Talbott Springs Elementary School Newsletter
www.tses.hcps.org @hcpss_tses

February 13, 2015

February 16
Schools Closed for Presidents’ Day

February 19
TSES PTA Meeting 7:00 in the Media Center

****PARENT INFORMATION SESSION ON STRENGTHS EXPLORER AT 6:15!

February 26
Raffle tickets for baskets are 2 for $1.00. Besides these items, this event, including BINGO cards, will be FREE!

March 2
Q3 Interim Reports Issued

March 5
Kindergarten Field Trip to the Howard County Library 11:15-12:45

March 2-6
4th Grade PARCC

March 9-13
3rd and 5th Grade PARCC

March 19
TSES PTA Meeting at 7:00 Media Center

March 26
Boys Night Out 6:30-8:30

March 26
3rd Grade Field Trip to Robinson Nature Center 9:30-12:00

March 27
Schools Close at 12:10–End of Quarter 3

March 30
April 6 Schools and Offices Closed for Spring Break

A Message from the Principal…

Thank you to the TSES community for the support we received for our Read Across Talbott Springs Week! We had community members, school system leaders, OOMHS Future Teachers, parents and grandparents reading to students and assisting with Reading Night. Spread the message that reading is fun for so many reasons! Thank you also to the many, many parents who were able to attend Parent-Teacher conferences this week. If you were unable to attend a conference, we would still like to talk with you about your child’s progress! Please contact your child’s teacher to have a conference either in person or by phone.

Please join us for an information session about STRENGTH THEMES as they relate to our Gallup Strengths–Growing Strong initiative. The objective of this 45 minute session is to inform parents of the 10 Strength Themes are evident in children and to share how those themes can be used in working with children both at school and at home to maximize a child’s potential for learning and for being at his or her best. Our Gallup Consultant, Nancy Oberst will join us to answer your questions! This information session is open to ALL TSES families with children in grades PK-5. The meeting will take place from 6:15 to 7:00 PM on Thursday February 19, 2015 in the TSES Media Center. Please consider staying for the PTA Meeting starting immediately following the STRENGTH THEME information session. Your TSES PTA holds informative and well managed meetings that benefit all of the students at our school.

NEWS FROM THE TSES PE DEPARTMENT! The Physical Education Department at Talbott Springs would like to share how wonderful and how hard your students are working during Physical Education class. We would also like to remind you to have your students wear or bring sneakers on PE days. Safety is our number one goal and students must be wearing the appropriate shoes to participate. Lastly, Field Day is scheduled for May 22™. Mark it on your calendar, as we will be looking for volunteers to help make the day successful. Thank you as always for your support and we look forward to continued success.

FROM THE TSES HEALTH ROOM: Howard County Health Department and Chase Brexton Dental have partnered with Howard County Public Schools to offer free dental education and services to primary grade students at Talbott Springs Elementary. The dental education program will take place on March 9th, 2015 during school for students in kindergarten through third grade. The dental clinic is planned for March 10th, 2014. During the clinic, students in kindergarten through 3rd grade will receive a dental screening, fluoride application and sealants (for third grade students with permanent erupted molars). Please complete the parental consent form in today’s Friday folder if you wish for your child to participate and return the permission form by February 20th, 2015. If you have any questions, please contact the Health Room at 410-313-6915.

SUPER SINGERS (week of 2/2/15) These students showed high levels of engagement in music class! Congratulations! Cedric Van Bignoot, Jacob Love, Sierra Sapp, James Greene, Alicia Davis, Jada Fowler, Stone Koskie, Blake Harrison, Chanel Robinson, Aliya Murray, David Ly, Jesse Scott, Nasir Felder, Joey Starace, Kai Brooks, Cameron Sharp, Faako Bassit

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM THE TSES PTA

PTA BINGO Night on February 26

PTA’s BINGO night is coming February 26, 6:00-8:00 PM. Pizza slices and bottles of water will be available for purchase for $1 each. Raffle tickets for baskets are 2 for $1.00. Besides these items, this event, including BINGO cards, will be FREE!

Parents of Rising 6th Graders attending Oakland Mills Middle School! OMMS has scheduled the Parent Orientation for Incoming 6th grade and GT for Monday, April 20 at 6:30 pm. in the OMMS cafeteria.
PTA EXECUTIVE BOARD NOMINATIONS NEEDED!

It’s already time to start planning for next year, particularly in electing officers for the PTA for next year. Many of this year’s officers are completing their second year in their current position, or are the parent of a 5th grader, which means we will need some new volunteers to take their places. Also, please plan to attend the February 19th PTA General Membership Meeting when we will elect a nominating committee who will nominate officers for next year.

PTA President: Do you value relationships and teamwork? If so, then the role of PTA president is perfect for you! Your PTA leaders foster a positive and productive relationship between the TSES families, administrators, faculty, and staff. Your president serves like a music conductor--he counts on each member of the team to know and perform his or her individual part, and helps everyone perform together from the same sheet of music. The PTA’s collective effort supports TSES, which in turn supports the students and their families. Each year, the president leads the team through the process of updating goals and targets, developing plans, approving a budget, raising funds, and executing the plans through teamwork. The current president feels grateful for experiencing joyful service with caring TSES professionals and PTA volunteers.

Vice President, Fundraising
Vice President of Fundraising may sound a bit daunting, but it doesn’t have to be. Past fundraising chairs have put together lists of resources for who to call to schedule restaurant nights, as well as web sites and email addresses for contacts to hold other types of fundraisers, like the current Mixed Bag fundraiser. One of the most successful fundraisers is also the easiest - the Nonevent Fundraiser is as simple as sending out the letter letting parents know how much their donations can help the PTA achieve our goals. If you are organized and don’t mind putting in a small bit of elbow-grease, fundraising may be the right fit for you!

PTACHC Delegates: Would you like to have a voice in the larger arena of Howard County schools? The representative to the PTA Council of Howard County attends one meeting a month with representatives from other schools’ PTA’s. In addition to representing TSES PTA’s interests at these meetings, you will gain insight into how things like the budget affects the school system. These meetings also attract Board of Education members and elected officials, so you might have the opportunity to speak to them directly. Another benefit of this position? There are two openings, so you can split the monthly meetings with someone else!

Vice President, Special Events: Gather a few friends and let your creative juices start flowing by leading the Special Events team. Have a blast planning school events for the students such as Back to School Picnic, Craft Night, Bingo Night and the Spring Dance. Do you have an idea for an event you’d love the PTA to do? Feel free to “mix” things up with new suggestions, too.

Volunteer Coordinator: The Volunteer Coordinator gets to keep interested school adults (primarily parents) informed about opportunities to make a difference in school and school events primarily via email. He or she also helps track the PTA’s volunteer hour contributions to support Grant opportunities.

Laurel Woods Elementary School PTA’s will be hosting their 5th Annual Summer Camp & Enrichment Programs Expo on Thursday, February 26, 2015 from 7:00-8:30 PM., at the North Laurel Community Center at 9411 Whiskey Bottom Road, Laurel, Maryland 20723. Please see attached flyer. We invite you to join us and connect with other parents and organizations of the North Laurel and surrounding communities. We will have over 20 vendors from the surrounding area that will be onsite to provide information for their camps this year and discounts available onsite if you sign up that night! If you have any questions, please contact Shannon Taitt at shannon.taitt@gmail.com and Sheila King at Sheila.King@fda.hhs.gov.

Summer Classes and Camps Program Online
Each summer the HCPS presents a number of learning experiences and educational opportunities. Some of the offerings include Comprehensive Programs for elementary, middle and high school; the Black Student Achievement Program (BSAP); and G/T Summer Institutes for Talent Development. Detailed course descriptions and registration information may be found online. For general information about HCPS summer programs, click here.

Looking for activities for summertime for your children? Pick up a Kids On Campus catalogue (located on the table in the lobby of the school) to see options offered by Howard County Community College. For more information call Howard County Community College, 443-518-4110.

PHYSICS DISCOVERY DAYS! Physics Discovery Days is a fun and highly interactive program targeted to upper elementary students. Students and their parents spend the afternoon learning about science with a variety of hands-on activities. The theme for the upcoming program will be the physics of HOT & COLD.

Date: Saturday, March 7th, 2015; from 2:00pm - 3:30 pm
Location: Physics Department Lecture Halls (Rm 1410), John S. Toll Building (82) University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742
Link for Families to Register: http://goo.gl/forms/nr4hSS4cQ6
Ask your child- WHEN WERE YOU AT YOUR BEST TODAY?