

ViewPoint –November 20, 2009

Letter from the Principal – Kathy McKinley

Calendar for the Week of November 23rd

Calendar for the Week of November 30th

Up Coming Dates

School Activities – Dates & Times

G/T Resource

Reminders

PTA

Community News

****Due to a short week and Parent Teacher Conferences there will not be a ViewPoint next week.**

*****Have a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday.**

Calendar for the Week of November 23rd:

Nov. 22

PickATime Conference Scheduling Closes at 5:00 PM

Nov. 23

EARLY DISMISSAL at 11:25 AM

12:00 PM – 2:45 PM - Parent Teacher Conferences

4:30 PM – 7:15 PM - Parent Teacher Conferences

Nov. 24

EARLY DISMISSAL at 11:25 AM

12:00 PM – 2:45 PM - Parent Teacher Conferences

4:30 PM – 7:15 PM - Parent Teacher Conferences

Nov. 25

NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

8:00 AM – 11:00 AM - Parent Teacher Conferences

11:30 AM – 2:30 PM - Parent Teacher Conferences

Nov. 26

SCHOOL CLOSED

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Nov. 27

SCHOOL CLOSED

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

Calendar for the Week of November 30th:

Dec. 1

Field Trip – Debate Team

Dec. 4

7th Grade Field Trip to Medieval Times

Up Coming Dates

Dec. 8

Band Night Rehearsal 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Dec. 14

Winter Band Concert at MRHS 7:00 PM

Dec. 15

7th/8th Grade Field Trip to MRHS – Dr. Mikey

Winter Orchestra Concert at MRHS 7:00 PM

Dec. 18

Interims Issued

Spirit Day

All Grade Field Trip to MRHS - Madrigals/Concert Band Assembly

Dec. 22

Chorus Concert at MVMS 7:30 PM

Dec. 24 – Jan. 1

Schools Closed – Winter Holiday

School Activities

Chess Club – Mr. Corbin (2:30 PM – 3:30 PM)

Dec. 2, Dec. 9, Dec. 16

Environmental Club – Mrs. Mako (2:30 PM – 3:00 PM)

Falcon Friends – Ms. Hurd (2:30 PM – 3:30 PM)

Dec. 3, Dec. 10, Dec. 17

Hip Hop Dancing – Due to conflicts with the dance school's schedule, the after school dance club will not meet in December. Stay tuned for an updated schedule in the New Year.

Jewelry Making – Mrs. Grimes (2:30 PM – 3:30 PM)

Dec. 3, Dec. 10, Dec. 17

Newspaper – Ms. Barr (2:30 PM – 3:30 PM)

Dec. 8, Dec. 15, Dec. 22

Organization – Ms. Madden (7:00 AM – 7:30 AM)

Dec. 1, Dec. 3, Dec. 8, Dec. 10, Dec. 15, Dec. 17, Dec. 22

Spirit Team - PTA (2:30 PM – 3:30 PM)

Dec. 1, Dec 15

Student Government – Mr. Walsh (2:30 PM – 3:25 PM)

Dec. 1, Dec. 8, Dec. 15

Tennis – Ms. Kenney (2:30 PM – 3:30 PM)

Dec. 1

Yearbook – Mrs. Stout (2:30 PM – 3:30 PM)

Dec. 2, Dec. 9, Dec. 16

Letter from the Prinicipal – Kathy McKinley

Dear MVMS Community:

I wanted to share with you the story we shared with students in our assemblies today. We know how hard they work and we are proud of their accomplishments. We also know this is a critical time in their lives as they learn to set goals and establish priorities--they are learning the value of every marble!! Enjoy!

Kathryn McKinley, MVMS Principal

November, 2009

Friday Marbles

I used to think that my favorite day was Friday since it is the end of the week and the start of our weekend. Now you need to understand I (Mrs. McKinley) have been in school for a long time, from Kindergarten through 12th grade, through 4 years of college, through another 2 years of graduate school (and even more for other advanced studies), and now through 25 years as a teacher and administrator. For all of you math students, that's a total of 42 years and if I multiply that by 52 (weeks in a year), that's 2,184 Fridays!!!

One day recently I was listening to the radio when one of the announcers was asking people to call in and share something about American Education which they appreciate. I also think this little story is a good one as we are reminded in the theme for American Education Week that education is everyone's right and everyone's responsibility. What I overheard was something about marbles that caught my attention.

Here's how it went: One caller shared that he wanted to share that schoolwork is hard and takes a lot of time away from free time.

"Well, Grady, it sure sounds like you are busy with your studies. I guess you've got lots of work with English and Math and Science and Social Studies and Reading and PE and Health and Music and FACS and Tech Ed and Art...and you mean to tell me you're in World Language and Band too? It's hard to believe that someone as young as you should have to work 40 or 50 hours a week to be a great student! And I hear you when you say you don't have all the time in the world to enjoy your friends and family, participate in extracurricular activities, text and IM and surf the internet, play video games, hang out at the mall, read a book, and just be a kid."

The announcer went on to explain maybe there was another perspective along with the theory of the marbles.

"If an average person lives to be 75 years old and we multiply that by 52, which is the number of Fridays in an average year, you only have so many Fridays to end the school week. The exact answer is 3,900, which is the number of Fridays the average person has in an entire lifetime."

Okay, keep up with me for just another minute. This is the important part. It's taken me 42 years of school to analyze this, so I've already lived through 2,184 Fridays. Let's count your years, assuming you have 4 more years of secondary education after middle school and 4 years of college, so you know you have at least 8 x 52 more Fridays. That's only 416 Fridays or 416 marbles to count off. (You would need to add more Friday marbles, depending on what grade you are in right now.)

So, I went to the toy store and bought as many marbles as they had--this is not a hot toy item for your generation! But I keep this jar of 416 marbles in my office and every Friday I take one out. I find that by watching the marbles diminish, it helps me focus on what is really important in school and in life for you as young people and for me as an educator.

It is pretty amazing to watch your time in school pass by, especially when we talk about your goals and your priorities. Today on this Friday I congratulate you on your accomplishments because every week in school adds to your learning. Keep up the great attendance and the excellent grades and think of each marble as one more week of learning. That way when the day ends on Friday, you can be proud of what you've learned and then you can focus on another set of priorities for the weekend. Good job!

(adapted from the story "1000 Marbles in Public Domain")

Honor Roll

Congratulations to MVMS's 409 students who were recognized on Friday for Academic Excellence and Perfect Attendance during 1st Qtr!!!!!!

	Gold (All A's)	Silver (A's & 1B)	Bronze (A's & 2B's)	Perfect Attendance
6G	63	34	23	66
7G	27	30	30	85
8G	<u>15</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>95</u>
Totals	105	82	96	246

	Gold (All A's)	Silver (A's & 1B)	Bronze (A's & 2B's)	Perfect Attendance
6G	63	34	23	66
7G	27	30	30	85
8G	15	18	43	95
Total	105	82	96	246

Congratulations to the **118 Honor Rolls students with Perfect Attendance.**

GT Resource

G/T Nomination – 6th and 7th Grade Students for Middle School G/T Content Classes for Next Year:

Howard County Public Schools are currently in the process of accepting nominations for sixth and seventh grade students for possible inclusion in the middle school G/T content classes (English, mathematics, science, and social studies). Students currently participating successfully in a G/T content area class in middle school are eligible to continue in that discipline next year without the need for any additional paperwork or testing. If you have a child, in 6th or 7th grade, whom you wish to nominate for G/T testing, **please submit a signed Nomination Form to the G/T Resource Teacher by December 11th.** The Nomination Form may be obtained from Student Services or from, Shelley Stout, G/T Resource Teacher. Please note that students may be tested only once per year. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Shelley Stout, G/T Resource Teacher, at 410-313-5545 or to email her at shelley_stout@hcpss.org.

Reminders

***The Federal Impact Aid Survey** went home with students in their report card envelope. If applicable, please complete **ALL** sections, sign and return to Mount View no later than **December 1, 2009**. Your cooperation is needed and appreciated.

***Please allow 24 hours for teachers to respond to a phone message or email.** A teacher may be out of the building on the day you call and may not receive the message until the next day.

***Report cards went home on Tuesday, November 17th.** Your child's **student ID number** is printed on the report card and is used for PickATime conferences and TeacherEase. This ID number remains the same throughout the time he/she is enrolled in the Howard County Public School System. You may want to keep this number in a safe place for future conferences and other uses.

***All visitors / parents must check in** at the front office before going to other parts of the building.

***ALL students must be dropped off in the designated Drop Off / Pick Up circle.** For the safety of our students, please do not drop off or pick up your student in the lower parking lot. All students must come in the front door at 7:28 AM.

***Organization Club** is Tuesday and Thursday mornings, 7:00 AM – 7:30 AM. For safety reasons students should not enter the building before 7:00 AM for Organization Club.

PTA

***Family Events:** Get together at **Pizza Hut for Mount View MS on December 7th, 5:00 PM–9:00 PM.**

Take yourself and your family to socialize with other Mount View parents and friends at the Bethany Lane Pizza Hut. Come out and support our Family night to help raise funds for the PTA. Please [download the flyer](#) for Dine In or Carry Out. Treat the family to pizza and carry out if you can't join us. Must present flyer with payment.

***MVMS Spirit Team Toy Drive:** The MVMS Spirit Team is having a toy drive to benefit **The Family Tree of Maryland**. The drive will take place from now until December 15th. Please think of others this holiday season and bring in new, unwrapped gifts to be delivered to needy children located all through out Maryland. This organization especially appreciates gifts for middle school children, such as gift cards, jewelry, nail polish, games, etc. Please show your generosity by bringing your unwrapped gifts to school and placing them in the Toy Drive bin located in the front lobby.

Community News

Shakespeare and the MRHS Theatre Department: Don't miss MRHS Theatre's fall production, *Twelfth Night or What You Will* by William Shakespeare. This production, set in contemporary Los Angeles, tells the story of the search for true love. Mistaken identities, disguises and typical Shakespearian comic "tom foolery" abound as the young lovers and servants find - and don't find - their partners. Over 50 students have been working for the past three months to bring to life one of Shakespeare's most beloved comedies. Performances are Thursday thru Saturday, **November 19th, 20th and 21st at 7:00 PM** and Sunday, **November 22nd at 3:00 PM** with a Shakespeare Tea at 1:00 PM in the School Commons. The price of your Tea Ticket (\$10 – seating for the tea is limited) includes a "hand made" one of a kind teacup. Tickets for *Twelfth Night* are \$10.00. For ticket information please visit the MRHS drama website at <http://www.mrhstheatre.org>.

Attention Manor Woods Elementary Alumni! November 23rd is *Hoops for Heart Day*. Mr. O'Brien and Mrs. Spring could use your help running the stations. It's a half-day of school because of conferences. If you want something fun to do from 12:00 PM to 3:30 PM and want to see some of your old friends and teachers, contact Mr. O'Brien at justin.obrien@hcpss.org or Mrs. Spring at anna.spring@hcpss.org

Howard County Recreation and Parks is sponsoring **Jason Berken Baseball Camp** December 19th – 20th. The camp is for grades 3 – 7 and grades 8 – 12. You can register online www.howardcountymd.gov/rap, or phone 410-313-7275 or in person at 7120 Oakland Mills Road in Columbia. For more information, contact Mike Blevins at 410-313-1691 or www.berkenbaseball.com.

The **Women's Giving Circle of Howard County** with support from The Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory, Math Engineering Science Achievement (MESA), Maryland Space Business Roundtable and Multinational Development of Women in Technology (MDWIT) presents **Girl Power – Reach For The Sky:** Career Opportunities for the women of tomorrow in Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics. Talk to professional women in STEM careers on Sunday, March 14, 2020, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM at the Kossiakoff Center, Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory. There is no admission and parents are invited to accompany daughters. For more information contact www.womensgivingcircle@verizon.net.

On Tuesday, December 1st, **BSFCN will have our next mandatory training for new Parent Volunteer Contacts (PVCs)** at Faulkner Ridge Center at 7:00 PM. If you plan to attend, please notify BSFCN PVC Chair Towanda Mitchell at 301-317-0616 or via e-mail at towanda.mitchell@verizon.net.

On Saturday, December 5th, **BSFCN, TCOE, BSAP and Gator African-American Parents (GAAP) announce a seminar entitled "Visualizing a Dream and Taking Steps to Make it Come True"**. This seminar will be held at Oakland Mills High School beginning at 10:00 AM and is designed to help students identify and set goals for themselves...helping to identify and understand what they are naturally gifted at doing and helping them to set goals and make plans to excel in those areas. The seminar is for elementary students 4th grade students and above, middle school and high school students. This seminar is the first of a three-part series for high school students. The second and third parts will focus on the different interested career opportunities available to them. The additional seminars will be hosted at Reservoir High School on Saturday, January 16th and 23rd. More information will follow in the near future regarding the additional sessions or you can contact GAAP President, Gina Epps at 240-476-1581.

Boy Scout Troop 757 Open House; If you enjoy camping, biking, fishing, kayaking, skiing then Boy Scout Troop 757 is for you! If you enjoy rocketry, swimming, hiking, rock climbing, archery then Boy Scout Troop 757 is for you! If you want to learn leadership skills and be involved with a group led by boys like you, guided by responsible and caring adults, then Boy Scout Troop 757 is for you! Visit our Open House on Monday, November 23rd at 7:30 PM at the Howard County Fairgrounds - 4H Building. Come and learn what scouting is all about! Call Todd Skopic 410-442-1108 with questions.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and Grace Community Church will have **FREE winter coats and clothing for children, women and men** on November 21st from 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM at Roslyn Rise Community Center, 10339 Twin Rivers Road in the Village of Wilde Lake.

Horizon Family Communication Night

Mean Girls - Expert Deborah West offers the keys to understanding **Queen Bees, Gamma Girls**, and surviving the female social hierarchy to teens and parents. Registration is required. *Mean Girls* is for ages 11-14 with an adult on Monday, November 16th, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM at the Central Library. Cosponsors by the Horizon Councils and the Women's Giving Circle. Contact Central Library to register: 410-313-7800, maximum registration: 40.

Cyber Safety and Civility - Discuss risky online behavior, how to prevent it, and what to do if something happens to your family. Prepared in cooperation with NetSmartz. Registration is required. *Cyber Safety and Civility* is for ages 11-14 with adult on Monday, November 30th, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM at the Central Library. It is cosponsored by the Horizon Councils and Friends of Howard County Library. Contact the Miller Library to register: 410-313-1950, maximum registration: 40.

The **Howard County Autism Society and AMC Theatres at Columbia Mall**, will present a special needs movie showing of *Planet 51* on Saturday, November 21st. Tickets may be purchased at the door and are \$6/person. Doors open at 9:30 AM and the movie will start promptly at 10:00 AM with no trailers. For more information, contact Marianne Ross at rossfda@hotmail.com.

Howard County Central Library: Nosy Parents Book Discussion: There is a new Book Club for adults or young adults interested in reading what is popular in JF and YA lit. Discussions are just like a "regular" book club with additional focus on the appropriateness of the title for age group intended/what could be learned from it/other concerns adults might have with regard to what kids are reading. The club meets on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Central Meeting Room. Books are available a month before each meeting at the Central Library Fiction desk. The schedule is as follows:

January 14th - *Twilight* by Stephenie Meyer

February 11th - *Thirteen Reasons Why* by Jay Asher