

Talbott Springs Elementary School Friday Newsletter

Friday January 21, 2022

Talbott Springs Families,

We've reached the halfway point of the 2021-2022 school year! Despite the days in and out of school this week, we have so much to celebrate! On Thursday evening TSES families virtually joined The Council of Elders of the Black Community and the Black Student Achievement Program along with other elementary schools in HCPSS to celebrate the academic accomplishments of the following students: John A. Christian A., Demetrius A., Peyton A., Isabella A., Selwyn BC., Juliana B., LaNiya B., Mason B., Daniel C., Brielle D., Bralyn F., Kelly F., Ryan G., Noah G., Blake H., Kevin H., Journee H., Aidan J., Peyton L., Imani L., Riyan N., Tumise O., Mark P., Pystis P., Juandiego QR, Vanessa S., Randall S., Brent S., Iyassu T., Giuliana T., Hannah T., Justin W., Nathan Y. This event highlighted the value that these children have placed on their learning through virtual, hybrid and in person learning!

The TSES Spelling Bee was held on Tuesday January 18, 2022. These students from 4th and 5th grade were the spellers that participated: John A., Mason C., Jaylen W., Maya S., Mael S., Alex A., Randall S., Nicholas A., Maximus P., Evie G., Kellan O., Pystis P., Juliana B., Megan M., Erin F., Braylon M., Rakiya S., and Ryan G. with these students serving as alternates: Charlotte W., Alanna A., Summer N., Brielle D., Tunmise O., and Jolene C. The winner of the Spelling Bee was Megan M. and the runner-up was John A. Both students will prepare for the County Spelling Bee which takes place on Friday, March 18, 2022.

The 2nd grade Bumble Bee was held on Tuesday, January 11th. These students participated: Nakyi W., Ernest D., Harley F., Gabriella J., Tara B., Sofia R., Henry Z., Santiago M., Kinnon H., Skylar J., Isha K. The winner of the 2nd grade Bumble Bee was Ernest D. We are so proud of all of our students for their participation in these spelling bee events!

Please read below for important information about upcoming Parent Teacher Conferences, Kids Read Now® Summer 2022 program; CogAT assessment for students in grades 3 and 5, Student placement in GT programs for 6th grade in 2022-2023 and COVID Vaccine Clinics. I hope that you have a wonderful weekend!

Nancy Thompson, Principal

Information:

Please help our community of staff students and their families safe! We need to work together on this! Families are reminded to follow all [HCPSS health and safety protocols](#) and [conduct daily at-home health checks](#). [Answers to health and safety frequently asked questions](#) are available online.

Kids Read Now®! Summer 2022: TSES is so proud to share that we have secured Title I funding to provide free books for TSES students (*current Pre-K through 4th grade students only*) to read during the summer of 2022. The company that we are working with is Kids Read Now®. If you opt in, your child(ren) will receive six (6) free books, each mailed directly to your home, as well as a free writing book with colorful story cards encouraging your child to create their own stories based on those illustrations. There is no charge for the books and your family may keep the books. Link to the website for more information about KRN®. Please note that KRN will not share your child's name or mailing address with other persons or companies.

Parent involvement is required for this program to be successful. Please visit the following link to learn more about the program and complete the form to opt in. [Survey for Interest](#)
The deadline to submit this form is Wednesday, February 2, 2022 - this deadline cannot be extended!

Parent Teacher Conferences: [HCPSS Connect](#) will be available for families to sign up for February Parent Teacher Conferences starting on January 28, 2022. Conferences will be held virtually, via Google Meet, on Thursday, February 10 and Friday, February 11. Families may request an in person conference. February 10 and 11 are early dismissal days (12:10) for TSES students to allow for the time for teachers and parents to have conversations about student learning. When signing up for conferences, please sign up with your child's math teacher. You may also sign up for conferences with your child's related arts teacher(s). If you have a question for your child's teacher(s), please visit the TSES Website for the email addresses of our staff members. Please see directions for signing up for [Parent Teacher Conferences at this link](#). Please find information about [Parent Teacher Conferences at this link](#).

Information for TSES Families of Students in 5th Grade! Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) Testing: Due to anticipated staff and student COVID-19 related absences, we will be postponing the January census administration of CogAT in 5th grade. Specific date has not been determined.

Middle School GT Class Recommendations

Although the CogAT administration may be delayed, all 5th grade students will be considered for potential placement in 6th GT classes using all available performance and assessment data in accordance with Maryland COMAR for Gifted and Talented Education. This includes data from students' 3rd grade CogAT administration in December 2019, if available.

From February 14th to March 4th, we plan to administer CogAT to any 5th grade students who do not have a prior CogAT score as well as all students in 5th grade GT Math. The data will assist with identification for Accelerated GT Math and provide an aptitude measure for students who had no previous CogAT test. From February 8 until February 22, families will be able to review course recommendations and may request a course placement that is different from the school's recommendation through HCPSS Connect. If you have any questions about GT placement, please contact Mr. McMahan at brian_holcombmcmahan@hcpss.org

Information for TSES Families of Students in 3rd Grade! Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) Testing: Due to anticipated staff and student COVID-19 related absences, we will be postponing the January census administration of CogAT in 3rd grade. Specific date has not been determined

4th Grade GT Math Placements

From February 14 to March 4th, we plan to administer CogAT to all 3rd grade students. Placements for 4th grade GT Math will be made following the CogAT administration and will include all available performance and assessment data in accordance with Maryland COMAR for Gifted and Talented Education. If you have any questions about GT placement, please contact Mr. McMahan at brian_holcombmcmahan@hcpss.org

COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics: The Howard County Health Department is hosting weekly vaccination clinics. [Find clinic dates and locations](#) online.

We are proud to share that we have secured Title I funding to provide free books for TSES students (*current Pre-K through 4th grade students only*) to read during the summer of 2022. The company that we are working with is Kids Read Now®. If you opt in, your child(ren) will receive six (6) free books, each mailed directly to your home, as well as a free writing book with colorful story cards encouraging your child to create their own stories based on those illustrations. There is no charge for the books and your family may keep the books. Link to the website for more information about KRN®. Please note that KRN will not share your child's name or mailing address with other persons or companies. Parent involvement is required for this program to be successful. Please visit the following link to learn more about the program and complete the form to opt in. ***The deadline to submit this form is Wednesday, February 2, 2022 - this deadline cannot be extended!***

TSES Super Singers: We are so happy to congratulate these students! Each week one student in each of our 1st Grade through 5th grade music classes is selected as the "Super Singer". Students selected demonstrate consistent excellence in the school RISE expectations and/or the music skills that are being taught. music skills (singing, playing instruments, creating and moving are some of the skills). Here are the super singers or the week of 1/10-1/14: Cristian P.A., Brian H., Makayla W., Josiah G., Blake H., McKenzie G., Malek R., Eunice W., Patrick C., Aiyana S., Destiny O., Marissa P., David J.A., Autumn H.

2022 Summer Programs Preview Available Online

Parents/guardians and students can now view/download the [2022 Summer Programs Preview](#), which includes descriptions of HCPSS' four summer programs and enrollment information. Online enrollment requests for current HCPSS students will open at 6 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 1.

Staff and Student Vaccine and Booster Shot Clinics

Through a partnership with the Howard County Health Department and several local pharmacies, HCPSS students and staff have the opportunity to receive the Pfizer booster, or first or second dose vaccine, at these [upcoming clinics](#).

HCPSS Hiring Fair: HCPSS is hosting a [hiring fair](#) on Monday, Jan. 24 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Wilde Lake High School for anyone interested in employment as a bus driver, custodian, food services worker, lunch and recess monitor, or paraeducator. Attendees wishing to be interviewed should complete an online application prior to the event; prospective bus drivers may apply on site. No registration is needed to attend the event. Masking is required.

Virtual Community Academy: Social Media-What Parents Need to Know

Participants in this virtual community academy will [learn about the most popular social media sites students are accessing](#) and effective practices for keeping children safe when using social media. Register online to receive an email with a link to the session, being held on Saturday, Jan. 29 from 9-10:30 a.m. This program is part of a series of workshops sponsored by HCPSS and The Council of Elders.

Sensory-Friendly Sundays at Robinson Nature Center: Join Robinson Nature Center, Therapeutic Recreation, and Park Ranger staff in enjoying outdoor, self-paced activities designed for families with kids, teens, and adults with sensory-processing differences, autism spectrum

disorder, or developmental disabilities. Activities include sensory bins and pathways, scavenger hunts, and crafts or games. The center opens early, allowing visitors to enjoy a calm environment. Sensory alert maps, quiet areas, and sensory backpacks, which include headphones and various fidgets, are available. Be sure to preregister to receive additional information prior to the event. Please see the [Sensory-Friendly Sundays flyer](#) for further information. Time: 11:00am-12:30pm Cost: \$5.00/adult; \$3.00/child. Free for members and children under 3 years of age. Program Dates: March 27; May 29; July 24 and September 11

TSES PTA News!

PTA YEARBOOK COMMITTEE NEEDS YOUR PHOTOS!! The 2021-2022 yearbook is already in the design phase. Please send pictures of your child(ren) from any of the following themes. (1) First Day of School; (2) PTA Block Party; (3) Trunk or Treat; or (4) Field Trips. Send all photos and/or questions to Michelle at yearbook@tsespta.org. Please be sure to include the student(s) name and grade. Thank you in advance!

TSES Important Dates:

Thursday January 21	End Quarter 2
Monday January 24	School Closed for Students-Professional Work Day
Wednesday January 26	5 th Grade Field Trip to Robinson Planetarium
Monday January 31	Q2 Report Cards Issued
Tuesday February 1	Professional Learning Day-School Closed for Students
Thursday February 10	Parent Teacher Conferences: Student Dismissal at 12:10
Friday February 11	Parent Teacher Conferences: Student Dismissal at 12:10