

KNIGHTLY NEWS

3-13-2023

3/15: ESSA survey and then Knight Time - Club Day

3/15: 3 Hour Early Dismissal

3/20: 6th Grade Field Trip to the Conservancy

3/24: Spirit Day (google meet day)

3/27: County Wide Debate Field Trip

3/26: HCPSS Debate Field Trip - Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab.

3/28: Chorus Assessment & Adjudication @ River Hill HS: 6th Treble Choir- 11:10AM, Concert Choir- 12:10PM, Select Treble - 2:55PM

3/29: 7th Grade Field Trip - Baltimore Symphony Orchestra

3/31: 3 Hour Early Dismissal

3/31: #OnePatapsco Day of Belonging

4/3-4/10: School Closed - Spring Break

Important Phone Numbers

School Office: 410-313-2848

Student Services: 410-313-2850

Health Room: 410-313-2574

Dear Patapsco families and commUNITY:

March is an exciting and busy month for our school! Our band and orchestra have completed their assessments and all groups sounded fantastic. Our chorus programs have their assessment later this month and we are excited to hear them as well.

Our students who participated in National History Day at Long Reach High School all did extremely well and we are excited to announce that Zahara G and Abigail J earned second place and they will now participate at the state competition. Congratulations!

We have two exciting upcoming field trips as well. Our 6th grade students will attend the Howard County Conservatory and our 7th grade students will attend the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. Our 8th grade students will also have a field trip after Spring Break. In addition, our Speech and Debate team will attend the county competition on March 27 and we are so proud of all their hard work.

We will have another spirit day on March 24 where our Knights of the Roundtable have selected us to do a Google Meet Day where students and staff can dress professionally on top and comfortable pants and shoes on the bottom (just like if we were to be on camera). I might wear my new pair of cros for the day.

We are extremely excited about #OnePatapsco Day of Belonging which will occur on March 31. This exciting event is student-led and celebrates our greatest strength: our diversity in our commUNITY. We cannot wait to highlight this event later this month.

Finally, I want to extend congratulations to our three student delegates who will represent their peers and our school at the upcoming SMOB (student member of the board) convention. Congratulations to Dhruvi Settippalle, Anahita Choudhury, and Sravika Bolla.

I wish you a fantastic week!

Mike Babe
Principal



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

SAVE THE DATE: Patapsco Wellness Evening (a student and family event) April 27, 2023

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

MCAP Reports

On 3/14, students will be bringing home results from the Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP). Results are for the spring 2022 mathematics and English Language Arts/Literacy (ELA/L) assessments in Grades 3 through 8, Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, and English 10. This was the first full administration of the MCAP assessments that have replaced the previous Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) program. Results were delayed due to the federal standard setting process that new assessments are required to complete.

The assessments use a four-point score scale, with students performing at levels 3 and 4 considered proficient for their grade level or course content. The second full administration of the MCAP assessments will occur this spring.

MSDE School Climate Survey

State law requires that all public schools in Maryland survey students about school climate. The purpose of the survey is to gain valuable information about the quality and character of each school's learning environment so that schools can promote a climate that supports student learning.

Students will take the Maryland School Survey during regular school hours on 3/15. The survey will ask students about topics such as student engagement, interactions with adults and with other students in the school, the school environment, bullying, and safety. The survey will not ask about a student's personal experiences, and students will not be asked to provide any information that might violate their privacy.

The survey is confidential and school personnel will not have access to the responses of specific students. The responses your child provides will be combined with the responses from other students in the school, and results will be reported for each school and district.

We are eager to receive this very important information about your student's school and about schools across the state.

If you have any questions about this survey, please contact Heather Dinicola at heather_dinicola@hcpss.org.

6th Grade Field Trip- Next Monday!

6th grade will spend the morning of **March 20th** at the Howard County Conservancy applying what they have learned in science classes to climate justice activities. This will contribute to student service-learning requirements. The cost is \$3 for students. We will eat lunch at the Conservancy. **★Please consider volunteering as a chaperone. We need lots of help! The trip will run from 8:50-11:40 AM.★** Contact jennier_canfield@hcpss.org if you are interested in chaperoning.

7th Grade Field Trip - BSO

Attention 7th grade families! On Wednesday March 29th we will be going on a field trip to the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra to see the performance Beethoven Lives Upstairs. If you have not already done so, please return the permission form to school with payment. Students will return to school for lunch. If you or your child have never been to the symphony, click on the link below to read more about what to expect at a performance. Specifically, please review with your child the BSO cell phone policy.

BSO Beginner's Guide

<https://www.bsomusic.org/visit-joseph-meyerhoff-hall/#>

For the consideration of the musicians and your fellow audience members, please turn off your phone or other mobile devices during the performance. With all of modern life's constant exposure to media and technology, think of this as a fun opportunity to shut off your phone for an hour at a time and live in the moment. Photography and video are not allowed during a performance.

We look forward to sharing this opportunity with our students this year! Contact 7th grade team leader Ed White (edward_white@hcpss.org) if you have any questions.

Students of the Month for February

Congratulations to the following Knights who have been nominated by our staff to be the February Students of the Month. They have exhibited being **Resilient, Responsible, and/or Respectful!**

| 6th | 7th | 8th |
|-------------|---------------|------------|
| Akash V. | Aditya S. | Eva P. |
| Colton C. | Binayek D. | Giselle C. |
| Daisy D. | Bryan P. | Nihara E. |
| Emmett A. | Manav B. | Ryan B. |
| Hanna R. | Mckenzie H. | Shabib U. |
| Hope B. | Meredith K. | Xavier H. |
| Lana T. | Philia P. | |
| Milana K. | Sananth K. S. | |
| Prisha L. | Srisaanvi G. | |
| Zi'Nijae C. | | |

National History Day

Congratulations to the following students who represented Patapsco Middle at the Howard County National History Day competition.

Group Website:

Fearless Fighters of WWII: Abhay Sista and Sananth Karthikeyan Sowmiyasankari

Hip Hop: The Musical Frontier That Transformed Modern Culture: Lila Mabee and Jaelyn Peters

Individual Exhibit:

From Biting the Bullet to Laughing Gas: Nihara Ekanayake

Germ Theory - From Fermentation to Frontiers: Prajna Lakma

Individual Website

Nelson Mandela: Fighting for the Freedom Frontier in South African Apartheid: Ahana Roy

The Friendship 7 Mission: An Astronomical Frontier Amitha Sabbani

Group Performance

Seneca Falls Convention and Holloway Prison: Zahra Gillani and Abigail Jacob

Individual Paper:

The Influence of Frank Lloyd Wright on Architecture Today: Isabella Widstrom

The Trinity Test: Frontiers in Nuclear Physics and Modern Warfare: Caleb Son

Additional congratulations to Zahra Gillani and Abigail Jacob, who received 2nd place and will represent Patapsco at the Maryland State National History Day Competition at UMBC on May 6th.

Medical Assistance

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR THOSE WITH MEDICAL ASSISTANCE: Due to the Covid 19 pandemic, MA has been automatically renewed since March 2020.

AUTOMATIC RENEWALS WILL STOP AS OF **APRIL 30, 2023**. Please call the Health Dept Insurance Line at 410-313-5845 to check your status. They will set up an appointment for you if needed.

PTA Wellness Night survey

The Patapsco Middle School (PMS) parent-teacher association (PTA) is planning a wellness night on April 27th 5:30 - 7:30 pm. The event is designed to offer PMS families helpful information about a variety of health topics such as nutrition, physical fitness, emotional & behavioral well-being, and overall health. Please answer these questions so that we can offer options that best address your interests/concerns on the specific topic of emotional/behavioral health.

<https://forms.gle/do3vYdUmZgjkxNyLA>

HCASC Student Leadership

[Promote Leadership and Volunteer Opportunity- HCASC Meeting](#)

All middle and high school students are welcome to attend the March 15 HCASC Meeting at Oakland Mills High School 7 p.m. HCASC meetings are excellent opportunities to develop leadership skills, learn about job and volunteer possibilities, and meet community leaders.

HCPSS Gifted and Talented Summer Institutes for Talent Development

Is available to all HCPSS Middle School students and registration is open now! New classes this year include “**Environmental Justice League**,” a combination of policy making and entrepreneurship, “**Crime Stoppers**,” and “**Adventures in Printmaking**.” We have STEM

classes such as "**Civil Engineering**" and humanities offerings like "**Becoming a Historian.**" Check out our full course list [here](#) or on the [HCPSS Summer Programs Website](#). Directions to register through HCPSS Connect are here:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1382ja7snHr76LJnWvq9xAy5oEc_xUnHU/view.

Classes run from June 26th-July 7th and July 10th-July 21st and are held at Burleigh Manor Middle School from 8:30am-12:30pm. Limited community bus stop locations will be available based on enrollment. Before and after care on site is available through Howard County Parks and Recreation. Registration is open until March 15th at 6pm. Scholarship opportunities are available. If you have any questions, please contact GTSummer@hcpss.org.

Heart and Sole ♥👟

Heart and Sole helps girls (this includes any female-identifying and non-binary young people) unleash their potential by focusing on five key things: body, brain, heart, spirit, and connection. Heart and Sole is the 6th-8th grade Girls on the Run program. Coaches inspire girls to value what makes them unique, and together, participants uncover confidence and understand the importance of physical and emotional health. Girls work on setting goals geared toward physical and emotional health, and actualize those goals through exercise, discussion, and connection.

The spring program runs from Monday, March 20th (first practice) to Monday, June 5th (end-of-year celebration). Each season ends with a noncompetitive 5K (Saturday, June 3) where girls celebrate who they are, how far they have come, and where they want to go. The program will run after school on Mondays and Thursdays from 2:50 pm - 4:15 pm.

Participants must register through Girls on the Run of Central Maryland and can do so using the following link, once registration opens on Sunday, February 19th - [Heart & Sole Registration](#)

If you have questions/concerns about the program, registration process/fees (financial assistance is available!!), or anything else, please contact the intramural sponsor, **Ms. Grace Kelly** grace_kelly@hcpss.org

8th grade pictures- Before we were Knights

8th Graders and 8th Grade Families: The Yearbook Club is once again collecting pictures for our "Before We Were Knights" pages. These pictures are photos of our current 8th graders in the years before they became Patapsco Knights. The photos can be individual or group photos, but they should be of only current 8th graders. They can be a baby, toddler, elementary school, or any other picture you'd like to send in that would be appropriate for the yearbook.

NOTE: It is optional to submit. If you would like to submit a photo please email it to Kalina Salsman at kalina_salsman@hcpss.org.

Student absences, late arrivals, early dismissal procedures

[Info on our website](#)

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 for more information. Questions should be directed to the Public Information Office at publicinfo@hcpss

Knightly Newsletters

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