of the classroom.

In order to ensure the longevity and effectiveness of these devices, please review the following Chromebook guidelines with your child:

- Encourage your child to handle the Chromebook with care.
- Avoid any rough or careless handling that could potentially lead to damages.
- Carry a chromebook with two hands when moving from place to place, especially in hallways.
- Keep chromebook away from any liquids or food items.

While we strive to provide the best possible resources for our students, it is important to note that damages to Chromebooks may occur from time to time. In the event of accidental damage or loss, please be aware that there may be associated repair or replacement costs involved. These costs may vary depending on the extent of the damage and will be communicated to you accordingly. Please see the MCPS repairment costs on page 2.

We understand that accidents can happen, and we assure you that we will handle each situation with care and understanding. However, we also believe it is important for students to take responsibility for their actions and to understand the consequences of mishandling school property. Our goal is for students to take care of school equipment and not to incur a penalty. Please sign the document below with your student and return it to your classroom teacher.

We appreciate your continued support in fostering a safe and conducive learning environment for all our students. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding Chromebook usage or damages, please do not hesitate to contact us.

New: Piano Sale

We are pleased to inform you of an opportunity to purchase a piano for your family. Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) has an agreement with Schaeffer's Piano Company, Inc., to provide MCPS with new grand, upright, and digital pianos to be used in schools. Schaeffer's Piano Company, Inc., located in Rockville, Maryland, is the area's oldest piano store. This agreement also provides MCPS families and staff an opportunity to purchase these and other in stock pianos for considerably reduced prices at an annual piano sales event.

This year's liquidation sales event will take place November 15–23, 2025, at 105 North Stonestreet Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20850. Sales will be by appointment only to provide an opportunity for you to purchase these pianos before they are offered for sale to the public. All pianos will carry a 15-year transferable warranty. Each piano will come with a bench and one free in-house tuning.

- For additional information, you may visit the Schaeffer's Piano Company, Inc., website at www.schaefferspiano.com.
- To make an appointment for the sale, between November 15–23, 2025, please call the Schaeffer's Piano Company appointment desk at 301-424-1147.

We are grateful to be working with Schaeffer's Piano Company, Inc., to support our school music programs and help MCPS keep new and well-maintained instruments in our schools each year. If you have any questions, please contact Schaeffer's Piano Company, Inc., at 301-424-1144.

Chinese Language Class for 4th and 5th Grade starting on 10/29

The Chinese After School Program offers twenty-five students in 4th and 5th grade a fun and creative way to explore the Chinese language and culture through art, storytelling, and hands-on activities. Students will have the opportunity to color and design their own Chinese-themed artwork, helping them develop creativity while gaining a deeper appreciation of Chinese traditions and aesthetics. In addition to art and crafts, students will engage in interactive language learning - practicing speaking and listening through songs, games, and conversations, while also learning to read and write simple Chinese characters. Through storytelling, they will discover fascinating Chinese folktales and bring them to life through drawings, crafts, and performances. This program aims to build cultural awareness, inspire imagination, and foster confidence in language learning in a joyful and supportive environment. Students from Clarksburg High

School and Hallie Wells Middle School will be leading the program. The Chinese teacher from these schools, Ms. Karen He will sponsor the program.

- Please complete the parent permission slip here:
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ec3payTvRr4FrO64HYrVKUUeMLEEB-Ppp1MU8KLMxqs/edit?tab=t.0#heading=h.7tpnns64p19r>

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: Don't Miss Upcoming Boundary & Secondary Programs Analysis Engagement Sessions

In the next few weeks, MCPS invites the community to participate in a series of Q&A engagement sessions on the boundary studies and academic programs analysis efforts. [See when and where they will be held.](#)

In addition, be sure to join us for a virtual “Pregúntale a MCPS” [live on Facebook](#) for Spanish-speaking families at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 5. This session will focus on the boundary study options and new academic programs in secondary schools.

New: Capital Budget Public Hearings and Work Sessions Set

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 Capital Budget and FY 2027–2032 Capital Improvements Program (CIP) requests \$2.7 billion over six years. However, it represents only about half of what district facilities actually need. [Read more](#) and join the upcoming [public hearings and work sessions](#).

Refrigerator Curriculum's Second Quarter Documents Now Available

The Refrigerator Curriculum — [instructional materials for the second quarter](#), which begins on Nov. 4 — are now available online. This curriculum is a one-page overview of what students will learn each marking period. These guides help families stay informed about key themes and texts, stay engaged in their student's education, and, if needed, request alternative assignments if a text conflicts with religious views.

New:Now You Know: School Bus Safety

Riding the bus is a privilege, so it's important to ride by the rules — stay seated, keep the aisle clear, and always listen to the bus driver. Remember, the bus is like a rolling classroom, and good behavior keeps everyone safe. Parents, please help reinforce these rules at home, and try to arrive five minutes early in the mornings and afternoons. [Read more.](#)

Watch in [Spanish](#) | [French](#) | [Chinese](#) | [Vietnamese](#) | [Amharic](#) | [Korean](#) | [Portuguese](#)

New:Mental Health Awareness Week Set for Nov. 3-8

The Division of Specialized Support Services and the Montgomery County School Psychologists' Association are co-hosting the [2026 Mental Health Awareness Week \(MHAW\)](#) from Nov. 3-8. The [Mental Health and Wellness Fair](#) will be held from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 8 at Gaithersburg High School, 101 Education Blvd. in Gaithersburg. Open to staff, students, and families, this free event will include workshops, community partners sharing information about mental health and wellness, a student forum, and line dancing, Zumba, and yoga. [RSVP to attend.](#)

The goal of the conference is to craft an experience that reignites and builds the social-emotional wellness, confidence and values of young males. Some of the sessions include life skills stations, panel conversations, STEM exposure, an essay contest and a parent advocacy workshop. [More information.](#)

Additional Information

- [Annual MCPS Pest Management Notice](#)
- [Annual MCPS Asbestos Notice](#)
- [At-Home Student Device Request](#)
- [Bullying, Harassment, and Intimidation Reporting](#)

- [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.
 - [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

- 10/29- Kindergarten Field Trip to Butlers Orchard and 1st Grade Reptile Wonders
- 10/30- Fall Pictures
- 11/03- Grading and Planning Day - No School for Students
- 11/05- Family Zumba from 6:00-7:00

Thank you for your continued support in helping us create a safe and caring school environment for all students.

With Gratitude,

Mrs. Michelle Fortune, Principal