

Talbott Springs Elementary School Friday Newsletter February 28, 2020

A message from the Principal:

As another week at Talbott Springs Elementary School draws to a close, I am so thankful for the many moments with our students that make our jobs at TSES outstanding. On Thursday evening, we hosted a Family Wellness Night that featured Bootcamp, Yoga, Martial Arts as well as information sessions on Reduced Screen Time and Nutrition. This weekend several of our students will participate in the Unheard Perspectives Showcase, hosted by the HCPSS Elementary Social Studies office, Black Student Achievement Program, and Gifted and Talented office. The program features students in grades 3-5 who volunteered to learn more about innovators in American History whose perspectives were often underrepresented. Congratulations to Cori and Sydney who are presenting Diana Ross and Her Miraculous Life; Zyaire and Emmanuel who are presenting on The Actor Rapper: Will Smith and Natalie Getz who is presenting Making Lives Different: Harriet Tubman. We are so proud of our Talbott Springs students for representing our school and for inspiring others! In the week ahead, we welcome our Artist in Residence, Ssuuna, who will introduce our 4th and 5th grade students African cultural dance, songs and instruments. Our students will perform for families and third grade students on Friday March 13, 2020. Also in the week ahead we will begin our March Reading Challenge! Please see below for more information. Remember the deadline to submit books to be autographed by our visiting author, Duncan Tonatiuh is Monday March 9! Please see below for additional information. I hope that you have a wonderful leap year weekend!

Nancy Thompson

NEW INFORMATION:

Kindergarten and Pre-Kindergarten Registration Beginning the Week of March 9, 2020!

Children who will be 5 years old on or before September 1 are eligible for Kindergarten for the 2020-2021 school year. Children who will be 4 on or before September 1 are eligible for Pre-Kindergarten for the 2020-2021 school year. Registration can take place either at Talbott Springs Elementary or using the on-line registration tools. Please visit [HCPSS Enrollment](#) to learn what documents are required for registration. Questions? Please contact TSES at 410-313-6915.

March Reading Challenge Starts Tuesday March 3, 2020

It's March Madness time and that means it's time for our annual Intermediate Reading Challenge. We are changing things up a bit since the teachers have beaten the students 3 out of the last 4 years. Starting March 3rd, the reading challenge will be a student/staff joint competition! Intermediate students will be competing by homeroom class. Interested staff have been randomly assigned to each class. Together they will work each week to read more than the challenge number of minutes. To move beyond week 1, classes need to average more than 100 minutes. On March 3rd, students in grades 3, 4 and 5 will bring home their Reading Challenge recording sheet taped into their agenda book. Students need to log their minutes per day and turn in the completed, signed slip on Tuesday, March 10th. Teams averaging over 100 minutes will bring home a new slip for that next week that same day. Thank you parents for signing off on your child's reading log. Check in with your children to hear how the teams are progressing this month! We look forward to announcing the new TSES champion reading team on March 31st!

A Message from Grassroots: Way to go Talbott Springs SUPERHEROES! I am excited to share that your incredible community donated \$334.03 to Grassroots this year! Please share our sincerest appreciation to staff, students and families for their continued compassion and support of Grassroots. So proud of your kiddos. The money raised by TSES will be used on 3/2/20 to cover hours of Grassroots operation from 4-7pm.

Save the Date! Please mark your calendar for this year's Family Academic Night on Wednesday, April 22, 6:15-7:30pm! Coinciding with Earth Day, we hope you can join us for a family fun evening of learning as we work to solve puzzles, codes, and riddles that help us investigate how to support a healthy Earth.

Girls on the Run! Calling all 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade girls!!!! Girls on the Run will be starting soon and we still have a few spots left. We will be meeting on Monday and Thursday afternoon (pick up time is 4:30pm) starting on March 16, 2020. The 5k noncompetitive run will be on Saturday May 30, 2020. Please go to www.GOTRcentralmd.org to register today. Cost is \$175, but financial assistance is available. Please contact Michelle Humphrey at michelle_humphrey@hcpss.org with any questions. We look forward to another fun season. Coach Heather, Michelle and April.

Survey Follow Up: Thank you to the 75 families who completed our Title I survey after attending your child's conferences. This survey asked about our School Improvement Plan and Compact (both can be found on our website). We were pleased to know that 98% of you felt the Plan meets the needs of your child and that students are given what they need to be successful here at TSES! Some of you wrote suggestions which will all be discussed at a future meeting with our school administration. One family requested free tutors. We recently learned of a program called STEPS that "helps those who are less fortunate when it comes to important instructional material. They tutor students and offer college advising." They are a non-profit company offering scholarships and/or free tutoring for eligible families. If you'd like to learn more about STEPS, or offer additional feedback about our School Improvement Plan over the phone, please contact Mrs. Glassband or Ms. Braxton.

TSES is in search of a few parents to attend our Family Involvement Team (FIT) meeting on March 24th from 10:00-10:45 a.m. At this meeting, we will:

- Talk about ways to engage families in our schoolwide programs
 - Discuss ways to enhance communication between parents and staff
 - Make suggestions and ask questions about our School Improvement Plan
- Please contact Mrs. Glassband or Ms. Braxton if you are free to join us.

From the TSES PE Department: Do you and your child like to engage in physical activity after school? Do you go outside to work, walk or play or to do some other type of exercise during the weekend? If your child likes to do any of these things, please feel free to show Ms. Parker or Mr. Watts. We have put together a bulletin board to showcase students and families who are active at home or outside of school. If you would like your picture to be displayed in the gym you can either print them at home and bring it to Mr. Watts or Ms. Parker or email it to us! If you would also like to include a hashtag created by **YOU**, please include it in an email or write it on the back of your picture. Our emails are: sarah_parker@hcpss.org and sean_watts@hcpss.org. We are looking forward to seeing and learning about the different activities our students engage in to stay healthy and active!

REPEATED INFORMATION:

Visiting Author to TSES! Duncan Tonatiuh, will be at TSES the afternoon of Monday, March 16! Duncan Tonatiuh is an award-winning Mexican-American author and illustrator. Students will be learning about Duncan's books and illustrations for the next few weeks in Media class. His work is inspired by Ancient Mexican art, particularly that of the Mixtec codex. His aim is to create images and stories that honor the past, but that are relevant to people, especially children, nowadays.

We invite you to purchase books on your own and send them to the Media Center for the author to autograph. The books will be returned to students the afternoon of his visit or the following day. Visit Mr. Tonatiuh's website (www.duncantonatiuh.com) for more information to help you make a book selection. His titles can be purchased online (Amazon, Barnes and Noble). Please attach a copy of this form when your child sends a book, or books, to the Media Center. Media staff will respond with an email confirmation when we receive the books. **The deadline to send books to the Media Center is**

Monday, March 9th. The form can be found at this [link](#). Many thanks to the TSES PTA for sponsoring this author visit!

School Counselor Newsletter: Please find the link to Mrs. Sansone's newsletter, The Advocate. This month, we are focusing on the RISE Challenge of the Month-RESPECT. One way to show respect is to 'stop and think it through' as a way to pause before responding to another person. More information in [The Advocate](#).

Guiding Good Choices: Presented by HC Drug Free is an evidence based interactive program that provides families with children ages 9-14 with skills and knowledge to reduce the risk that their children will use drugs. This 4-part series will be held on the following Tuesdays in March: 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st from 5:30-8:00 at Oakland Mills High School. Please see the [flyer at this link](#) for more information and to register.

A Story Called Kindness Poster Contest-Entries due April 1, 2020 All students in grades K-12 are invited to design a poster to illustrate a scene from your life story where you've shown someone kindness or offered a helping hand. Students may enter as an individual or as part of a group. Full details, including entry criteria and submission information are [available online](#).

TSES Super Singers! Please look for this spot in our newsletter each week as we celebrate our Super Singers. We recognize students for RISE(ing) in music class by demonstrating participation and care during Music class that aligns with our TSES RISE expectations. Please join us in celebrating the following students for the week of 2/17/2020: Mason M., Zori S., Bryce R., Bryson C., Britany L.R., Johanna M., Rafael G.T., Hannah T., Kaiel C., Cody G., Sean H., Daniel G.T., Braylen W., Maya H., Zoe A., Jessica S., Siaha F., Jane M., Steven R.V., Emie M.J., Skylar J.F., Zion A., Juliana L.H.

Free Parenting Classes - HC DrugFree and the State's Attorney's Office are offering another series of evidence-based, interactive parenting classes. Provides the **parents of children age 9-14** with the skills and knowledge to reduce the risk that their children will use drugs. Classes will be held on Tuesdays, March 10, 17, 24 and 31 from 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at Oakland Mills Middle School in Columbia. Parents are expected to attend all 4 classes. For more information, contact HC DrugFree's Executive Director, Joan Webb Scornaienchi at Admin@hcdrugfree.org or 443-325-0040. To register, visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/March2020oms>

OMHS Food Pantry

What: A safe place for community members in need to access food.

Where: Oakland Mills High School- Enter through the set of double doors on the right hand side of the front of the building. 9410 Kilimanjaro Road, Columbia, MD

When: The last Thursday of each month, from 3-5 pm.

Open next: THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2020

What to bring: A form of photo identification

Upcoming Dates:

Saturday February 29, 2020

Monday March 2, 2020

March 2-13, 2020

Friday March 6, 2020

Monday March 9, 2020

Monday March 16, 2020

Unheard Perspectives at Hammond Middle School 9:00

Kindergarten Speaker-Dr. Biederman, Dentist

Ssuuna Artist in Residency with Grades 4 and 5

Q3 Interim Reports Issued

Kindergarten Field Trip to East Columbia Library

11:00-12:15 Freeman and Hanko

11:45-1:00 McIntyre and McDonaugh

Author Visit-Duncan Tona Tonatiuh (all grades)

Friday March 20, 2020	5 th Grade Field Trip to Annapolis (9:00-2:00) PK Field Trip to The Other Barn 9:30-11:00
Tuesday March 24, 2020	Howard County Spelling Bee and Bumble Bee Celebrations
Thursday March 26, 2020	Class Picture Day! Spring Individual Picture Day!
Friday March 27, 2020	Girls Night Out 6:30-8:30 PM
Friday April 3, 2020	3 rd Grade Field Trip to the National Cryptologic Museum
April 6 – 13, 2020	Students Dismissed at 12:10~Professional Work Half Day
Tuesday April 14, 2020	Spring Break School Re-Opens after Spring Break

Please visit the TSES WEBSITE www.hcpss.org/tses for additional calendar dates found in the ‘calendar’ tab.

Please visit the HCPSS Community News and Programs web-page for all announcements of events and programs sponsored by non-profit organizations.