

The Leopard's Tale

Lime Kiln Middle School
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February 2, 2018

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Punxsutawney Phil has spoken...there will be six more weeks of winter! Which means six more weeks (or more ;) of possible wintry weather. A reminder that, according to HCPSS policy, we are able to go outside for recess as long as the temperature and wind chill combined are 20 degrees or greater. With that in mind, students should be dressing warmly and bringing coats, hats, etc. to lunch each day. Also, to date there has been no final decision about inclement weather closing make-up days. We will keep you posted!

Stay warm and have a "SUPER" weekend!

IMPORTANT DATES:

February 5 - Report Cards Distributed
February 13-15 - MAP Math Testing
February 16 - Professional Learning Day - no school for students
February 19 - President's Day - schools and offices closed
March 8 - "Innocence Stolen" Presentation (see below for details)

"INNOCENCE STOLEN: PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN"

Presented by Vincent DeVivo from the U.S. Attorney's Office, on March 8, 2018, 6:30-8:00 PM at Lime Kiln Middle School. "Innocence Stolen: Protecting Our Children Online" reviews the array of threats teenagers face when they go online. This multimedia presentation is designed to equip and empower parents and guardians to address the teachable moments that occur when accessing the Internet. The presentation speaks directly to adults. We offer the opportunity for you to bring your teenager in order to promote conversations within families about the dangers online; however, please be advised of the mature content of the presentation. Discussion topics will include social networking, cyber bullying, sexting, and Internet predators. Due to the mature content of this presentation,

students who choose to attend the presentation **MUST** be accompanied by their parent or guardian. Register early to reserve your spot as space is limited.

<http://bit.ly/2nbZEbo>.

VERY IMPORTANT - PARENT DROP-OFF/PICKUP:

When dropping off or picking up your student, please remember to use the lower parking level of our school. **The upper level (both the main bus loop and the smaller loop) must remain clear for our school buses to enter beginning at 2:45pm.** Thank you for your help!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING LKMS STUDENTS:

Allison Young - Grade 8: Allison will represent LKMS in the annual “Champions of Courage” essay contest sponsored by Fox 45 News of Baltimore and M&T Bank. She was one of the finalists for her essay on her hero, Mother Theresa. On February 3, a special breakfast is planned for Allison and the other finalists across the state to reveal the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place final winners.

Rachel Zhang - Grade 6: Rachel’s Legobots team, the “Laurel Legobots”, an all-girls Howard County robotics team that participates in local competitions, won a 30-team competition at Hammond High School. The team will go on to compete in the upcoming state championship event. To learn more about the Legobots team, go to the featured article in the Baltimore Sun.

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/howard/columbia/ph-ho-cf-laurel-legobots-0118-story.html>

YOUNG AUTHOR’S CONTEST - COUNTY LEVEL WINNERS:

We are very excited to announce the following Young Author’s county level winners for their grade level format of writing. Their literature will advance to competition at the state level:

Ellie Hasegawa - Winner for Seventh Grade Short Story
“A Soldier’s Paradox”

Kimberly Noelle Gordon - Winner for Eighth Grade Poetry
“Wanderlust”

Thank you to all of our LKMS competitors!

“FIGHT THE FLU” – Preventing Flu, Flu-like illness and GI Virus illnesses:

As you know, our region is experiencing one of the worst flu seasons in many years. Here are some recommendations from the Health Department to help prevent the spread of illness:

- Avoid close contact with infected persons. Children who are unwell should stay at home.
- Wash hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially before and after eating, after using the bathroom, after episodes of vomiting or diarrhea, whenever visibly soiled.
- If soap and water is unavailable, hand sanitizers may be used. Rub sanitizer over all hand surfaces until the sanitizer has dried, then wash with soap and water when possible.
- Teach proper cough hygiene. Transmission is possible through close contact with an infected person.
- Avoid putting fingers in the nose, mouth or rubbing the eyes. Transmission through mucus membranes after touching contaminated objects is possible.
- Students should not return to school until they have been symptom free for 24 hours. Do not send a child back to school until they have been fever free for 24 hours without the aid of fever-reducing medication. Students with a confirmed lab diagnosis of norovirus should not return to school until they have been symptom free for 48 hours.

LKMS - MEMORY BOOKS FOR 2017/18:

LKMS Memory Books are now on sale. Prices start at \$25 and many upgrades are available. Orders are due by April 13, 2018. For ordering information and to download a sales flyer, please go to the LKMS website at lkms.hcpss.org.

LOST AND FOUND:

Please have your student check the Lost and Found table located in our school cafeteria for any misplaced items. Several coats, gym uniforms, lunch boxes, etc. have been recovered during the past few weeks.

ATTENTION PARENTS OF 8th GRADE STUDENTS:

Private School Applications

Students applying to private schools who will need teacher recommendations and/or transcripts sent to the private school should submit this request to the Student Services office. We will collect all information and mail as one packet to the school. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Mongello in Student Services.

All 8th grade students not attending a Howard County High School next year, should put in writing to Student Services what High School they will be attending. Thank you!

LKMS PTA DRAMA - "BEAUTY AND THE BEAST":

Interested in theatre but not certain if performing is your thing? Join our technical theatre class where you will help design and paint the "Beauty and the Beast" set, learn stage management and props, run crew and costume crew, and work backstage for the performances. Go to: dramalearningcenter.com to register or contact Eileen Densel at eileendensel@gmail.com. Tech crew classes start on March 5.

RIVER HILL HIGH SCHOOL - UPCOMING EVENTS:

RIVER HILL HIGH SCHOOL'S THEATRE PRESENTS "PIPPIN": The upcoming production of "Pippin" will run from March 1-4, in River Hill High School's Auditorium. A Tony, Grammy and Oscar-winning Broadway musical, first produced in 1975 by legendary Bob Fosse, Pippin is the story of one young man's journey to be extraordinary. Heir to the throne, the young prince Pippin is in search of the secret to true happiness and fulfillment.

Please refer to the attached flyer for additional information on this production or contact Theatre Director, Pam Land at pland@hcpss.org or 410-313-7120.

River Hill High School's PTSA will host the seminar, "Tackle Teen's Mental Health Challenges" presented by Professor of Child Psychiatry, Jeff Q. Bostic, MD, EdD, at MedStar Georgetown University Hospital for the discussion of how to promote positive mental health in high school students, how to manage anxiety and stress, and how to engage with your teenager to recognize and respond to emotional distress. Professor Bostic has worked with approximately 100 school districts in USA and abroad regarding school mental health. The seminar will take place on February 22, from 7:00-8:30pm in the RHHS Media Center. Parents from all Howard County schools are welcome.

RIVER HILL HIGH SCHOOL SPIRIT WEAR: Parents, get a jumpstart on high school now! Get spirit wear for your student that includes the RHHS logo! Visit the following link to take a look at the merchandise and place your order by February 9th, 2018: <https://rhssweatpants2017.weebly.com/>. Merchandise can be picked up after school on February 28th, 2018 in room 223 (snow date March 1st, 2018).

CENTENNIAL HIGH SCHOOL - CAMP IMPROV:

Camp Improv is a summer comedy camp for middle school students directed by

Centennial High School's theatre teacher, Kathryn Carlsen. By focusing on teamwork and artistic collaboration, Students learn the joy of jumping in and finding the funny. For questions and more information, contact Kathryn Carlsen at kcarlsen@hcpss.org or visit the website, www.campimprov.org.

SENATOR NATHANIEL EXUM YOUTH DAY IN ANNAPOLIS:

The Annual Youth Day in Annapolis on Saturday, February 10, is designed to teach students about the power of civic engagement and how the government works. Please refer to the attached flyer for more information on this non-HCPSS sponsored event.

HOWARD COUNTY COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION'S SUMMER CAMPS:

The Howard County Columbia Association is accepting registrations for Summer Camps. Please refer to the attached flier for registration information.

COMMUNITY NEWS AND PROGRAMS:

The Community News and Programs webpage contains brief announcements of upcoming events and announcements from community and non-profit organizations. Please visit [Community News and Programs](http://www.hcpss.org/community-news-and-programs/) (<http://www.hcpss.org/community-news-and-programs/>) on the HCPSS website for all announcements of upcoming events and programs sponsored by non-profit organizations.

HCLS/HCPSS A+ STUDENT CARD:

Howard County Library System and Howard County Public School System are launching a new fully functioning A+ STUDENT CARD. It allows easy access to HCLS eContent (including research databases) in the classroom, at home, or anywhere students need to do homework or research through hcpss.me. The A+ Student Card uses the student's active directory login. This A+ virtual student card gives the student all the same borrowing privileges as the physical card. Here is **a link to more information: [A+ Student Card](#)**.