

## MAGOTHY RIVER MIDDLE SCHOOL'S PARENT WEEKLY UPDATE



## Updates from Dr. Wiliams

## **MRMS Spotlight**

Congratulations to Lilly Moore (8th grade) and Carley Powers (7th grade) earned the title of All-County Dance Honors. Danielle O'Brien (6th grade) earned Honorable Mention. These students are members of the MRMS Dance Company and were nominated by Mrs. Saint Amour. This is a wonderful achievement!







Dear MRMS Families,

Beginning the week of June 15<sup>th</sup> students will be allowed to return to the building to drop-off materials and pick-up personal belongings. I plan to host a Parent Coffee Hour early this week to share specific instructions on how to signup. More information to come on Monday.

Please take the time to review the updated grading policy, which is located on the AACPS webpage. Teachers have been asked to leave the grade blank if a student does NOT turn in an assignment until the end of the marking period. Therefore, Power School will not accurately show a student's current grade. Be sure to see if your child is missing any assignments instead of just looking at the weekly grade. Click the link below for additional information regarding AACPS Summer Learning Programs http://aacpsschools.org/pressr/?p=5848.

Sincerely, Dr.Williams

Weekof	6/8 - 6/12
Mon 6/8	B-Day
Tues 6/9	A-Day
Wed 6/10	B-Day
Thurs 6/11	A-Day
Fri 6/12	B-Day



#### **NEW REGISTRATIONS**

Dear Parent/Legal Guardian:

During the COVID-19 State-mandated shutdown, Anne Arundel County Public Schools is using a remote process to enroll students for the 2020-2021 school year for grades K-12.

The following documents are required for enrollment:

·Child's documents – o Birth Certificate o Immunization Record o Recent Report Card or Transcript

· Parent's documents – oGovernment-issued photo ID o Primary proof of residency: mortgage, deed, or lease oSecondary proof of residency: utility bill, bank statement, or paystub in the last 60 days o Custody Order (if applicable)

Hint: Be sure to have your documents saved and ready, in PDF or JPEG format, before you enter the portal because the system cannot accept incomplete registrations and you'll have to re-enter all data fields.

Please follow the link to our online enrollment portal where you'll complete forms electronically and upload your documents:

- English: <u>https://secure.aacps.org/webapps/SEFP/en-US/OSS</u>
- Spanish: <u>https://secure.aacps.org/webapps/SEFP/es-ES/OSS</u>

If you have any questions, please email me at <u>lbenefiel@aacps.org</u>. I look forward to working with you and welcoming your family to Magothy River Middle School.

Thank you, Laurie Benefiel **Counseling Secretary** Magothy River Middle School 241 Peninsula Farm Rd Arnold, MD 21012 google voice # 302-469-0499 fx: 410-544-1867

## Food & Nutrition Services (Student Meal Accounts)

In a typical school year, the Food & Nutrition Services Staff process refunds in May and June based on parent request and/or graduations. With the abrupt closing this year, parents and students did not have the ability to request a refund prior to graduation or moving. All money is maintained on account up to and including one year after a student graduates.

Families requesting a refund of student meal accounts need to email <u>AKGilbert@aacps.org</u> (Andrea Gilbert, 410.222.5900). Please provide the child's name, ID number, and school. Also please include the parent/guardian's address. Once Food & Nutrition Services confirms the information and verifies the amount of money on the account, they can process a check for distribution to parents.





## **#SAVEASUMMERDAY**

### Dear Parents,

Skip the stores and save a summer day! Why battle back-to-school shopping when you can easily purchase your child's school supplies in a custom, pre-packaged kit.

#### Need a few reasons why supply kits are the way to go?

- $\sqrt{10}$  Kits contain everything your teacher requested
- $\sqrt{Aconvenientone-stop}$ , one-click shopping experience
- $\sqrt{}$  Save time by not driving from store to store to find specialty items
- $\sqrt{}$  Affordably priced! Plus, save money by avoiding in-store extras
- $\sqrt{1}$  Quality brands which are designed to last the school year



 $\sqrt{}$  Kits will be delivered before school starts

Order Online at www.shopttkits.com

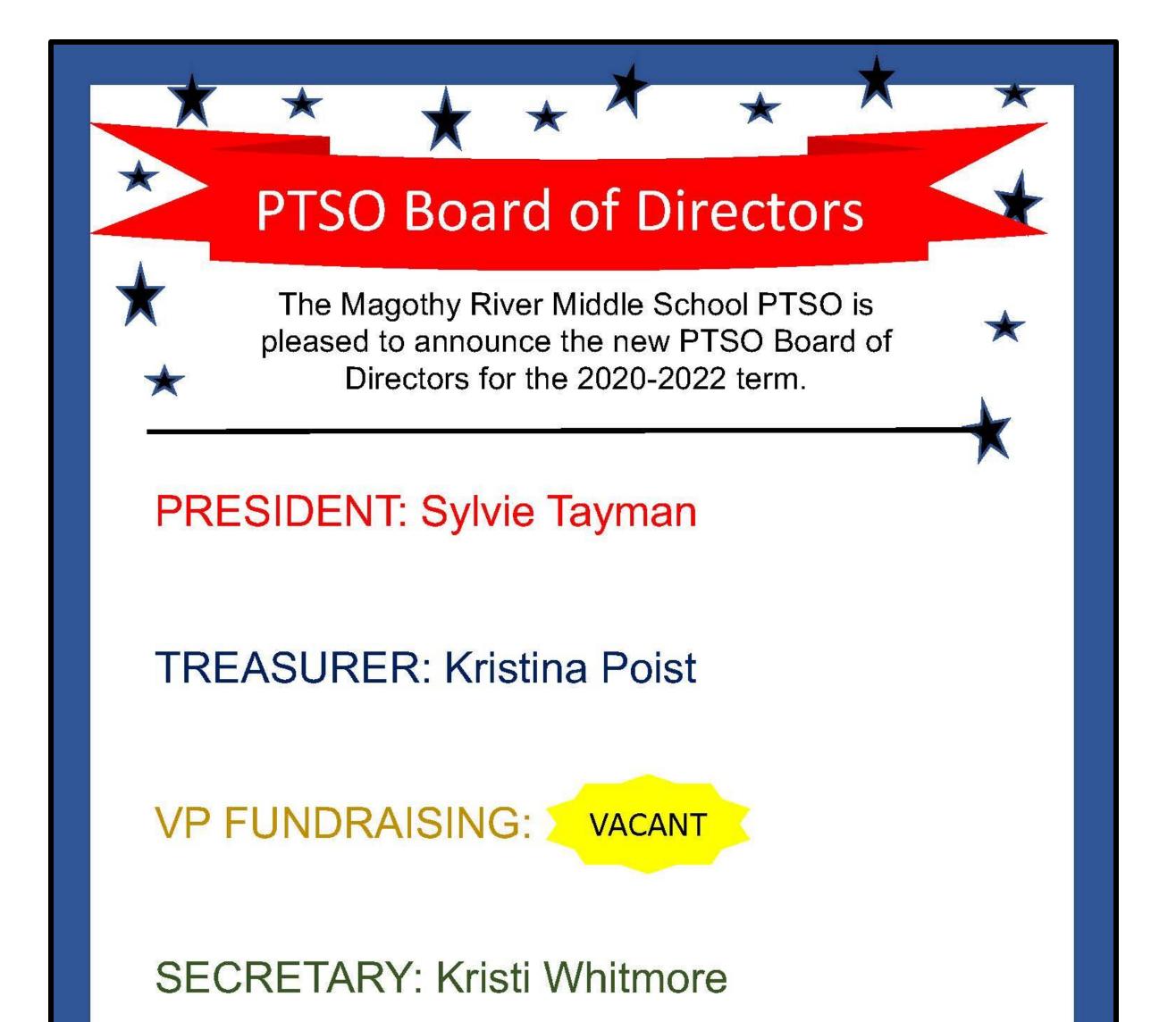
Use Account #86921

Hurry! Sale ends on June 21st

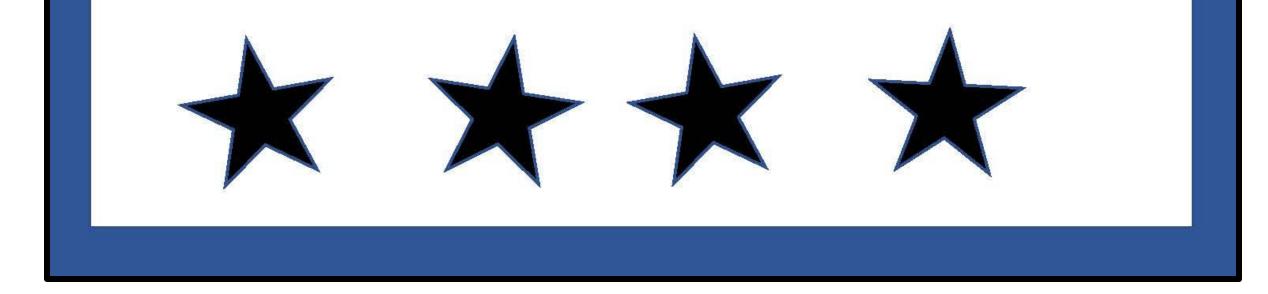
Grade 6 - \$42.19

Grade 7 - \$38.52

Grade 8 - \$28.56



## VP COMMUNICATIONS: Christina Gehring



# 8th Grade Students and Families,

Typically in the Spring Broadneck High School send a group of student ambassadors to MRMS to give a presentation to the 8th graders about what to expect in 9th grade and general information about high school.

Although we are unsure of what exactly the fall will look like, Broadneck is preparing a presentation/Q&A to share with you still. Ms. Hepting will post the presentation in the MRMS All In Google Classroom as well as your team leaders in their team pages.

Keep your eye out towards the end of the month. Feel free to contact Ms. Hepting with any questions you may have (khepting@aacps.org).

# Kindness Club Update!

30 Days of Gratitude... As we wind down the last month of school, start each day focusing on one thing that you are grateful for! It's amazing how great this will make you fee!

# No act of kindness, no matter how small ever goes unnoticed.

## **NEWS FROM THE HEALTHROOM**

Our Health Room staff are wishing your family good health during this challenging season. Excellent resources for updated information regarding COVID-19 can be found at <u>www.aahealth.org</u> and <u>www.cdc.gov</u>. All School Health Services staff have been deployed in Anne Arundel County's COVID-19 emergency response effort.

Thank you,

Jane Lefavor, RN School Nurse Magothy River Middle School



KEEP CALM AND THINK HEALTH AND SAFETY

#### Administrators Duties 2019-2020

Hanne Denney	Stacy Herbert	Shared Responsibilities
Hanne DenneyStudent Discipline –• 6th grade- Navigators• 7th gradeStudent Led Town Hall Meetings (min quarterly)• Navigators• Clippers• SkipjacksTesting CoordinatorSpecial Education LiaisonStudent TransportationAttendance ChairpersonExtra-Curricular Activities Coord.	Stacy Herbert         Student Discipline –         • 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Mariners         • 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade         Student Led Town Hall Meetings         (min quarterly)         • Mariners         • Champions         • Heroes         Master Schedule:         • Student Schedules         • Grade Reporting         Facility Management         8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Recognition Ceremony & Awards         PBIS Administrator	School Improvement Team 504 Facilitator/Meetings Student Supervision: • Class Change • Dances • Lunches • Student Performances • Bus Duty Student Assemblies
Departments	Departments	Nuria Williams
<ul> <li>Language Arts</li> <li>Social Studies</li> <li>Special Education</li> <li>Music</li> <li>Art</li> <li>ESOL</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Science</li> <li>Math</li> <li>PE/Health/Dance</li> <li>World Language</li> <li>FACS</li> <li>Tech Ed</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Back to School Night</li> <li>PTSO Representative</li> <li>Staff Meetings</li> <li>Leadership Meeting</li> <li>Faculty Meeting</li> <li>Professional Development</li> <li>AVID Administrator</li> <li>Equity Team Liaison</li> <li>School Improvement Team</li> <li>School Pictures/Yearbook</li> <li>NJHS/SGA Liaison</li> </ul>



# **Thriving Families**

During this challenging time, the Thrive team has decided to compile useful resources, tips and activities into a weekly newsletter for Thrive families. Most of these tips and activities are geared to children ages 4—12. We hope this brings you a simple and enjoyable way to stay connected to your family.

#### **Behavior Charts and Incentives**

Behavior charts can be a helpful way to use positive reinforcement. Rewarding positive desirable behaviors is essential in molding behaviors we want our children to display. Behavior charts can be used to motive children to follow routines, engage in positive behaviors, potty training, chores, and more. The best behavior chart is different for each child. It's important to understand the goal your child is working toward and to have a reasonable expectation of your child's progress. Behavior charts can be tracked with stickers, stamps or stars just to name a few. Children should be working toward an attainable goal with a desirable reward using the behavior chart to track their progress. There are many resources available to find a behavior chart that is best for your child. You can track your child's progress with printable behavior charts, or by using apps available on your phone.

Here are a few behavior chart resources that we like:

Desirable rewards don't have to be expensive, however. Here are some ideas

- S'mores Up (app)
- <u>http://www.kidrewards.org</u> (online behavior chart)
- iReward Chart (app)
- <u>http://kidpointz.com(printable behavior charts)</u>
- Thumsters (app)

on how to reward your child without breaking the bank.

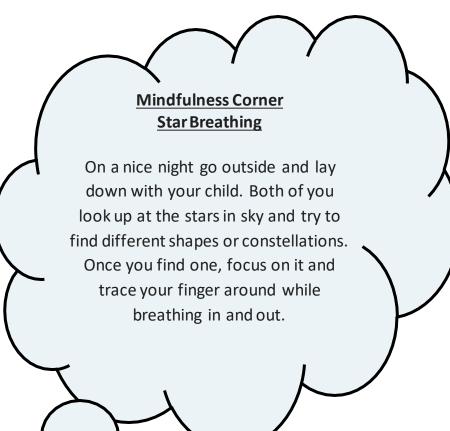
- Have an indoor camping trip (see our article about indoor camping in this newsletter for some inspiration)
- Take a virtual trip to Disney World by watching YouTube videos of rides and shows. Make some special Disney snacks for an added treat
- Dub your child as royalty for a day and treat them like a prince or princess
- Have a backyard picnic
- Have a game night

#### **Sesame Street Teaches Belly Breathing**

Belly breathing is an important coping skill for children to have in their toolbox. Learn and practice taking belly breaths with Sesame Street characters here:

https://sesamestreetincommunities.org/activities/teaching-belly-breathing/

WEEKLY BEHAVIOR CHART									
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IF   EARM CHECKS DURING THE WEEK,   WILL GET			•	гот	AL:				



#### **5 Dinner Time Conversation Starters**

Ask your child one of these questions each night during dinner. See where the conversation takes you.

- Would you rather eat your favorite food everyday or find \$5 under your pillow every morning?
- If you could change your age, how old would you be?
- Would you rather be able to change colors like a chameleon or hold your breath underwater for an hour?
- If you could create a new color, what would it look like and what would you name it?
- Would you rather have a magic carpet that flies or a see-through submarine?

## **Indoor Camping Trip**

With the closures throughout the state, traveling and family vacation are difficult. That's okay because you can make your own fun family vacation right in your own home! Go camping with your children in your own living room using some of these ideas. Don't forget to tell stories around the campfire, sing campfire songs and look for animals! You can hid stuffed animals around the living room and have your child point out the "wild animals" they spot.

#### Set up a Tent

The first part of any camping trip is setting up the tent. Rearrange your living room furniture or kitchen chairs and table in two rows and drape a blanket or sheet over it. It's as simple as that! If you own a tent you can set that up instead. Don't forget to lay down pillows and blankets or sleeping bags inside.

#### **Build Your Own Campfire**

Use empty toilet paper rolls and arrange them like logs. Stuff red, orange and yellow tissue paper into the ends of the toilet paper rolls create the effect of fire. If you don't have tissue paper, check the dollar store.



#### **Create Your Own Stars**

Make your own stars by poking little holes into a cardboard box. Wait for night time and turn out all the lights for the perfect effect. Hold a flashlight in the box and shine it up towards you ceiling. Get creative and make the holes into different shapes or constellations!

#### S'mores Dip

#### **Ingredients:**

- 1 bag of milk chocolatechips
- 1 bag of large marshmallows
- Graham Crackers
- Fruit and cookies (optional for dipping)



#### **Directions:**

- 1. Preheat oven to 350°
- 2. Pour the chocolate chips into an 8 or 9 inch skillet (a pan will also work)
- 3. Bake for 3-4 minutes until chocolate melts
- 4. Top melted chocolate with the large marshmallows
- 5. Bake for 2-3 minutes until marshmallows are browned
- 6. Serve immediately with graham crackers for dipping (cookies and fruit can be used as well)

#### References:

"200 Would You Rather Questions for Kids - The Only List You'll Ever Need." Conversation Starters World, 20 Feb. 2020, conversationstartersworld.com/would-you-rather-questions-for-kids/. Cassie. "5 Minute Classroom Mindfulness Activities for Kids." Teach Starter, 6 Mar. 2020, <u>www.teachstarter.com/us/blog/classroom-mindfulness-activities-for-children-us/.</u> "Indoor Camping Party - 15 Fun Tips and Activitites." The Gardening Cook, 26 Mar. 2020, thegardeningcook.com/indoor-camping-party/. Sara, et al. "Oven S'mores Dip." Dinner at the Zoo, 24 Mar. 2019, <u>www.dinneratthezoo.com/smores-dip/#wprm-recipe-container-12934.</u>



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Ask your child one of these questions each night during dinner. See where the conversation takes you.

- If your stuffed animals or toys could talk, what would they say?
- If you could make up a new holiday, what would it be?
- What would you wish for if a genie gave you three wishes?
- Would you rather see everything in in slow motion or in fast forward?
- Would you rather travel on a spaceship or a gigantic dragon?

#### Mindfulness Corner: **Buddy Breathing**

This activity is a great way to practice and model mindful breathing for you child. Partner up with your child, sit tall with your back resting against your child's back. Take turns breathing in an out. Focus on each other's breathing, can you feel each other's back moving as you breathe? Is your breath fast or slow? Is it shallow or deep?



#### **Parent Tool Kit**

A great resources for all things parenting is Parent Tool Kit. This website is packed with information on all topics related to raising children from birth through preparing for college. It covers topics such as academics, physical health and social emotional wellness. The website is offered in both English and Spanish and can be personalized to fit your parenting needs!

https://www.parenttoolkit.com/

#### **CDC Essentials for Parenting Toddlers and Preschoolers**

Attention parents of little ones! The CDC is a great resource for videos, activities and more on topics such as communicating with your child, using time outs correctly and giving directions. This is a great site for learning and practicing parent skills. Check it out by using the link below. https://www.cdc.gov/parents/essentials/index.html



Movie theaters closed? Don't let that stop you from being the star of your own show. Host your own Red Carpet Movie Night right from your living room with these fun ideas.

#### **DIY Red Carpet**



There are many creative and inexpensive ways to make your own Hollywood red carpet! You can choose from taping red construction paper or poster board together, painting cardboard red or red fabric! All items can be found at the dollar store or craft store if you don't already have them at home.



#### **Reserve Seats for VIPs**

Have your child write down everyone's name and decorate each card to place on the couch, chairs or floor. They can also grab their favorite stuffed animals or toys to join the audience for the movie!

#### **Concession Stand**

Use play money or create tickets to be exchanged for snacks and drinks. Have candy, popcorn, and juices (or sodas) available for your family to choose from. Require them to cash in their money or tickets for each item so they're limited to what they can afford! This doubles up as a fun addition to the movie premier, as well as a lesson on budgeting.

#### VIP Cookies and Cream Popcorn

#### **Be Red Carpet Ready**

Don't forget to dress up for your red carpet pictures. Let your child style themselves, whether they choose their fanciest outfit or their favorite costume. See how creative they can get! For extra fun you and your child can create props to use in your pictures.

#### Instructions

pictures!

1.Draw, color and cut out your props. Some examples you can use to make your props are – hats, glasses, mustaches, smiles and speech bubbles (heavier paper or cardboard will work best).

2. After you cut them out, grab some pencils and tape or glue. Use the pencils as a handle to hold the props, once you have the pencils tape or glue the props to one end.

**Ingredients:** 

- 1 bag of kettle or white popcorn
- 12oz Oreos finely crushed
- 6oz vanilla candy melts



- **Directions:** 
  - 1. Pop the bag of popcorn according to the instructions on the package. Remove any unpopped kernels from the bag.
  - 2. Mix the popcorn and crushed Oreos together.
  - 3. Melt candy melts in the microwave. Use 30 second intervals, mixing well in between.
  - 4. Drizzle half of the candy melts over the popcorn. Use a spatula to coat evenly. Add the rest of the candy melts and toss mixture gently for about a minute.
  - 5. Spread the mixture onto a large sheet of wax paper and allow candy coating to set (about 20 minutes).

**Cast Your Family as the Lead Roles** 

3. Hold them up to your head/face and have fun taking

For an added bonus, create your own movie to premier at movie night. Your movie can be the short film leading up to the main feature. Consider having your family perform a skit, a compilation of funny videos or create your own slide show of pictures and videos as a surprise. Use apps such as iMovie to put your film together.

#### **References:**

"Erica's Sweet Tooth "Cookies and Cream Popcorn. (n.d.). Retrieved May 27, 2020, from http://www.ericasweettooth.com/2012/05/cookies-and-cream-popcorn.html Kid, C. (2020, January 24). 100+ Funny Questions to Ask Kids. Retrieved May 28, 2020, from <a href="https://wehavekids.com/misc/Funny-Questions-to-Ask-Kids">https://wehavekids.com/misc/Funny-Questions-to-Ask-Kids</a> Cassie. (2020, March 06). 5 Minute Classroom Mindfulness Activities for Kids. Retrieved May 28, 2020, from <a href="https://www.teachstarter.com/us/blog/classroom-mindfulness-activities-for-children-us/">https://www.teachstarter.com/us/blog/classroom-mindfulness-activities-for-children-us/</a>