



## ***From Mrs. Ketterer:***

It has been a busy, productive month of March despite the ever-changing weather and the arrival of daylight savings time! The PARCC Testing for our 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students continues with our teachers and parents offering amazing support to motivate the students!

Our PTA Spring Dance was so much fun, attended by more than 100 families! Thank you to the PTA Executive Board and the parent volunteers who supported the evening! Thank you for the donations of snacks and water that kept us going! Family photos that were taken will come home in your child's Monday Folder next week.

This marking period ends soon, on Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup>. Students will dismiss 3 hours early this day so teachers can work on report cards. It's hard to believe we are almost finished with the third quarter of this school year!



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## **PARCC Testing Continues This Week for Third and Fourth Graders**

PARCC testing began Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Fourth and fifth graders have completed their testing and are now finishing make-up testing. Third graders will test from Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> through Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>. On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, students will take the English/Language Arts units of PARCC. On Thursday and Friday, students will take the Math units for PARCC. The order of units during test week was the same for all grades.

*We'd like to encourage full attendance during your child's week of testing. Students who miss testing will need to make up the test. For make-up testing, it is possible that students may have to take more than one unit a day. This is not ideal. Inclement weather has also contributed to the need to make up missed testing days.*

**Please make sure your child is well rested the night before testing and arrives at school on time each day.**

## **Congratulations to Swansfield Artists!**

Congratulations to the following artists who have pieces of work in multiple shows around the county. Fifth-graders Eden Beaudry, Valerie Brady and Keshawn Roberts have photos in the "Art of the Selfie" currently on display at the Columbia Center for the Arts. Kindergarteners Teoman Moon, Ezri Milchard, and David Lewis each have a piece of their art on display at the Kindergarten Showcase at the Board of Education Gallery. Second-grader Damon Burkman and fourth-grader Fiona Zhang each have a piece at the Miller Branch of the Howard County Library celebrating Youth Art Month. Finally, fourth-graders Quedence Evans, Devon McGuinness, and Sebastian Arias-Rosado have a clay piece on display at the Howard County Center for the Arts representing Swansfield at the "Maps as Art" exhibit. Our Swansfield artists are the best!

## **DreamBox Learning Math Challenge**

This past Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, was Pi Day (<http://www.piday.org/>). It marks the start of our first Spring Math Challenge! In school and at home, our goal is to complete FIVE or more lessons on DreamBox each week. If the math class has an average of FIVE or more lessons completed it is automatically entered into a drawing through DreamBox.com to win various prizes (pizza party, bracelets, certificates). *This will go on each week through April 10, 2015.*

In addition to the drawing through the website, here at school we will post the classes each week that are averaging FIVE or more lessons completed and enter the classes for a school-wide drawing. Prizes may include math prize box selection, HW passes, extra recess, or a school appropriate treat!

**It is this simple: get on DreamBox, complete FIVE or more lessons each week, and win!!!!!!!**

Students in grades K-1 have a picture password. Students in grades 2-5 have a login and password; it is the same login and password that is used to log into the school computers. If you need this information or have any questions, please contact me at [kendra\\_johnson@hcpss.org](mailto:kendra_johnson@hcpss.org) or at (410)313-6907. Thank you in advance for all of your support.

## **Dental Screening for Kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade**

Chase Brexton will be conducting a dental screening at Swansfield for all Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> graders (with parental consent). **Please note the date below:**

Wednesday March 25 Dental Clinic  
Thursday, April 23 Dental Sealants

If the dental professional identifies more urgent problems you will be notified and asked to follow up with either your family dentist or the Chase Brexton Clinic. We will need a few parent volunteers to help with escorting students from the classrooms. Please contact the health room at 410-313-5621 if you are willing to help. Thanks and keep smiling!

## **Vision and Hearing Screening Coming in April**

The Health Department will be performing hearing and vision screenings for PK students, Kindergarteners not previously screened in PK, 1st grade students, and those in any grade who are new to the state of Maryland on April 14<sup>th</sup> and April 21<sup>st</sup>. **If your child wears glasses, please be certain they wear them on those days.** We are in need of 2 volunteers for each day. Your assistance is needed to escort children from the classroom to the screening area and back. Please call the health room at 410-313-5621 if you can help.

## **Upcoming School / Community Events**

### **STEM Night Coming Soon on Wednesday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00-8:00 p.m.**

Our Title I and Technology Team, along with parent involvement, has an evening of interactive science and engineering activities prepared for our SES families! When you arrive on STEM Night, you will sign in and receive your "passport" to science adventures. Parents, please plan for one adult to be with your primary grade level students (PK-2) and one adult to travel with your intermediate grade level students (3-5). There is an assembly at the end to officially launch our Science Fair and to raffle off amazing STEM prizes!

### **HCMS Middle School and G/T Overview Coming Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Harper's Choice Middle School** invites parents of 5th grade students to attend an overview of the middle school and G/T programs on **Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup>** at 6pm in the HCMS Cafeteria. Please join the HCMS staff as we present information on the middle school courses, schedule, and the G/T program. *This overview is designed for parents only. Students will attend a visitation during the school day on May 19<sup>th</sup>.*

### **Board of Education Hosts Coffee & Conversation Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:30-9:00 p.m.**

This meeting will provide citizens with an opportunity to share a cup of coffee and chat informally with Board members. The *Coffee & Conversation* will take place at Lake Elkhorn Middle School Media Center at 6680 Cradlerock Way in Columbia.

## **Spotlight Team Winners for March 13<sup>th</sup>**

Pre-K am	Miji Ojifinni	(Miss Day's Class)	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	Khamari Babb	(Mrs. Myers' Class)
Pre-K pm	Ry'Lyn Francis	(Miss Day's Class)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	Summer McCauley	(Miss Lewis' Class)
Kindergarten	Kamira Whyte	(Mrs. Niezgoda's Class)	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Logan Fawns	(Mr. Hayes' Class)
1 <sup>st</sup> - Grade	Dylan Satriano	(Miss Warner's Class)	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Amber Vong	(Ms. Salazar's Class)

## **Spotlight Classroom Winners for March 13<sup>th</sup>**

Kindergarten	Kemonie Alexander-Haire	(Ms. Holden's Class)	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	Noah Guerin	(Miss Birmingham's Class)
	Zoe Perkins	(Miss Shipley's Class)		Erick Barrera Cordon	(Mrs. Huter's Class)
	Tafari Bogle	(Mr. Werdesheim's Class)		Romeo Guevara-Sanchez	(Mrs. Olthoff's Class)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	Timmie Liu	(Mrs. Erb's Class)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	Jiell Matthews	(Miss Wyant's Class)
	Daxton Borja	(Mrs. Hovis' Class)		Angel Minor	(Ms. Bell's Class)
	Chelsea Tillery	(Mrs. Rooths' Class)		Michael Garin	(Miss Bonnette's Class)
4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Samuel Davies	(Mrs. Barron's Class)	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Andrew Arthungal	(Miss Miller's Class)
	Benjamin Showalter	(Miss Narron's Class)		Mashal Nawabi	(Ms. Ashton's Class)
	Samuel Ilo	(Mrs. Ports' Class)		Malcolm Evans	(Miss Kanter's Class)
				Samara Arrington	(Miss Regan's Class)

**Photographs of SPOTLIGHT Winners are updated weekly on our website, <http://ses.hcpss.org>.**

## **IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER**

Wednesday, March 25

Thursday, March 26

Dental Exams (K-3<sup>rd</sup>) @ 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

3<sup>rd</sup> Gr. Orchestra - Young People's Concert @ 9:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Zoo Visit to 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade @ 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Zoo Visit to 1<sup>st</sup> Grade @ 2:15 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

STEM Night @ 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Friday, March 27

March 28- April 6

Tuesday, April 7

Wednesday, April 8

Thursday, April 9

EARLY DISMISSAL- End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter @ 12:10 P.M.

SPRING BREAK- Schools and Offices Closed

Return to School

Kindergarten Field Trip to the Library

Students for Safe Schools @ 7:45 a.m. in the Media Center

PTA Meeting in the Media Center @ 7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

with Movie / PJ Night in the Cafeteria for kids of parents attending

Tuesday, April 14

Hearing and Vision Screening all day

3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Report Cards go home

G/T 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Rocket Launch in the Field 11:15 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Friday, April 17

Tuesday, April 21

PICTURE DAY: Class and Individual Spring Photos

Hearing and Vision Rescreening

New Kindergarten (2015-2016) Q & A 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Family Life Preview @ 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade pod

Thursday, April 23

Thursday, April 30

Dental Sealants @ 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

PTA Cultural Arts Assemblies: Literature to Life @ 8:55 a.m. and 9:45 a.m.

Pre-K Field Trip to the Zoo @ 9:00 a.m.– 2:00 p.m. for both AM and PM sessions

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Simulated Congressional Hearing Kick-Off @ 2:10 p.m. in the Cafeteria

PTA International Night @ 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.