

PAW PRINTS

Guilford Elementary School
410-880-5930/Fax 410-880-5935
<http://ges.hcpss.org>

Issue 2: September 14, 2016



Note from Mr. Davis:

Congratulations to our Guilford Custodial Staff! Yesterday, Peter Franchot, the Maryland Comptroller came to Guilford to award the Silver Hammer Award for outstanding building maintenance. Guilford was ranked as the #1 school in Howard County, pretty impressive for a 60+ year old school! Great job to everyone, even our students for helping us earn this award! If you haven't seen the video from the ceremony, please visit: <https://vimeo.com/182608376>

You should now have access to your child's Canvas page. Canvas pages can be accessed through the HCPSS mobile app, the Canvas Mobile app, or via the Family File at <http://www.hcpss.org/connect/> Please take time to view these pages for important information and resources.

Family File: We need more parents to log into their Family File and approve/update their emergency contact information. Our goal is to have 100% of our emergency cards completed. Please take a minute to do this!

Please continue to look for your child's blue communication folder each evening. This is the folder that they will bring their homework home in as well as any additional announcements/papers. We need you to look at this folder each evening.

Thank you for your continued support and encouragement each day to ensure your child is ready to be Engaged at school, willing to Persevere, and open to Collaboration!

Jonathan

Attention all Parent Volunteers:

School Counseling Department



All Parent Volunteers of GES must complete the Parent Volunteer Training packet. You can receive a hard copy in the front office upon your entry into the building. It asks you to read through a few slides and sign that you understand how to report any issue of abuse should a child share with you. Additionally, please connect to the link below and read through a short video about maintaining confidentiality. Once you have completed the video please print and sign the form as instructed. You may return the form to the school's front office. Contact Ms. Dobbs, School Counselor for any questions. The packet is available at: <http://www.hcpss.org/parents/volunteer-information/>

DO NOT PHOTO? URGENT!



As the parent of a HCPSS student, ***if you have selected the DO NOT PHOTO option on your child's Emergency Information File – Media Release, as stated below....***

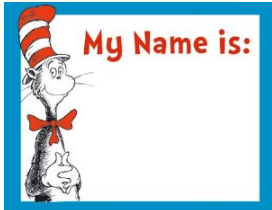
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“In the course of school activities, HCPSS staff and the news media occasionally photograph or videotape students, and/or make public their names, likeness, or school work for display/use intended for a public audience. Such exposure could occur in print, on TV, on radio, or by electronic means such as the Internet or social media. Unless you exclude your child from **all** such exposure by opting out, we will assume your permission to do so.”

"I **do not** want my child to be photographed, videotaped or identified by the HCPSS or the news media for display/use intended for a public audience. I understand that this release does not apply to public events, the Yearbook, and use by the Parent Teacher Association.”

... your child will not be included in photographs that are used in the classroom, team bulletin boards or for purposes of recognition.

If you wish to change this designation, you may do so by logging onto HCPSS Connect for parents and revise your child's Family File (Emergency Card- Media Release).



RESTRICTED NAME? URGENT!

As the parent of a HCPSS student, *if you have selected the “Name” option on your child's Emergency Information File – Data Confidentiality*, your child’s name **cannot** appear in event programs, bulletin boards, list for recognition purposes or the yearbook.

The form clearly states **“If you restrict the release of your child’s name, please note that your child will be excluded from such publications as the yearbook, a published honor roll, school event programs, and other publications of this nature.”**

If you elect to restrict your child’s name, there are no exceptions to be made for any of the events mentioned above.

If you wish to change this designation, you may do so by logging onto HCPSS Connect for parents and revise your child's Family File (Emergency Card- Data Confidentiality).



Important Clinic Dates from the Health Room:

October 11, 2016 - Vision and Hearing Screening for PK, K, 1st grades, New students from out of state
October 20, 2016 - Vision and Hearing Re-screen

November 1, 2016 - Dental Clinic Day 1 K - 3rd
November 3, 2016 - Flu Clinic
November 4, 2016 - Dental Clinic Day 2
November 15, 2016 - Dental Clinic Day 3

Volunteers for any of these clinics are welcome. Please call the health room at 410-880-5934.

MUSIC MATTERS!



Band and Strings Registration Open until Sept. 23! All third, fourth and fifth grade students saw a presentation about the Band and Strings Program last week. If your child wants to play an instrument, please sign up your child as soon as possible by signing the slip at the bottom of the Welcome letter they received along with a sample schedule and music store flyers. Classes for new students start the week of Sept. 19. Returning students are already started. Go to www.gesmusic.org for more information and videos of the instruments. Contact Mrs. McDaniel for your child's instrument choice or string instrument size before renting or purchasing an instrument.

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Plastic Bottle Donations for 5th Grade Science - Please help 5th grade prepare for their upcoming science unit by sending in any clear plastic 2-liter bottles! Students can turn in any bottles to their homeroom teacher or deliver them to Mrs. Lambert's room. Thank you for your support!



JOIN THE PTA!

Thank you to all that registered for PTA membership at back to school night.

Please remember that your registration helps so much in all that we do for the GES COMMUNITY!

Register now at <http://www.guilfordpta.com>

Get ready and get those box tops in. Box tops goals will be posted soon, but let's start NOW! Make sure you put them in a plastic bag or envelope and Mark your child's grade level on there.

Any questions regarding PTA, please contact our President Kimber Johnson at gesptapres@gmail.com. If she can't answer your question she will direct you to the right board member that can.

PTA Website: <http://www.guilfordpta.com>



Students have the opportunity to purchase a hot lunch.

Lunch (including milk) - \$2.75

Milk (1/2 pint) - .50 cents

If your child is allergic to milk and you would like him/her to receive juice instead, you must bring a note from your doctor to the cafeteria. In the absence of a doctor's note, all children will receive milk with a school lunch. **Other snacks and drinks are available for purchase with prices ranging from .25 cents to .75 cents.**

POINT OF SALE SYSTEM FOR STUDENT MEALS - Parents may prepay for student meals by setting up an online account at myschoolbucks.com. There is a \$2.25 processing fee for each transaction. Each transaction can be up to \$120.00 in total.

Students also have the option of paying with cash on a daily basis. Each student has been issued a PIN to use when purchasing meals with cash or prepayment. If a student has forgotten their PIN, cashiers can look the PIN up by student name. This PIN allows HCPSS to receive reimbursements from the National School Lunch Program.

We are asking that students bring exact change for purchasing lunch. **If a student brings in extra money, please know that the access money will be placed in the student's account.** In addition, please remind your child that only one snack should be purchased each day. Please be aware that the students may use the money in their account to purchase snack. If you do not wish for this to be an option for your child, you will need to contact Food and Nutrition Office to have this not be an option for your child. **They can be reached at 410-313-7134.** Thank you for your cooperation and continued support as we continue to use the POS system.

GROCERY CARD SIGN-UP

Don't forget about registering your supermarket cards for Guilford. Each year, parents must register so please re-register your Giant, Harris-Teeter, and Safeway cards.

GIANT - www.giantfood.com/aplus. Our school ID # is 01033.

HARRIS TEETER - It's time to RE-LINK your VIC cards. We have several ways to link your VIC card: At the register in our stores At the Customer Service desk in our stores. Our website - http://www.harristeeter.com/community/together_in_education/tie.aspx. Phone - Call 1-800-432-6111 TIE Coordinators can link parent's cards using the Mass Link feature in the [TIE Coordinator section](#) of their website. **Please note that you may now provide a VIC card number and/or a phone number when mass linking a card.** If you do not have your login information please call 1-800-432-6111.

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OSP- Visit the **HCPSS Online School Payment (OSP)** website where parents are able to pay school fees by debit or credit card online using a secure web browser at their convenience, 24 hours a day. This will include field trip, yearbooks, recorders and payment for lost media books. Go to OSP website: <https://osp.osmsinc.com/howardmd> or visit the Guilford website.

The Council of Elders Community Academy – Navigating HCPSS

Saturday, September 17, 9 – 11:15 a.m., Oakland Mills Middle School, 9540 Kilimanjaro Road, Columbia 21045

The Howard County Public School System has numerous web-based and staff resources available to assist families with children and school. Come learn about these resources, including Canvas and related policies and procedures, as well as effective strategies to maintain communication between home and school. For More information and to view flyer please visit <http://www.hcpss.org/news-posts/2016/08/council-of-elders-navigating/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

September

- 12 **Schools Closed** for students
- 13 PTA Meeting, 6:30-8:00 PM
- 23 **School Spirit Day, Celebrating Fall – Wear Autumn Colors**
- 30 **Fall Picture Day**
- 30 PBIS Grade Level Team Drawings
- 30 PTA Mum Distribution, 2:30-4:00 PM

October

- 3 **Schools and Offices Closed**
- 6 Intermediate Math Night, 6:00-8:00 PM Grades 3, 4 and 5
- 7 Spirit Day – Wacky Tacky
- 11 Hearing and Vision Screening
- 11 PTA Meeting, 6:30-8:00 PM
- 12 **Schools and Offices Closed**
- 14 Kindergarten Field Trip – Sharps Farm 9:30-12pm
- 16 HCPSS Community 5K and Fun Run
- 20 Hearing and Vision, Rescreening
- 20 PTA Paint and Sip Night, 6:30-8:00 PM
- 21 Spirit Day – Favorite Sport T-shirt Day
- 27 Primary Math Night, 6:00-8:00 PM Grades K, 1 and 2
- 28 Fall Fest and Turkey Trot
- 31 **Schools Closed for Students**



SAVE THE DATE: PTA/5th Grade Pancake Breakfast will be held November 5th. More info to follow.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

For a listing of upcoming Community Events access GES Paw Prints online at ges.hcpss.org .

PAWPRINT SUBMISSIONS

are due (in writing) in the office to Cathy Corrao every Monday by 12:00p.m. Submissions can be emailed to catherine_corrao@hcpss.org

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HCPSS Connect

HCPSS Connect, previously know as the Family Portal, can be found on the Howard County Public School System's homepage, www.hcpss.org. Parents who activated their Family Portal account last school year will use the same log-in and password. New and returning families that have not activated their parent account(s) are urged to do so as soon as possible. For assistance you may call the main office, 410-880-5930.

Family File

To complete or revise your child's emergency information, please log-on to **HCPSS Connect** at the Howard County Public School System's homepage, www.hcpss.org. Parents will use the same log-in and password used for the Family Portal last year. Student emergency information should be completed as soon as possible. Please call the main office, 410-880-5930, for assistance. *If you do not have internet access, please be sure to complete a paper copy of this information and return to school as soon as possible.*

Emergency Notifications

As we enter the school year, make sure you know where to find emergency closing information. A complete list of places can be found on the HCPSS [website](#).

SCHOOL HOURS

Grades K– 5 9:25a.m. – 3:55p.m.

Preschool AM - 9:25 – 11:55a.m./ PM – 1:15 -3:55p.m.

Students may enter the building at 9:10 am, when the bell chimes.

LATE ARRIVALS

Students who arrive at school after 9:25a.m. MUST be accompanied by a parent to the Main Office to be signed in before reporting to class.

EARLY DISMISSAL

Teachers may not dismiss students to parents/guardians. Parents/guardians must come to the Main Office, with identification, to sign out students and the office will request that the teacher send the student to the office. This procedure is for the safety of all our students.

ABSENCE POLICY

A parent note explaining a student's absence is required when a student is absent for any portion of the school day. Please include date(s) of absence(s). When a student is absent 3 or more consecutive days a doctor's note is requested upon the student's return to school.

BUSES

Children are assigned to buses by the Pupil Transportation Office based on where they live. Lists of students who ride a particular bus are kept on record in the office. Children are not permitted to ride on another bus. If an emergency arises, please call the main office 410-880-5930.

WALKERS

The Crossing Guard will be on post from 8:55-9:20a.m. Please do not send your children before this time. Students will not be permitted in the building until 9:10 a.m.

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Community Events

Columbia Association

The Columbia Art Center offers a wide variety of Art Classes for portfolio development and personal interest! Check out the Fall Brochure on www.columbiaartcenter.org, for more information. For inquiries or to register, please call Columbia Art Center at [410-730-0075](tel:410-730-0075) or email art.staff@columbiaassociation.org

Slayton House

Musical Theatrix opens their fall season with this upbeat, colorful, lively rock musical of "Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat". Enjoy rehearsals with live accompaniment. Sing, dance and act for children from 5-15. Visit our website at www.musicaltheatrix.com or email us at musicaltheatrix@comcast.net. Classes are held at Slayton House beginning Sept. 7, from 5-6:30 p.m. Call Slayton house at 410-730-2380. Performance Date will be December 9th.

Howard County Government

HC DrugFree is a non-profit in Howard County contracted by the Howard County Health Department to provide substance misuse prevention educational programs and services in the County. Sign up for HC DrugFree's FREE electronic newsletter to learn about local drug/alcohol issues affecting everyone in Howard County. Learn about safe medication disposal and storage, policy changes and prevention programs to build community awareness in the County. To sign up for our electronic newsletter, please forward your email address to Info@hcdrugfree.org I call 443-325-0040 or sign up online at www.hcdrugfree.org and click on the "Join Our Mailing List" box.

Howard County Government

HC DrugFree's Teen Advisory Council (TAC), meets one Mon. evening a month, 5:30p.m. -7 p.m., at The Barn (Oakland Mills Village Center) and is open to all Howard County high school students. The first TAC meeting will be held on Sept. 19. Community service hours are available. For more information, please visit www.hcdrugfree.org and go to the Teen Advisory Council page, or contact Joan Webb Scornaienchi, HC DrugFree's Executive Director at Joan@hcdrugfree.org or call 443-435-0040.

The Glen Mar Community Church

Family 5K and 1-Mile Walk will be held on Sat., Oct. 1, 9 a.m. at Glen Mar United Methodist Church, 4701 New Cut Road, Ellicott City. The event will benefit the Howard County Food Bank. To register visit www.glenmar.org/gmcevents/5k/. For more information, call Connie Ballenger at 410-796-0290 or Dave Eddy at 410-465-2976.

Cub Scouts Waverly Elementary School

Come join Cub Scout Pack 323. We are a fun-focused organization to teach young boys, grade 1-5, the values of exploration, good citizenship, charity, leadership, and self-reliance. We build rockets and cars, go on hikes and camp, contribute to charities, learn about nature. Want to learn more? Come out to our Pack Meeting on Weds., Sept. 21, at St. Alphonsus Rodriguez Church, 10800 Old Court Rd, Woodstock, MD., 6:30 p.m. Check out our website www.pack323md.org Questions - Please email John Baker, cummaster323@gmail.com.

Cub Scouts Guilford and Cradle Rock Elementary Schools

Cub Scout Pack 373 is a Pack meeting open to guests on Fri., Sept., 23, 7 p.m. Both events will be in the multipurpose room at New Hope Lutheran Church directly across from the Kings Contrivance Village Center. Boys grade 1-5 this year are eligible to join. Pack Meetings are held monthly at this Church. E-mail Pack373info@gmail.com or Cubmaster373@gmail.com or <http://cspack373columbia.scoutlander.com>

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