FROM THE PTA

First and foremost, the PTA would like to start with a huge THANK YOU to everyone in our community who has contributed to the holiday lunch, special coffee days for teachers, and various programs benefiting our students. We are also grateful for all financial donations so far this year. We could not keep so many wonderful events going without you!

We are currently working on the spring calendar and look forward to listing those events in the next newsletter, but for now, please remember that all reminders and requests go out most quickly through our Facebook Page. Simply search “Hereford Middle School PTA” to find us, and then “like” and “follow” us for the most up-to-date information on a regular basis.

The PTA page of the school website also has links to the FB page, PayPal for direct donations, and more! Thank you, again, for all your support. We look forward to more great events in the coming months!

Megan Stewart-Sicking
PTA President
8th Grade News

It is such an exciting time for our 8th graders as they get ready for High School!

The 8th grade class will be taking a trip to Hereford High School on June 3rd. This visit will be a great way for 8th graders to become introduced to all of the fabulous things that Hereford High has to offer.

Student who applied to Magnet Schools will be receiving acceptance notification by March 9th, 2020.

How to Stay Safe Online

It is often difficult to navigate and keep up with all the latest apps and social media sites that kids are using these days. New ones come out every day.

An app that is INCREDIBLY popular with teens and adults is TikTok. Parents are encouraged to check in with their students to see how (and who) they are connecting with on the app. Check out this helpful article that we have found that explains the popularity as well as the concerns with the app:

https://smartsocial.com/tiktok-app-guide-parents/

How do I keep up with the latest social apps and sites teens are using?

Tips from Common Sense Media:

• Have your kid use your app store account or an account linked to your email, so you'll be notified when an app is downloaded. Consider making a rule, at least until they're older, that they can't download an app or sign up for an online account without asking you first.

• Ask which apps and sites are popular with your teen's friends. Kids may open up more when they're talking about someone else.

• Share what you're using. Show them your Facebook page, favorite videos, or a game you're obsessed with. They may be inspired to reciprocate.

Check out the other tips and resources at commonsensemedia.org

Be sure to check your student's phones on a regular basis for any issues that may be arising between friends.

Exciting Online resource for Parents and Students!

The BCPS Office of School Counseling has created a monthly newsletter on the topic of College and Career readiness. It is very informative and features different college majors, trades, and the military. We recommend checking it out: https://www.smore.com/svqm5

One of the highlights from the online newsletter is an online learning style assessment that you can find below: https://www.how-to-study.com/assessments/
Baltimore County Youth Employment Summit
Baltimore County Government, the Community College of Baltimore County (CCBC) and Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) invite BCPS students to participate in a special youth summit. The summit will inform and educate students on workplace standards, career pathways and professional development. Attendees will have an opportunity to apply for the 2020 Summer Youth Employment Program. Open to students over 14 years of age. Please see attached flyer for details and to RSVP.

Sat, February 15, 2020
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM EST
CCBC Essex
7201 Rossville Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21237

A MESSAGE FROM THE GRADE LEVEL COORDINATORS:

6th Grade News

Our sixth graders have truly settled into the middle school routines as we have passed the halfway point of the school year. Students have completed the ELA portion of MAP testing and are looking forward to starting some new topics in many classes.

In Science class, we just started the Forces and Motion unit. The students will be learning about Newton’s 3 Laws of Motion while answer the questions; What is Motion? How Do Forces Cause Motion? And How Do you Model and Analyze Collisions? In World Cultures we are beginning our research into ancient India this month. We will be learning about the religions Hinduism and Buddhism, Monsoons and the Himalayas, and putting the ancient Emperor Ashoka on trial. 6th grade ELA students have been working on working on building an understanding of theme through the creation of children’s books and LEGO masterpieces. We will be starting new novels in the next few weeks as well.

Please remember that if you have any concerns please reach out to your child’s teacher or Ms. Benson, team leader for grade 6.

Upcoming Dates and Events
- February 4th: No School
- February 6th: Report Cards
- February 11th: Math MAP Testing
- February 17th: Schools Open

7th Grade News

Half the year is over and we’ve definitely hit our stride. We’re coming off the heels of a very successful grade level field trip to the Maryland Science Center in Baltimore. Students and chaperones had a great time while exploring the same science content discussed in class, such as cells and the human body.

Students are continuing to study relevant and authentic material in all their classes. In Science class, we’re transitioning from the study of the structures and functions of the human body to a new unit on chemical processes and their potential impact. In Math, students are working on exponential functions or probability and statistics. Social studies classes will also have students starting a new unit, this one focusing on the Crusades and the significance of Jerusalem during this time. In Language Arts class students are continuing with their periodic assessments. Once these are finished, classes will pick up with reading plays while concentrating on characterization and theme. Lastly, World Language classes will be exploring celebrations, with emphasis being placed on a new celebration each week.

We’re here to work toward the success of every single student, and we know that communication is key to achieve this goal. Please do not hesitate to seek clarification or relay concerns to any staff member. We can be reached by phone, direct e-mail, or Schoology messages.
Last year was wonderful, and we’re looking forward to all the amazing things that 2020 has to bring!

Upcoming Dates and Events
- February 4th: No School
- February 6th: Report Cards
- February 11th: Math MAP Testing
- February 17th: Schools Open

8th Grade News

It is hard to believe that the first half of the school year is over! This school year is flying by! We have had two successful events. Our second team activity was January 24th. Students participated in a STEM challenge in their Science classes. The Champions came out the winners with a tower that measured 233 cm.

Students are studying some very interesting content in their classes. In Science class, your child is continuing to study prehistoric life. Students have created a life-sized geologic time scale and will eventually create a digital museum exhibit for their culminating event. In Math students are working on solving equations using inverse operations, operations with polynomials, or properties and attributes of triangles, including special right triangles and trig functions. American History is studying the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Finally, in Language Arts class students are moving back into a unit focusing on nonfiction text. We will be casting a critical eye on essays, nonfiction books, and websites in order to critique their effectiveness in developing persuasive claims. Students will be bringing home a nonfiction text to read. Additionally, we will be continuing to work with common root words in order to develop vocabulary awareness.

Please do not hesitate to contact any teacher. Parent and school communication is crucial this last half of the school year. We are here to help support you and your child! Our goal is to make certain they are prepared and ready for high school and beyond.

Upcoming Dates and Events
- February 4th: No School
- February 6th: Report Cards
- February 11th: Math MAP Testing
- February 17th: Schools Open

MESSAGE FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE

Flu season is in full swing.

Please email me at pkernan@bcps.org if your child is home with the flu. I am tracking the numbers during peak season.

Many thanks and stay well,
Nurse Pam

AFTER HOUR EMERGENCIES

If you have an after hours emergency, please call 911 or one of the resources listed below.

RESOURCES

Emergency - 911
Maryland Help Line - 211
Baltimore Crisis Response - 410-433-5175 (24 hours a day 7 days a week)
MD Dept of Health Crisis Line - 1-800-422-0009
Suicide Hotline Text: CONNECT to 741741, for more information visit www.crisistextline.org

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline - 1-800-273-8255

My Neighbors Foundation - 410-374-4657
SUCCESS STARTS WITH BEING PREPARED! YOUR SUCCESS STARTS HERE...

Baltimore County Government, the Community College of Baltimore County (CCBC) and Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) invite you to participate in a special youth summit. The summit will inform and educate you on workplace standards, career pathways and professional development.

What you learn at this summit will prepare you for success in any occupation or industry. You will learn about professions within the Baltimore County Government as well as have an opportunity to apply for the 2020 Summer Youth Employment Program.

**This event is for 14 -21 year-old Baltimore County Youth ONLY!**

Please note: Attending this event does not guarantee summer employment.

This is a first come first serve event with limited seating available. REGISTER NOW!

LOCATIONS

CCBC Essex
7201 Rossville Blvd
Baltimore, MD 21237
February 15th
9AM-12PM

Register @
https://baltimore-county-youth-summit-essex.eventbrite.com

CCBC Catonsville
800 S Rolling Road
Catonsville, MD 21228
February 29th
9AM-12PM

Register @
https://baltimore-county-youth-summit-catonsville.eventbrite.com

PLEASE BRING YOUR BCPS DEVICE TO APPLY FOR SUMMER EMPLOYMENT!

For Questions or More Info:
410.887.4813

youthservices@baltimorecountymd.gov
Hereford Zone Robotics announce the 10th annual HZR STEM Summer Camps!

Learn to fly at our Drone camp with simulators & real flying!
Design robots to complete specified tasks.
Build robots to participate in robotic competition.
Program robots to operate autonomously and remote control
Explore flying fixed wing aircraft plus fly drones to take pics and videos

the week includes: Date: July 13-17, 2020

Level 1 robotics, grade 4-7
Level 2 robotics, grades 5-7
Vex metal robotics- grades 8-12
Drone Camp, grade 4-8
(as of 2020-21 school year)

LOCATION: Hereford High School
Sign up for morning & PM camps= BYO brown bag lunch

go to our website for full details > clickHERE
open to all kids- private/public school

Full website at: hzr929.com  Contact: Chris Putnam- cputnam@bcps.org

Check out full camp descriptions on our website