

The Chanticleer
Harford Hills Elementary School
"Striving for Excellence"

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November 2021

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Our Vision Statement

Harford Hills Elementary School believes that all students can meet with success when they are provided a safe, engaging, and rigorous learning environment. Our school community will work together to challenge all students to achieve. We will prepare our students for the demands and opportunities of the 21st century by promoting academic excellence, fostering appreciation of diversity, encouraging lifelong learning, and producing caring, respectful, responsible citizens.

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November

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| 5 | First Marking Period Ends - Schools Close 3 Hours Early at 12:35 P.M. |
| 8 | Can Food Drive Begins |
| 16 | PTA Meeting - 6:30 P.M. |
| 18 | Chick-fil-A Spirit Night |
| 19 | Can Food Drive Ends |
| 22 | Report Cards Distributed |
| 23 | Pre-K Conference Day – Schools Closed for Only Pre-K Students |
| 24 | Conference Day- Schools Closed for All Students |
| 25-26 | Thanksgiving Holiday - Schools Closed |
| 29 | Giving Tree Begins |

December

- | | |
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| 16 | Chick-fil-A Spirit Night - 5:00-8:00 P.M. |
| 20 | Giving Tree Donations End |
| 23 | Christmas/Winter Break Begins at End of School Day |
| 24 - January 2 | Christmas/Winter Break - Schools Closed |



A Message from Mrs. Bull

Hello Families,

It's hard to believe that quarter 1 ends this Friday, November 5. As a reminder, schools close 3 hours early on Friday. Our dismissal will begin at 12:35. Teachers will spend time on Friday afternoon working on data analysis and report card grades.

Our students are doing a great job wearing their face coverings in the building and on the bus. If your child does not have an extra mask or two in their backpack, please have them bring them to school. We are finding that students often need new masks after lunch or towards the end of the day. We do have extra masks available, but it would be very helpful for each child to have an extra one (or two) as well. Also, please remind your child to wear their mask so that it covers their nose. Also, please remember to send a water bottle to school each day with your child. We appreciate our school community's efforts to keep our community safe.

November 15-19 is American Education Week and Baltimore County Public Schools is pleased to join in on this national celebration of public education that honors the many individuals who work to ensure that every student receives a high-quality education. Like last year, our American Education Week celebration will be held virtually to ensure the safety of students and staff and reduce the risk of the spread of COVID-19. Details about virtual systemwide and school-based celebrations for American Education Week will be shared with Team BCPS and families soon.

Please be sure to mark your calendar for Conference Day. Schools are closed for PreK students on November 23rd. Schools are closed for all students on November 24th. Conferences will be held virtually. Teachers will be in touch to schedule conferences.

This is the time of year for sharing what you are thankful for. Our school community is on the top of my list. May you enjoy the warmth of family and friends this holiday season.

ARRIVING AT SCHOOL ON TIME IS IMPORTANT



Thank you for making the daily effort to ensure your child is on time for school. Students who are late for school - even a few minutes late - often start the day at a disadvantage. By the time homeroom begins at 8:50 A.M., many teachers are already taking attendance and passing out information to students. If you are bringing a student to school late, please remember that you must come into the main office with the child in order for him/her to receive a late pass.



THE GIVING TREE

Harford Hills Elementary School will accept donations of **mittens, hats, and scarves** to hang on our "Giving Tree" from Monday, November 29, through Monday, December 20.

Thank you in advance for your *generosity*.



ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL REMINDERS

We want to remind parents **that students who are walkers or car riders should plan to arrive at school at 8:40 A.M. Prior to that time, there is no adult supervision**. We also want to remind parents/guardians who need to park and come into the school in the morning to park in the back parking lot. For safety reasons, we ask all students and parents/guardians to use the sidewalks and crosswalks at all times. Please do not walk between parked or loading buses in the front circular drive. Please help us teach your child how to be safe.

ABSENCE NOTES

When students are absent from school, it is important that upon their return, they bring an absence note informing the teacher of the reason for their absence. Without a note, the absence is marked "unlawful."



EARLY DISMISSAL

We thank all parents/guardians who make the effort to schedule outside appointments after the school day. Parents/guardians are discouraged from signing out students at the end of the day just prior to the walkers and car riders being dismissed. This is a hectic time of day for students and staff because close to 400 children are being dismissed.

Remember: Children may be released only to individuals whose names have been listed on the school emergency card by the parent/guardian. Proper identification will be required of any individual requesting to pick up students or sign them out for dismissal.



ANNUAL CANNED FOOD DRIVE



The annual canned food drive will be held from **Monday, November 8 through Friday November 19**. Please encourage your children to participate in this worthy cause and help others in our community.

SCHOOL MESSENGER CALLS TO PARENTS



Parents/Guardians will sometimes receive a call and/or email from the school system, Ms. Bull, or other school staff members for the purpose of providing important information. This is an automated system that allows us to make one call that goes out to either the homes of all students or to the homes of selected students. We appreciate you listening to or reading these messages.

SCHOOL EMERGENCY INFORMATION



It is vital that we have current information for every student to ensure a safe learning environment for every child attending our school. To help us keep our records accurate, should any information on the forms change during the school year, please stop by the office to request a new form or send a note with the necessary changes. It is imperative that we have reliable and accurate information (correct cell phone, work, and home numbers) should an emergency develop. Also, we utilize the NTI Communication System to contact families and provide timely and important school information. **Please note that school personnel will release your children only to the people whose names you have listed on the forms.** Thank you for your cooperation.

BULLYING PREVENTION MONTH

Last month, Harford Hills Elementary School participated in activities for Bullying Prevention Month. Students reviewed ideas for identifying and handling bullying behaviors and discussed ways to demonstrate positive behaviors with others. Below is a list of resources that you can access as parents/guardians for bullying prevention:

- <https://www.stopbullying.gov/what-you-can-do/index.html>
- <https://www.stompoutbullying.org/get-help/parents-page>
- <http://www.mentalhealthamerica.net/bullying-tips-parents>



ATTENDANCE PHONE SYSTEM

Harford Hills utilizes the NTI communication phone system to call parents /guardians when a student is absent. This automated system will automatically call families every morning when students are absent. We need your active support to achieve our school goals, and your children need your help to attend school every day and to arrive on time. Providing a safe, supportive, and positive learning environment for your children is paramount. We appreciate all that you do for your children, and we look forward to working as a team to improve achievement for all students

MOST VIRTUOUS PERSON PROGRAM

During the month of November, our MVP program will focus on the virtue of compassion. We will be defining compassion with the following ideas:

- Having kind feelings towards someone who is hurt or upset
- Caring deeply and wanting to help someone, even when you don't know them well
- Being kind and forgiving to someone who has hurt you



We will discuss with students that it is important to show compassion so that people don't feel so alone when they are hurting. Showing compassion also helps to give people hope and helps us to be understanding of others and ourselves. We share ideas on how to show compassion such as noticing that someone is sad or upset and thinking about how you can help; taking time to listen to others when they are hurting; being forgiving when someone makes a mistake; and being a friend when someone needs a friend.

We hope that you will join us in discussing and reinforcing these ideas at home.

Congratulations to the October Hall of Fame MVPs! These students were selected by teachers and peers for consistently demonstrating the virtue of Respect.

Ms. Haacke

Ja'Onna F.
Mackenzie R.

Ms. Marschall

Ryan C.
Andrea M.

Ms. Meritt

Maddison M.
Joseph D.

Ms. Turner

Tessa A.
Cayden C.

Ms. Mori

Amen G.
Alan M.

Ms. Daniels

Zeke W.
Haley K.

Ms. Waugh

Blair S.
Selah T.

Ms. Shuster

Liam C.
Scarlett H.

Ms. Calabrese

Khloe M.
Maddison F.

Ms. Janssen

Maksym L.
Kaiden C.

Ms. Howard

Lydia N.
Carson S.

Ms. Rose

Aliyat O.
Gloriane K.

Ms. Fitzgerald

Ruth G.
Samaira M.

Ms. McNulty

Matthew A.
Riley S.

Ms. Friedel

Albert L.
Brittany L.

Ms. Lugenbeel

Jayden W.
Dillon H.

Ms. Boyer

Brielle F.
David O.

Ms. Costello

Savannah B.
Blake S.
Daisy D.
Thomas G.
Harley H.

Ms. Newman

Isla D.
Daven E.
Selah T.
Orlah S.

Ms. Storm

Lydia N.
Riley S.
Chol A.
Abrom Y.
Zara W.
Conner M.
Lesley L.

Ms. Holtzman

James B.
Ari L.
Eva P.
Jacob H.
Naima G.
Shiva B.
Glorious O.
Kameron S.
Paris D.

Ms. Swift

Thomas Z.
Leslie S.
Ibrahim A.
Kaiden D.
Morgan R.
Chelsey W.
Nick G.

Ms. Stewart

Jaad A.
Eyuel M.
Jayden W.



BCPS INCLEMENT WEATHER INFORMATION



In case of inclement weather, **please note that the BCPS weather information number is 443-809-5555.** Weather delays and closings are also announced on local TV and radio stations (e.g., WBAL at 1090 AM, WYPR at 88.1 FM, and the cable TV Education Channel at Comcast Cable 73 and Verizon FiOS 35) and are posted on the BCPS website (www.bcps.org). The delayed opening and early closing procedures are listed below and are published in *The Harford Hills Elementary School Family Handbook*.



- If schools open **one hour late**, the first bell will ring at 9:40 A.M.
- If schools open **two hours late**, the first bell will ring at 10:40 A.M.
- If schools close **three hours early**, lunch will be served to kindergarten through grade 5 students.

School dismissal time for all students will be 12:35 P.M. All bus riders will go on their assigned school bus. **There will be no afternoon pre-kindergarten.**



If schools close **two hours early**, the same procedure as above will be followed except the school dismissal time will be 1:35 P.M. **There will be no afternoon pre-kindergarten.**

