

# KNIGHTLY NEWS

# 12-2-2022

- 12/5 - 12/9:** Inclusive Schools Week
- 12/5:** Winter Band Concert at MHHS, 7PM
- 12/6:** Winter Orchestra Concert at MHHS, 7PM
- 12/7:** Knight Time Schedule - Club Day  
Winter Choral Concert at MHHS, 7PM
- 12/12 - 12/16:** Spirit Week - [Flier](#)
- 12/14:** 3hr. Early Dismissal - Professional Work Day (11:50AM) & Knight Time
- 12/15:** Book Fair and Family, Food, and Fun Night (5:00 - 7:30 PM)
- 12/21:** Knight Time - Club Day
- 12/26 - 1/2:** Winter Break

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

Dear Patapsco families:

We have an exciting month of December and I would like to highlight some of the special events below that are also detailed in the newsletter:

Exciting Patapsco Events:

- Honor Roll and Rising Star Celebration on Monday after lunch (ice cream sandwiches and/or popsicles available) ***If you do not want your child to receive ice cream and/or popsicle, please email [Ashley\\_anderson@hcpss.org](mailto:Ashley_anderson@hcpss.org)***
- Inclusive Schools Week next week
- Band Concert on Monday
- Orchestra Concert on Tuesday
- Hour of Code on Tuesday
- Chorus Concert on Wednesday
- Patapsco and Mount Hebron Food Drive (each week between now and December 16)
- Book Fair, Food Trucks, General Music Performance, community organizations at our Family, Food, and Fun Night on December 15.
- Spirit Week is December 12- 16

I look forward to seeing you at one of our concerts or at our Book Fair and Family Fun night on the 15th.

I hope you and your family have a wonderful weekend,

Mike Babe  
Principal



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

## **Weather/Recess**

Please be sure that your student comes to school with appropriate outerwear and head coverings, as students will wait outside until the 8:00 entrance bell rings, and outdoor recess will be held until the temperature combined with the wind chill is less than 20 degrees Fahrenheit.

**We will go outside as much as we can so please make sure your student is prepared for all types of weather.** [Weather/Recess guidelines](#)

## **Food Drive**

Patapsco Middle School is supporting Mount Hebron High School's 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Food Drive this month to support families in our community. In an organized effort, they have asked for specific donation goals each week. Donations are already underway, and Patapsco is helping in the effort.

Donation Requests:

Week 1 ([Dec 5-9](#)): Peanut butter, jelly/jam, and pasta sauce

Week 2 ([Dec 12-16](#)): Dried beans, rice, and pasta

Please give what you can! All donations should be given to students' social studies teachers. All food items should be non-perishable pantry goods that are unopened and not expired. Any items donated that do not meet the requested list will be donated to local food banks.

Thank you for any help you can provide.

## **Hour of Code**

Our school will participate in the County Hour of Code Week during science classes on December 6th. Students will watch a short video on careers in computer science. Following the video, students will select a menu of programming lessons to complete.

## **Inclusive Schools Week**

Inclusive Schools Week is an annual event which is held each year during the first full week in December. Inclusive Schools Week has celebrated the progress that schools have made in providing a supportive and quality education to an increasingly diverse student population, including students who are marginalized due to disability, gender, socio-economic status, cultural heritage, language preference, and other factors. At Patapsco, students from the Best Buddies club will be sharing information over the morning announcements and there will be an opportunity for anyone that wants to participate in an inclusive movie screening with **popcorn at lunch**. *If you do not want your student to have popcorn because of an allergy or choice, please email [Ashley\\_anderson@hcpss.org](mailto:Ashley_anderson@hcpss.org).*

## **Book Fair - [See flier](#)**

Patapsco will be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair in one week to help refresh our Media Center. The staff need some additional help in running it -- there are opportunities to help during the day AND the one evening of December 15th! We are in need of volunteers for the book fair! Please [click here](#) if you would like to volunteer.

## **PMS Family and Food Fun Night - [See Flier](#)**

### **Activities planned for December 15th:**

- Book Fair
- School Store
- PMS Music Student Performance
- Face Painting

### **Community Visitors:**

- HC Library
- HC Parks and Recreation
- Howard Community College

**Food Trucks:**

- Auntie Anne's (pretzels)
- T&J Waffles (waffles)
- Koshary Corner (Egyptian Street food)

**Come shop and get some great food!**

## **Family Read the Rainbow Book Club**

Registration for the next FAMILY Read the Rainbow book club is now open.

This virtual book club will feature the title, *When Aidan Became a Brother* written by Kyle Lukoff and illustrated by Kaylani Juanita and will take place on Saturday, January 7th @ 1:30pm. Both Kyle and Kaylani will be present at the meeting! Kyle will do a read-aloud of his book and Kaylani will talk a little about what it was like to illustrate Kyle's story. Both will answer questions from the audience.

This is a FREE LGBTQIA+ focused book club and open to ALL (families, students, parents, staff, and community). The first 50 families who register will receive a free copy of *When Aidan Became a Brother* mailed to their home. Learn more about the book and this author/illustrator team [here](#). [Link to GoogleDoc advertisement](#)

## **Lost and Found**

Please remind your student to look for their lost items (jackets, lunch boxes, water bottles, clothing, etc). Lost and Found is located outside of the Media Center. Please emphasize to your student that it is their responsibility to keep track of their belongings, and to check the Lost and Found if they are missing something.

All items will be donated at the end of the school day on Friday, December 23.

## **ARL Information Night**

ARL - Career Academy Info Session - December 13, 2022

Current 8-11 grade students and their parents/guardians are invited to attend in-person information sessions on HCPSS career academies on Tuesday, December 13, at the

Applications and Research Laboratory, 10920 Clarksville Pike, Ellicott City, MD. The evening will include two 15-minute information sessions and a visit to a third academy beginning at 6:30 pm. Participants will learn how Career and Technical Education (CTE) career academies provide high school students with opportunities to earn college credit, scholarships, and industry certifications, participate in worksite and mentorship experiences and become creative problem solvers by participating in hands-on project-based learning. Complete [information on all career academies](#) is available online.

Students/parents are encouraged to review the [Career Academies Overview](#).

#### Schedule-Agenda

- 6:30-6:45 pm Session I
- 6:50-7:05 pm Session II
- 7:10-7:30 pm Open to visit any academy
- Participating academies include:
- Aerospace Engineering: Project Lead the Way
- Agricultural Science
- Animation and Interactive Media
- Apprenticeship Maryland (for current 11th graders)
- Architectural Design
- Automotive Technology
- Biotechnology
- Civil Engineering: Project Lead the Way
- Construction
- Cybersecurity Networking
- Finance
- Graphic Design
- Health Professions
- Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning

Parking is available at the Applications and Research Laboratory and Homewood School lots.

### **Note from the Health Room**

As flu/cold season has begun, this is a reminder that good hand washing and covering sneezes and coughs with tissues and sleeves are essential steps to preventing the spread of "germs." Also, remember that despite concerns about school attendance, your children's health (and the health of other children/staff) is most important of all. For this reason, we ask you to please:

- [Call the health room \(410-313-2574\) to let us know if your child is absent with a contagious illness such as Covid, strep throat, or the flu etc.](#) Please provide any documentation from your physician about diagnosis and release to return to school. (Ear

and sinus infections, while often a reason for keeping a child home, are usually not contagious.)

- Keep your child home if he/she has a fever of over 100.0. A fever indicates that your child has an infection that could be passed to other students. If you give your child Motrin or Tylenol, the fever will, of course, disappear but he/she will still be contagious to others. Children must be fever-free for 24 hours (without medication) before returning to school!

Thank you very much for helping keep all our students and staff safe and healthy!

## 8<sup>th</sup> grade Students Interested in Dance

Is your child interested in learning more about the Dance program at Mount Hebron? Come talk to the Dance Director, Jen Dipietro, and some of her advanced dance students during the 8<sup>th</sup> grade lunch shift on **Tuesday, December 6th**. She will have a table set up in the cafeteria for students to ask questions and learn about the dance programs offered at Hebron, and students will have the opportunity to watch a performance in the gym!

## Vocal Music Concert

"Come Join the Patapsco Vocal Music Program on Wednesday December 7<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at Mt. Hebron High School as we present our first concert of the year entitled "What It's All About...The Spirit of Giving"! The concert is free to the public as we encourage all to attend in support of the musical community here at Patapsco.

Music at the concert will be focused on the giving of our time, talents, and monetary efforts to help those around us in need. We will be featuring our Treble Choir, Concert Choir, Select Treble Ensemble, Glee Club & Combined Choirs. We can't wait to see you there!" [Flier](#)

## Music Boosters

### WINTER CONCERTS!

Monday, December 5, 7pm - Band Winter Concert

Tuesday, December 6, 7pm - Orchestra Winter Concert

Wednesday, December 7, 7pm - Chorus Winter Concert

All concerts are held at Mt Hebron High School, please check your child's music canvas page for more information. Roses will be made available for cash purchase.

If your child needs to borrow from the Concert Clothing Closet, please let your music teacher know ASAP. The closet operates on a first come, first serve basis.

If you ordered polo shirts, they should be arriving some time before Thanksgiving and will be handed out in class.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS! Please consider volunteering to help out during one or more of the concerts.

**BAND:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0449AF2E5-patapsco7>

**ORCHESTRA:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0449AF2E5-patapsco6>

**CHORUS:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0449AF2E5-patapsco8>

## Teen Mental Health Event

A Teen Mental Health Event is coming up on December 15th. Please see additional information below.

**WHO:** Teens - ages 11-18

**WHAT:** The Howard County Health Department shares mental health services available for you and your loved ones, including the 988 Crisis Line, Behavioral Health Navigation Services, Suicide Prevention efforts, Crisis Services, and supports from HCPSS. Get help for yourself or a friend and become a change-maker!

**WHEN:** Thu, Dec 15, 3 – 4 pm

**WHERE:** HCLS Savage Branch

## Yearbooks

Yearbooks are on sale for \$25. Yearbooks will be distributed the last week of school. To order online, please visit: [www.jostensyearbooks.com](http://www.jostensyearbooks.com)

## Student Absences, Late Arrivals and Early Dismissal

[Click link for information](#)

## From the Health Room

## [2022-2023 Health & Safety – HCPSS](#)

Anyone that tests positive on an at home rapid should complete this form for the Maryland Department of health

[Maryland COVID Positive At-Home Test Report Portal / Portal de Maryland para Reportar Un Resultado Positivo de Una Prueba Casera del COVID | Maryland OneStop \(md.gov\)](#)

## **Virtual Town Hall for Parents and Students - [Flier](#)**

HC DrugFree is excited to announce our upcoming virtual town hall, “**How Much is Too Much? Finding a Balance between Academic Performance and Student Well-Being**” on Monday, January 9 from 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. on Zoom. The event is open to students in grades 8-12 and parents, guardians, and grandparents of middle and high school students. Learn skills and strategies to help students better cope with academic pressure and stress **just in time for mid-term exams**. There will be a Q&A at the end of the presentation. **Registration is required:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TownHallRegJan2023>. For more information about the town hall or to download a printable flier visit <https://hcdrugfree.org/currentevents/>. Members of the Teen Advisory Council (TAC) can earn community service hours for attending this event. If your student is interested in joining TAC, please visit <https://hcdrugfree.org/teen-advisory-council/> to learn more and download an application.

**8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Students:** HC DrugFree's **Teen Advisory Council** is open to all Howard County students in grades 8 through 12. This is a great opportunity to help prepare younger students for success in high school while allowing older students to develop their leadership and mentoring skills. The registration form is available at <https://hcdrugfree.org/teen-advisory-council/>. Community service hours available. Email your registration form to [admin@hcdrugfree.org](mailto:admin@hcdrugfree.org) or mail a hard copy to the office. To register for the upcoming meetings on **Monday, December 5** from **5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.** and **Monday, January 9** from **5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**, click on the TAC Registration links next to each date <https://hcdrugfree.org/teen-advisory-council/>

**Know What’s Happening in Howard County:** Sign up for HC DrugFree’s newsletter at <https://hcdrugfree.org/enews-signup/> or follow us on social media to get updates on events as well as information to keep your family safe and informed.

**Community Notices** HCPSS’ [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](mailto:publicinfo@hcpss)

### **Knighly Newsletters**

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