

# KNIGHTLY NEWS

# 12-16-2021

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

**12/22:** School Store

**12/22:** Chipotle Night for Music Boosters

**12/23 -12/31:** Schools Closed - Winter Break

**1/06:** 8th Grade Family Information Night, 6PM @ Mt. Hebron High

**1/12:** Rising 6th Grade Parent Orientation

**1/17:** School Closed - Martin Luther King Jr. Day

**1/18:** Vision and Hearing

**1/19:** 3 hr. Early Dismissal, 11:50AM

**1/20:** Music Boosters Meeting, 7PM

**1/24:** School Closed for students

**1/26:** PTA meeting

**1/31:** Report Cards posted

Refer to the [Patapsco Calendar](#) to stay up-to-date with all the events at Patapsco Middle School.

## **Important Phone Numbers**

School Office: 410-313-2848

Student Services: 410-313-2850

Health Room: 410-313-2574



*Patapsco- a place where **everyone** is valued and important!*

## **Social Media for parents**

We know that social media is a large trend for youth and many times parents are wondering how to engage in conversations with their children regarding social media. Winter break is a perfect time to unplug and engage in many conversations with your child for a variety of topics: how is school, how are you feeling, who is making you smile, social media, what are they into,

shows, movies, etc. We encourage each parent to have a conversation with their child regarding social media and we wanted to provide some resources for you:

[Teaching Kids to Be Smart about Social Media](#)

[What Parents Need to Know about Social Media for Kids](#)

[Five Healthy social media habits every teen should know](#)

**In an effort to slow the spread of the virus and keep schools open, HCPSS is implementing temporary mitigation strategies, effective immediately.**

The following in-person activities are suspended immediately through January 15, 2022 with a reevaluation on January 7, 2022. This includes:

- Athletic practices and contests
- Theater rehearsals and performances
- School concerts and performances
- Extracurricular activities
- Field trips

Per this decision, all after school activities at Patapsco are canceled through Saturday, January 15, 2022.

## **Help Celebrate the Staff at Patapsco!**

Do you have time to help spread some holiday cheer? Mr. Babe would like to deliver treats to the PMS staff on Monday 12/20. You can help by sending in items for the staff to enjoy. Please see signup genius to help!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0d45acaa2ca31-treats>

## **Restaurant Night at Chipotle for Patapsco Music Booster**

Enjoy a break from the busy holiday season by picking up a delicious meal from Chipotle!

- Wednesday, December 22
- 4:00pm-8:00pm
- 9120 Baltimore National Pike
- Ellicott City, MD 21042 (In the Sprouts shopping center)
- **Please let Chipotle know that you are supporting the Patapsco Music Booster and 33% of the sales will go toward the fundraiser.**
- If you are ordering through Chipotle's website, please input code **VFH8EWX**

See flyer for more information

## 8th Grade Shirt Order

Patapsco 8th Grade Signature Shirt Order Form is ready. The PTA has had long standing tradition of offering and ordering 8th grade graduation shirts. The back will have the numbers "22" which will be signed by all 8th graders, but the front will feature an original student design. The contest is currently running for students to submit their artwork. Shirt color will be Navy Blue only. **There is no cost for the first T-shirt.** The cost is being covered by the PTA through its general fundraising activities and a generous donation received by one of Patapsco's very own rock star science teacher. To place your order, visit <https://patapscomiddle.memberhub.com/store>. When you visit the site, there will be four options you can select from; free t-shirt, additional t-shirt for \$10; long sleeve shirt for \$18 and sweatshirt for \$28. All 8th grade parents must complete the free option and any additional option you may like to purchase. Signature Shirts are neither exchangeable nor returnable and there will be no extras ordered so get your order in by **December 20, 2021**. A form will need to be completed for each 8th Grader you have at Patapsco. For questions, please reach out to Melissa Singleton at [mschnaar@hotmail.com](mailto:mschnaar@hotmail.com)

## 8th Grade Family Information Night

Thursday, January 6, 2022 at 6PM. We will share a flyer with information soon.

## Mount Hebron Dance Placement Auditions- UPDATE!

The MTH dance auditions will now be virtual, meaning that incoming 9th grade students and current MTH students who are not in the dance program will audition via **video submission**. All

videos must be submitted by **Friday, January 7th**.

Please visit [hebrondance.com](http://hebrondance.com) and click on the "Audition" page for more information. Contact [jennifer\\_dipietro@hcpss.org](mailto:jennifer_dipietro@hcpss.org) with any questions.

## **PMS Hearing and Vision Clinic – January 18**

The Howard County Health Department and HCPSS School Health Services support your student's academic success by providing vision and hearing screenings. On Tuesday, January 18th, the Howard County Health Department will be at PMS to conduct a vision and hearing clinic for all 8th grade students and any 6th or 7th grade student new to the state of Maryland. Please see the attached [Vision and Hearing Screening flyer](#) for additional details. The re-screening date is scheduled for Thursday, January 27th.

## **Clothing to Cash- easy donation!**

Please donate to our Clothing to Cash fundraising program! [Clothing to Cash](#) is a textile recycling program that donates money to the school for every pound of donated items. Look for the white donation bin in the parking lot. Clothing to Cash will accept items in ALL conditions: new with tags, or torn, stained, worn-out knees, shoes with holes or only one shoe, backpacks, old sheets, towels, blankets, stuffed animals and more. What a great way to help the school and clean out your closets! All donations must be bagged and put in the collection bin.

## **Canned Food Drive**

Mount Hebron's annual Canned Food Drive is underway. The High School is running this drive until December 22nd. They are collecting cans, money, and other canned food donations which go towards feeding those who struggle during the harsh winter months. Their goal is to help support our community, to ultimately collect over 75,000 cans county-wide!

[Patapsco Middle will be collecting canned goods for MHHS to help with their goal this year. A box is located outside the office if you would like to donate.](#)

The collection is being conducted by classes assigned to various regions of Howard County. For more information about the canned food drive, please email Jasmine Sonpar at [jasminesonpar@gmail.com](mailto:jasminesonpar@gmail.com), and to learn more about neighborhood collection please email Mr. Tittsworth at [Michael\\_Tittsworth@hcpss.org](mailto:Michael_Tittsworth@hcpss.org).

The OSP link for digital donations:

<https://osp.osmsinc.com/HowardMD/BVModules/ProductTemplates/Bvc2013/Product.aspx?productid=DA010-VAR47>

Feel free to write "Leadership Period 3" in the description box for the transaction to attribute the donations towards our class's efforts!

## **Student Absences, Late Arrivals and Early Dismissal**

A reminder to all families that **if your student arrives late to school, please send them in with a parent note or doctor's note that indicates the reason for their late arrival** so that their attendance may be appropriately adjusted. You can also email [pmsabsence@hcpss.org](mailto:pmsabsence@hcpss.org) with a late arrival or absence note. If we are not provided a parent or doctor's note for lawful late arrivals or absences, your child will be marked unexcused. [Click here](#) for more attendance information.

## **COVID-19 Self-Screening Symptoms Self Check**

**More Information:** [COVID-19 Self-Screening Symptoms Self Check & Quarantining Procedure](#)

## **Quarantining Procedures**

**More information:** [COVID-19 Self-Screening Symptoms Self Check & Quarantining Procedure](#)

## **Knightly Newsletters**

All previous newsletters are posted under News at <http://pms.hcpss.org/>

## **Community Notices:**

**New HCPSS Community News and Programs Site:**

In response to community requests for resources, HCPSS' new [Community News and Programs](#) website makes it easy for families to find educational and recreational resources, events and after-school programs beyond the school day by non-profit organizations."

Community organizations requesting their announcements be shared in school newsletters should visit [community-programs.hcpss.org](http://community-programs.hcpss.org) for more information. Questions should be directed to the Public Information Office at [publicinfo@hcpss.org](mailto:publicinfo@hcpss.org).