

Talbott Springs Families,

I am looking forward to Parent Teacher Conferences next week! Your investment in your child's Parent Teacher Conference is noticed by your children and is of great value as we continue to learn more about your child and you learn more about his or her learning progress. Although you may hear instruction as it takes place during virtual learning, it is helpful to discuss your child's strengths and areas where the staff can assist with reinforcing skills. If you have not already done so, please look at your child's report card prior to the Parent Teacher Conference. Directions to find your child's Q1 report card are below. Please remember that Monday November 23 and Tuesday November 24 are early dismissal days and that there is no school for students on Wednesday November 25. Schedules for the early dismissal days are [linked here](#). Attendance is taken on early dismissal days during instructional classes.

At TSES, we take pride in the progress that is made when teachers and students work together. As we begin the 2nd Quarter, TSES staff members are striving to build stronger connections with our students while increasing student engagement. When reading the 1st Quarter Report Cards and progress reports, Dr. Lewis and I found that teachers frequently expressed concerns about student cameras being off during an entire lesson. When the camera is off, teachers are not sure if a child is actually present, they cannot accurately determine student's progress and they question whether the child is actually there or if he or she is doing something else while the camera is on. We will review with our students the importance of keeping the camera on while working with their teachers: making connections, increasing engagement, assessing comprehension. Please reinforce the benefit of having cameras on during Google Meets with your child. Please also feel free to reach out to your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns.

On behalf of the TSES Community, I hope that your Thanksgiving is one of safety and filled moments of gratitude. We are grateful to each of you for your support, your questions and your advocacy.
Nancy Thompson

INFORMATION FOR TSES FAMILIES:

First Quarter Report Cards: The 2020-2021 report cards were made available to you through HCPSS Connect on Monday November 16, 2020. We will not be sending home printed report cards. Please access your child's report card using information at the following links: [Report Card Directions](#) OR [How to Access Your Child's Report Card](#).

Parent/Teacher Conferences: Parent/teacher conferences will be held Monday, November 23- Wednesday, November 25. **Please call TSES if you need to set up a conference.**

TSES Young Author's Contest! The Young Author's Contest has begun! Students in grades 1 through 5 may submit a short story and/or a poem by December 2. Please follow all steps sent out via Canvas and at this [link](#) or contact laura_ciarrocchi@hcpss.org for more information! We can't wait to see your talented submissions!

Thanksgiving Break Meal Service Adjustments: To ensure children have access to essential nutrition over the holiday period, families may pick up meals in advance to cover the holiday break. Pre-ordering will not be available for meals picked up on Monday, November 23 or 30. [See all service and schedule adjustments](#).

Office Hours for Students and Parents! As we begin the 2nd quarter, TSES is pleased to offer open office hours every Tuesday and Thursday from 10:20-10:50 a.m. and Wednesdays from 1:30-2:00 p.m. A staff member will attend all open office hour sessions. Students and parents can stop in using the code: TSEStile1support or the link <https://meet.google.com/wez-mvwo-zmx>. During these times, students can ask questions about assignments, practice skills necessary for completing assignments or ask general Canvas navigation questions. Classroom teachers will not be in attendance during these hours, but staff members at the sessions will communicate with them when necessary.

TSES Contactless Book Check Out and Pick Up has begun! Information can be found at this [link](#). Please note from the instructions at the link that a book must be ordered by the process described in the flyer. Book pick up is on Thursdays from 9:00-3:00. Please contact Mrs. Gageby for additional information.

Parent Consent Required for Student Access to Google Play! HCPSS is using some of the apps available in Google Play for student learning. The only way for your child to access Google Play is with parent consent. Please follow these directions to provide consent as soon as possible!

1. Log in to [HCPSS Connect](#).
2. Select **More Options** from the left panel.
3. Select **HCPSS Google Menu** from the middle of the page.
4. Click the check box to provide consent. Changes are saved automatically.

A parent or guardian must provide consent for each elementary school child in the family by selecting each child's name at the top of the page.

TSES School Counseling November Newsletter: Please read the TSES School Counseling Connection found at this [link](#)! Great information for families!

ELA Parent Resources: Parents-please access can English Language Arts resources for your child (select his or her grade level) through the hcpss.org/connect website. These resources may be helpful as you support your child's learning. The flyer with the links is found at this [link](#).

Girls on the Run: Coach Heather and Coach Michelle are extremely proud of our six (6) Fall 2020 Girls on the Run participants. They all worked very hard during the shortened season. We are very thankful that we were able to hold the in-person program this fall. On Tuesday, November 17, 2020 all six girls completed their 5k (3.1 mile) run!! Sending a big Congratulations to our students and their buddy runners: Alana and Alexa Chestnut, Brianna and Glenn Humphrey, Isabelle and Tim McKay, Natalie and Jason Getz, Sophia and Nicole Hines, Vivian and Alex Reid. We have not yet heard if the Spring season will be held and what it may look like. Once we have information, we will be sure to send out to our families of 3rd, 4th and 5th graders. If you would like to learn more about Girls on the Run®, please visit: <https://www.gotrcentralmd.org/>

Information about Individualized Education Programs: Do you have a child with an IFSP or IEP? The HCPSS Family Support and Resource Center (FSRC) offers a weekly email just for you! FSRC communications include helpful workshops, resources and community information specifically geared to supporting your journey. As a parent of child with and IFSP/IEP, you should already be receiving the email, but if not, let us know so we can include your contact information in our database. You can also email specific questions to FSRC@hcpss.org.

TSES PTA: Blessings in a Backpack Donations! Please consider a donation to the TSES Blessings in a Backpack program on 'Giving Tuesday' December 1, 2020. Your donation will help to feed TSES students. <https://tses.hcpss.org/news/2020/11/tses-pta-seeking-blessings-backpack-donations>

TSES PTA: Craft Night Information! Yes, the TSES PTA is sponsoring a Craft Night on December 10, 2020! Materials will be available for pick up on December 9, 2020. More information to come!

TSES PTA Website: www.tsespta.org

TSES PTA Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Talbott-Springs-Elementary-School-PTA-153654291324397>

TSES PTA Twitter: <https://twitter.com/TSESPTA>

TSES PTA Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/tses.pta/>

IMPORTANT DATES:

November 23, 2020 Parent Teacher Conferences-Early Dismissal (schedule at this link)

November 24, 2020 Parent Teacher Conferences-Early Dismissal

December 3, 2020 TSES PTA Meeting at 7:00. Zoom link to be sent closer to the meeting date

December 8, 2020 Kindergarten Parent Meeting 6:00-7:00 (Save the date!)

December 9, 2020 TSES PTA Craft Night Supply Distribution

December 10, 2020 TSES PTA Craft Night (time and access to be determined)

December 24-Jan. 3 Schools Closed for Winter Break

January 4, 2020 School re-opens after Winter Break