

POINTER VIEW NEWSLETTER

www2.hcpss.org/pres

January 6, 2012

Health Room Direct Dial Line 410-313-5633

Health Room Fax line 410-531-4825

School Hours: Arrival 9:10 - 9:25

Dismissal 3:45 - 3:55

Lunch Prices: Please do not send large denominations of bills for lunches

www.schoolmenus.com

Student Lunch - \$2.50

Milk - .50

Adult Lunch - \$4.00

**The Master Schedule for students is on our website.
Please consult it to check your child's schedule.**

DON'T FORGET! To send in your soup labels, box-tops and pop-tops!

The PRES website (www2.hcpss.org/pres) will link you to each staff member's email address (the best method of communication) and webpage (if available). Just click on the staff member's name under their team to go directly to their email. Please use this as your first line of communication when time is not of the essence. **Please keep in mind that when the office staff takes phone messages they are e-mailed to the staff member.**

IMPORTANT CALENDAR DATES

JANUARY

- 16 SCHOOL CLOSED FOR STUDENTS - MLK, JR DAY
- 20 SCHOOL CLOSED 3 HOURS EARLY AT 12:55, END OF 2nd MARKING PERIOD
School Spirit Day - Crazy Hair Day
- 23 SCHOOL CLOSED FOR STUDENTS, PROF. WORK DAY

27 4th grade Field Trip to Toby's
30 Report cards issued

FEBRUARY

08 School Spirit Day - Wear School Spirit wear
15 School closes 3 hours early at 12:55 for conferences
16 School closes 3 hours early at 12:55 for conferences
17 School Closed
27-3/2 Kindergarten Registration Week 10:00 - 2:00 (see below for information)

GT Mathematics Testing will be held the first week in February. **Third grade students who turned in their permission slips by the December deadline will be tested on Wednesday February 1st, 2012. Fourth graders who turned in their permission slips by the December deadline will be tested on Thursday February 2, 2012.** Students will be tested first thing in the morning. All materials will be provided. In order to prepare students for the test please make sure they have a good night's sleep and eat a healthy breakfast.

Jessica Brown
GT Resource Teacher
Pointers Run Elementary

New Student Kindergarten Registration February 27th – March 2nd

Please make arrangements to come in to register your child. Classes will be formed in May. If we do not have an accurate number of new enrollments (because parents might wait until summer to register) it could cause us to have larger class sizes. PLEASE REGISTER THIS WEEK AND ENCOURAGE YOUR NEIGHBORS TO REGISTER AS WELL!

Below is a list of required documents needed to register your child.

1. Custodial parent must register the student.
2. Original **Birth Certificate or Passport** as child's proof of birth.
3. **Parent Photo ID** (driver's license, passport, etc.)
4. Any one of the following **utility bills** showing property address:
 - a. BG&E
 - b. Telephone (land line only)
 - c. Water Bill
 - d. Comcast Cable
5. **Proof of residency (any ONE of the following):**
 - a. **Original Deed or Deed of Trust** if you have been in your home for more than more than 90 days (with all required signatures) or,
 - b. **Signed settlement** papers once you have settled on your home or,

c. Original Current **Lease** if you are leasing a house or apartment

• **If you have not yet settled on your home you must contact Marsha Miller at 410-313-6997.**

• **If you live with another family in their home you must contact PPW Kevin Lee at 410-313-7478, to fill out a Multi-Family Form.**

6. Proof of **Immunizations** (even if not current, with Dr.'s signature or office stamp).

7. **Social Security Number** or card (requested, not required)

8. Legal proof of custody (court order) *If applicable.*

Children not born in the USA will need to contact the Office of International Student Services @ 410-313-7101 or 7102.

BLANKET MAKING WORKSHOP

Girl Scout Troop 2527 has organized a blanket making workshop to earn their Silver Award! Please come for three hours of FUN on Saturday, February 11, 2012 (1-4pm) at Schooley Mill Park. We will be making fleece blankets to donate to the House of Ruth, a domestic violence center that helps abused women and children find safety and security. Snacks and a fun patch are also included. Participants should be 9 years of age or older. Cost is \$15. Space is limited. Please RSVP by 2/5/12 to knoblett6@yahoo.com



Our school is proud to partner with the American Heart Association to help kids with special hearts! Mark your family calendars NOW for our upcoming **Jump Rope For Heart** event taking place on:

Wednesday, Feb. 15th
Grades 3-5 Only

You can help the American Heart Association by helping your child sign up for the event.

More information will be coming home on January 20th from Ms. Brodka and Mr. Wallenhorst. No On-line Registrations please.

The American Heart Association's Mission: To build healthier lives, free of cardiovascular diseases and stroke.

Battle of the Books, April 2012: If you are coaching a BoB team this year; please send me an email to let me know. I am happy to be a point of contact for all of the 12 PRES teams....yes folks, **12 teams!!!** Please indicate if you give

permission to share your contact information with other coaches from PRES. With this many teams, you may want to be in contact with each other to share ideas and strategies that you find work for your team.

I will run a mock battle of the books sometime in the weeks preceding the actual event and would like to be sure to include all of the teams. I'm so excited for all of the participants. This is truly a wonderful event and everyone participating is a winner. Contact me at: Janet_Browning@hcpss.org

All the best and Happy Reading!!! Janet Browning, Library Media Specialist

IDENT-A-KID Program

The IDENT-A-KID Child Safety Program will be at our school on {02/07/2012} to PHOTOGRAPH, FINGERPRINT, WEIGH and MEASURE children. To participate, please fill in the Application Envelope which will come home with your child and have your child return it to school.~ Applications are also available on line at www.identakid.com. It is recommended that each parent keep a card with them at all times and additional cards should be given to anyone who regularly cares for your child.~ Participation in the program is at the individual Parents option. The cost per child is \$8 for one card, \$10 for two cards (includes eKid-ID), and \$13 for three cards (includes eKid-ID). An eKid ID is the electronic Ident-A-Kid card sent to your cell phone via text/picture message and is free when ordering multiple cards. Please feel free to contact your local program director, Donna Aversa-Smith at daversasmith@identakid.com or at (443) 275-1543, with any questions.

HEALTH ROOM REQUEST:

Parents PLEASE send in clothes for health room. We are low on sizes 5 on up to small adult sizes. We also need shoes. Sweats are best because they fit most kids. Thanks!

FAMILY CULTURAL NIGHT: Performers Needed!!

Family Cultural Night will take place on **Friday, January 27th** from 6:30-8 PM! We will have delicious international foods, games and crafts, and a Student Talent Show.

If you would like to help out with the event, or if your child would like to participate in the Student Talent Show, please contact Jacqueline Easley at (410) 531-1106 or JacqEasley@yahoo.com.

Student Photograph/Videotape Refusal Form

Newspaper and television reporters/photographers may visit Howard County schools to report on events or stories. If your child may be photographed,

videotaped or interviewed, you do not have to do anything! Note: Such photographs or videotape may be used in school system publications, local print and television news, and media websites.

If you DO NOT want your child to be interviewed, photographed or videotaped by school system, local or national media, during the 2010-2011 school year please download the form from the PRES website and submit it to your child's teacher.

PE News:

Please take a look at our PE Website <http://prespe.hcpss.wikispaces.net/>
You can find pictures and information about our New Peaceful Playground and Disc Golf Course, Turkey Trot event, Jump Rope for Heart event video, and upcoming 5K Pointers FUN RUN.

Volunteers Needed in Kindergarten PE in January:

We are looking for Kindergarten parent volunteers to help with DDR (Dance, Dance Revolution) for:

Monday, 1/9 at 2:15-3 (Rieben and Surface),

Wednesday, 1/11 at 1:45-2:30 (Rieben and Surface),

Thursday, 1/12 and Friday 1/13 2-2:45 (Eulitt and Shuman).

Please contact us if you are able to help. Thank you. Ms. Brodka, katarzyna_brodka@hcpss.org and/or Mr. Wallenhorst, randy_wallenhorst@hcpss.org

Attendance Policy Reminder

Please be advised that each student is allowed 3 Local Discretionary days each school year that can be used for personal reasons (vacations, reunions, etc). Any days over and beyond the 3 LD days may be coded as Unlawful/Unexcused depending on the reason for the absence. Teachers are not required to give students missed work for Unlawful/Unexcused absences.

Furthermore, any student requesting an absence of 15 days or more (not including the 3 LD days) for Unlawful/Unexcused reasons will be withdrawn and parents will be required to re-enroll the student upon return. For further information please consult the HCPSS website to see policy [9010 - Attendance](#).

Please access the [Extended Absence/Discretionary Absence](#) and the [Religious Obligation: Request for Absence](#) forms on the HCPSS.org website to use when appropriate.

Attendance Information:

Please adhere to our school policy of sending in a **handwritten** note to school the day your child returns to school after an absence. While emailing your child's teacher is acceptable to notify them that your child will not be in school that day, that same email cannot be used to adjust the attendance from truant to an excused or unexcused absence. Please follow-up with a signed note. Thank you.

Calling All Volunteers for STEM Day 2012!

Pointers Run is still in need of parent volunteers to run activities for STEM Day on April 12, 2012. There are openings in grades K through 4 for volunteers to run four to five 45 minutes sessions in a STEM-related area. If you work in a STEM-related field or are just interested in STEM, please consider volunteering. If interested please email Jessica Brown jessica_brown@hcpss.org before February. You can either design your own activity or an activity can be assigned to you. Thank you!

ONGOING PROGRAMS THAT BENEFIT OUR SCHOOL:

DON'T THROW OUT THAT INK CARTRIDGE!

Our school will continue our fundraising project of collecting empty cartridges in a zip-loc bag. Small personal printer sizes only – not office size printer cartridges. Please turn it in to the box located in the hallway in front of the main office.

Together in Education: Harris Teeter With the opening of the new Harris Teeter grocery store remember to designate PRES as your school. Go to the following link to sign up.

http://www.harristeeter.com/community/together_in_education/link_to_your_school.aspx

Box Tops: Remember to clip and send in your Box Tops (Box Tops for Education). Our school directly receives money for each box top submitted. Each one donated adds up! So far, we have submitted about \$470 worth of box tops for this year! Your child can drop these off in the box in the lobby, or in your

child's pod. For more information, please contact Lisa Kim at lmkim01@verizon.net

Giant Food A+ Bonus Bucks Program: Remember to re-register Pointers Run for Giant Food A+ Bonus Bucks program. It is necessary to designate our school each year. Go to www.giantfood.com/aplus using ID 02671.

PTA NEWS

PRES PTA 2011-2012 Email Newsletter Sign Up

We are happy to continue offering the PTA Email Newsletter through Constant Contact. In the past year the e-newsletter has helped the PTA to keep members informed about activities and service projects throughout the year. **If you signed up last year you do not need to do a thing in order to continue receiving the bi-weekly newsletter.** If you are not yet on the e-newsletter distribution list you can sign up now.

Simply go to the website at <http://pointersrunpta.org/> and fill in your email address where it asks you to "Sign Up" in the upper right hand corner of the home page. Just click "GO" and follow the directions from there to complete the sign up. You will receive a confirmation email.

For questions you can contact:

Dede Matrangola	Debbie Engle
PRES VP1	Newsletter Editor
dede@matrangola.com	rockydog1@comcast.net

COMMUNITY NEWS

Special Needs Camp Fair

Tue., Jan. 24, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Cedar Lane School, 11630 Scaggsville Road, Fulton

The Howard County Autism Society (HCAS) and the HCPSS Office of Special Education invite parents to explore programs offered at many local summer camps for students with special needs. For more information, contact the HCAS

Resource Center at 410-290-3466 or info@howard-autism.org.

4 Easy Steps to Help Disaster Victims in Howard County

1. Dive into your closet and clean out all your old prom/party dresses, gently worn shoes, purses, jewelry and other accessories.
2. Take all the stuff to Coldwell Banker—Enchanted Forest and drop it in the *Project: Prom Dress* bin January 2 thru February 17, 2012.
3. Come to the Howard County YMCA on February 26 ready to shop. The cleaned and collected dresses will be sold at a fraction of their original price. Get there early because doors open at 9AM and the dresses go quickly!
4. Smile. You just helped raise money so the Red Cross can provide food, shelter, clothing and other help to disaster victims in Howard County.

Important details: Visit Coldwell Banker - Enchanted Forest, 10050 Baltimore National Pike, Ellicott City, during the following times to drop off your items: Monday-Thursday 9AM- 7PM; Friday and Saturdays 9AM-5PM; Sundays 9AM-3PM.

Project: Prom Dress happens on one day only-- February 26 at the Howard County YMCA from 9AM – 5PM. 100% of the money raised through the re-sale is donated to the American Red Cross of the Chesapeake Region. For more information call 410/624-2035, email projectpromdresshoward@gmail.com or find Project: Prom Dress on Facebook.

Columbia Association's **Sister Cities Summer High School Student Exchange** offers high school teens a wonderful opportunity to experience and explore another culture first-hand in France or Spain, and to practice their Spanish or French outside the classroom. This international cultural and linguistic immersion program is a 5-week international summer "camp" for students in level three (III) and above of Spanish or French. Teens from Howard County travel to Europe at the end of June and live for two weeks with a teen their age in one of Columbia's two European Sister Cities: Cergy-Pontoise (near Paris) in France or Tres Cantos (near Madrid) in Spain. In July, they return to the US and host that same student in his or her home here in Columbia/Howard County. Chaperones (who are fluent in French/Spanish) accompany the teens and are there to support them or solve problems if they arise. The exchange provides an unforgettable summer experience and the opportunity to make lifelong friends in France or Spain. Participants serve as "student ambassadors" from Maryland and meet teens from other Howard County high schools in the process. More information and the 2012 Application Packet can be found at www.ColumbiaAssociation.org/TeenExchange. Applications are due Feb. 17, 2012.

"Finally Understanding the Fundamentals of Algebra!" Day of Math Consulting, Tutoring, and Training

Saturday, January 7, 2012; 9am-12pm & 1-4pm

EduSerc Conference and Training Center, 1040 West St., Laurel, MD 20707

EduSerc will host a full day of math consulting, tutoring, and training assistance

for adults, students, and families. Attend this one-day session to learn from a practicing engineer how to build your confidence in math, overcome barriers that are holding you back, and ultimately earn a perfect score on every test. All grade levels are welcome, and students and parents are all invited to attend. Brian K. Smith, CEO and Executive Director of EduSerc, Inc., will serve as the day's Keynote Trainer. Mr. Smith is a practicing Engineer and Academic Scholar, and is adamant about providing students and parents with the resources and tools to be successful in understanding and performing mathematics.

It's not too early to think about summer camps. Slayton House Theatre Camp of the Arts is gearing up for an outstanding summer program. Join us for a magical experience. Your child will enjoy dance, music, art and drama. Each session ends in a full production on our professional stage. Discounts are offered for registrations received before Feb 29, 2012. Contact Kathy Verheul, Camp Administrator at campadmin@columbiavillages.org or 410-730-3987 for information.

i9 Sports - Register now for the Winter Basketball Program! Convenient, organized, and safe fun for boys and girls ages 5-12. Basketball Program is on Sundays for 8 weeks 1/15/12 - 3/18/12. Registration deadline is 12/23/11- \$20 late fee added after this date. Practice and Play on Same Day! NO Fundraisers! NO Mandatory Volunteering! Register online www.i9sports.com or call 443-485-4202.

Kid Empowerment: Smashing ANTs ~ More Confidence, Better Grades, Happier Kids! - Through a variety of enlightening activities, students learn how to recognize self-limiting thoughts...how to guard against them...and even how to smash them, all in a fun-filled way so they will barely realize they are learning empowering life skills. Best of all, there's even an animated cartoon video starring Andy the ANTeater, who connects and resonates with students, making it even easier to learn each lesson. It's a great way to help kids be happier and more successful! Grades 1-5. Flyers will be sent home in backpacks, or you can go to www.SmashingANTs.com for more information and registration. Contact Nancy Sheain at 410-707-6288 or Nancy@SmashingANTs.com.

Kid Empowerment: Leadership FUN-damentals ~ Greater Cooperation, More Teamwork, Better Problem Solving. Students discover their own leadership potential and develop skills that guide them to behave in a way that makes a difference in them and the world around them. During this hands-on program, students learn the key elements of successful leadership and learn how to be the kind of leader that others want to follow. Grades 1-5. Flyers will be sent home in backpacks, or go to www.SmashingANTs.com for more information and registration. Contact Nancy Sheain at 410-707-6288 or Nancy@SmashingANTs.com.

Capitol Debate Winter 2012 Classes/Camps - Capitol Debate, a business

partner with the school system, will host after-school classes in Debate and Public Speaking starting the week of January 17 for students from 4th to 8th grade. Cost: \$200. For more details/times and to apply, go to www.capitoldebate.com. Contact: Ronald Bratt at 443-538-4992 or bratt@capitol-debate.com

School's Out Nature Programs - Need a place to bring your children when schools are closed? Bring them to The Howard County Conservancy for their School's Out Nature Programs. These educational programs are held on select days when Howard County schools are closed to students. Programs include educational games, activities, and crafts emphasizing all the wonders of the changing seasons. Children will discover and explore the variety of natural habitats as life flourishes all around them. Programs are for children ages 5-12. You must register in advance. A limited number of students will be permitted each session, so sign your child up today!

Full day Programs:

- 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; \$40/child
- Before care is available starting at 8 a.m. for an extra \$5.
- After care is available from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. for an extra \$10.

2012 Dates: Jan 16, Jan 23, Feb 17, Feb 20, May 18

The Howard County Conservancy is located at 10520 Old Frederick Road, Woodstock, 21163.

For more information and registration, contact tabby.fique@hconservancy.org.

Take an SAT Practice Test (Rescheduled) - Warm up for the SAT and find out how you would score. Get realistic practice and try your hand at the types of questions you'll face on the actual exam. You'll receive a personalized score report pinpointing your strengths and weaknesses. Reserve your seat today! 800-2Review (800-273-8439) | PrincetonReview.com. The Princeton Review is not affiliated with Princeton University or The College Board. Please register with The Princeton Review online at www.PrincetonReview.com/events or call 800-2Review. Mail check to Jennifer Ingram at 5570 Vantage Point Road Unit 1, Columbia, MD 21044 or bring check on test day, made out to AAUW Howard County.

AAUW Practice SAT

Location: Vantage House

Saturday, February 11, 2012; 10:30am - 4:00pm

Fee: \$15 per person*

AAUW Practice SAT Scores Back Session

Vantage House

Saturday, March 3, 2012; 2-4 p.m.

*Please arrive at 10:30 a.m. so we can begin promptly at 11 a.m. To ensure

enough space, one parent may attend the Scores Back Session.

Wildlife Adventures at Claret Hall on **Monday, January 23 at 10:30 a.m.** When school is closed, come enjoy an interactive nature show and learn about the Tricks that Animals Play. Many different types of animals will be displayed and available to be touched. **A picture with your favorite animal is also included!** All ages are welcome. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Space is limited. Call 410-531-1749 or visit www.villageofriverhill.org for more information and to register.

Singing with the Scouts on **Sunday, January 29 from 2:30 — 3:30 p.m.** at Claret Hall. To entertain 55 and better residents, local Girl Scout troops will perform songs and teach a few songs too. It is sure to be an enjoyable, multigenerational afternoon. Light refreshments will be served. Call 410-531-1749 or visit www.villageofriverhill.org for more information.