Personal Responsibility | Respect | Integrity | Diligence | Excellence

Important Dates

- 3/3 Interim Progress Reports
 Issued
- 3/6 Long Reach High School Booster Club
- 3/3, 3/4 & 3/11 PARCC Assessment for 8th graders
- 3/5, 3/6 & 3/11 PARCC Assessment for 7th graders
- 3/9, 3/10 & 3/11 PARCC Assessment for 6th graders
- 3/II Spring Picture Day
- 3/19 Coffee & Conversation
- 3/19 Howard County Military Information Night



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear TVMS families,

I am sure you would agree that we have all had enough of the bitter cold and snow. The school closures and delays have caused us to make some alterations in our upcoming PARCC testing schedule. Just a reminder that the PARCC assessments will begin this coming Tuesday. TVMS will test on the following schedule:

March 3rd, 4th, & 11th 8th grade
March 5th, 6th, & 11th 7th grade
March 9th, 10th, & 11th 6th grade

In order to create a comfortable and supportive testing environment, it is essential that all students **come to school on time on testing days**. We also ask that you **not schedule appointments, out of school visits, or other conflicts on testing days**. This will help limit the time your child will be missing classes to make up the assessment(s).

Please help your child receive a good breakfast on the days of the test as well as a good night's sleep the nights before. Also, if your child wears eyeglasses or hearing aids, be sure that he/she comes to school with them during the days of testing. Encourage your child to feel relaxed and confident during the test.

As always, thank you for your support and for sending your child to school ready to learn.

Regards, Shiney Ann John Principal

Penguin Science (see page 3)



Howard County Military Information Night

The Howard County Military Information Night will be held on Thursday, March 19 at River Hill High School from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Below is the list of confirmed institutions. There will be presentations by the 5 Military Academies and by Congressman Cummings Rep in the Media Center. Tables will be set up in our cafeteria similar to a college fair.

United States Military Academy
United States Coast Guard Academy
United States Naval Academy
United States Air Force Academy
United States Merchant Marine Academy
Congressman Cummings Office
Army ROTC-U. of Maryland
Maryland National Guard
The Citadel
Marines Recruiter
Air Force Recruiter
Oakland Mills High School JROTC
Atholton High School JROTC
Howard High School JROTC

The Long Reach High School Booster Club

The Long Reach High School Booster Club is holding their annual fundraiser, "The Taste of Long Reach," on Friday, March 6th from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m. at The Gathering Place in Clarksville, MD. Come join us for delicious food from area restaurants, a great silent auction, a basket raffle, and dancing. Tickets are \$40 if purchased by February 27th. To purchase tickets or get more information, visit www.lrhsboosters.com.

Girls on Track

You may register for Girls on Track at www.gotrcentralmd.org. The 2015 Spring Season will begin the week of March 17th and will end with our culminating 5k event on May 30th, 2015, at 8:00 a.m. We will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3 to 5 p.m. Please see Ms. McNeill (in the Media Center) if you have any questions about cost, transportation, and/or scholarships.

Policy Corner

Student Use and Possession of Tobacco Products (Policy 9240)

The use or possession of any tobacco product or cigarette rolling papers by students is prohibited in school buildings, in school vehicles, on school property and at school bus stops at all times.

For a first violation, the student and his/her parent will receive referral information on a tobacco use cessation program administered by a public health agency or private provider. In addition, the student will be assigned to the Tobacco Management Class held as part of the HCPSS Saturday school program. Failure to attend the Tobacco Management Class will result in an out-of-school suspension for one school day.

For a second offense, the student will be suspended for three school days. The student will have the option of enrolling in a tobacco use cessation program administered by a public health agency or private provider instead of serving the suspension. The school administrator will provide the parent with referral information for that program. If the student chooses this option, proof of enrollment must be provided to the school administrator. If proof of enrollment is not provided within five school days, the student will be required to serve the three-day suspension. For a complete description of the policy, please refer to the Student& Parent Handbook 2014-15.



Tips for School Success

Never give children the answers to problems!

By giving away answers, you're depriving your child of the chance to develop the mental processes required to learn a new concept. No parent enjoys seeing their child struggle, but providing answers could set them up for frustration when they have to tackle more difficult problems and might even stunt their progress as classmates move to more advanced lessons. Furthermore, your child's teacher will not be able to address the misconceptions or areas of weakness that should be targeted in school if homework assignments do not reflect the student's level of understanding. For more tips, please visit http://www.pbs.org/ parents/education/math/math-tipsfor-parents/middle-school-math/

Boxtops

TVMS PTSA will receive 10 cents for every box top that is submitted! A collection box is located in the cafeteria. Thank you for your support.

Lost and Found

Please ask your student to check the lost and found on the cafeteria stage for missing items such as lunch bags, books, binders, and jackets.

TVMS Students with Artwork

TVMS Students with Artwork in Youth Art Month Exhibition

Arevalo and Julie Tu, seventh grade TVMS students, will have artwork featured in an exhibition at the Miller Branch of the Howard County Public Library from January 28th to April 9th. The exhibition is in celebration of the designation of March as Youth Art Month. Please check it out!

Penguin Science

Both sixth and seventh grade classes have been exploring www.penguinscience.com in order to enhance their knowledge of their place in the world. They "adopted" an adult adelie penguin in Antarctica and followed it through breeding season. The students watched videos in real time, sent postcards to a researcher, Jean Pennycook, in Antarctica, and created a TVMS flag that flew for a day in Antarctica! As we go through the school year, Ms. Perry's students will continue to learn about penguin adaptations and environmental stresses. To learn more, go to www.penguinscience.com and check out Next #6!



Black Saga

Congratulations to Simon Guteng Jr. (8th grade), Gerald Brown (7th Grade), and Brandon Langmia (7th Grade) for placing fourth at the Howard County Black Saga Competition on Saturday, February 21st. You represented TVMS well!

Message from Media

Encourage all students to return overdue media items.



Coffee & Conversation

The Board of Education of Howard County regularly holds Coffee & Conversation sessions at schools throughout the county. These meetings provide citizens with an opportunity to share a cup of coffee and chat informally with Board members. The meetings are held in various regions of the county but interested persons from throughout the county are invited to attend any or all of the meetings.

The next Coffee & Conversation With the Board of Education will be held on:

Thursday, March 19, 2015, 7:30 to 9 p.m.

Lake Elkhorn Middle School Media Center 6680 Cradlerock Way in Columbia

Alpha Staff Members

Do not forget to nominate a favorite Thomas Viaduct Staff member for Alpha Staff. Eligible to be nominated are teachers, counselors, and office, custodial, and administrative staff. Staff can be nominated by students, parents, administrators, colleagues, or community members for excellence in the classroom and/or school community. Forms can be picked up in the Front Office, be requested via email, michelle_mackall@hcpss.org, or found online at the TVMS website.

Congratulations to Our Newest Alpha Staff

Nina Paparazzo Emily Perry Melissa Lobdell Sarah Chan

Yearbook

Be the first to order the TVMS Inaugural Yearbook full of beautiful color photos to celebrate the amazing year! Hundreds of photos will help preserve your memories of our 1st year together at TVMS. Simply click on the link below to check all of the available options (paperback, hardcover, personalizations, etc.) Save money by pre-ordering yours today online at ybpay.lifetouch.com (Yearbook ID Code 12257815).

If you order by March 6th, yearbooks are at a discounted price; after March 6th, the price will increase. Orders will also be accepted in the Front Office.



Pack Leaders of the Month

TVMS is approaching the traditional concept of Student of the Month differently. Students and families may not be familiar with this approach to recognizing student leadership, but TVMS realizes students display strengths in one or more of the academic areas and is focused on capitalizing on individual strengths.

TVMS is proud to recognize our Pack Leaders of the Month. Each month a student from one of the 12 academic areas will be recognized for displaying the PRIDE traits (Personal Responsibility, Respect, Integrity, Diligence, Excellence). The academic areas include Math, Science, English, Social Studies, Reading, Art, Technology Education, Family and Consumer Science, Health Education, Physical Education, Performing Arts, and World Language. Recognized students will receive a certificate of accomplishment and be acknowledged on the morning news. In addition, students will have their picture posted in the TVMS Alpha Hall of Fame. We look forward to highlighting TVMS students for their individual student strengths in a variety of academic areas.

Pack Leaders of the Month for February

8th Grade Students:

ELA - Tina Osman
Math - Marley Grenway
Reading - Carlos Navarro
Science - Preet Patel
Social Studies - Esther Pedro
Art - Ama Addo
FACS - Henry Thang
Health - Jose Romero
Performing Arts - June Kim
Physical Education - Sakai Alexander
Technology Education - Azeez Alabi
World Language -

6th Grade Students:

ELA - Nyree Noboa Math - Evan Crider Reading - Jade Heflin Science - McKenzie Rawling Social Studies - Adam Asifo Art - Peteros Gebrewold FACS - Juliana Coker Health - Desmond Sensie Performing Arts - Myla Thomas Physical Education - Evan Crider Technology Education - Kofi Atta Poku

7th Grade Students

ELA - Caroline Willis
Math - Hriti Patel
Reading - Brianna Chinn
Science - Nzaya Muia
Social Studies - Naima Portillo
Art - Thrisha Vijaragunathan
FACS - Alana Smith
Health - Savion Weaver
Performing Arts - Noel Quijada
Physical Education - David Liv
Technology Education - Kyle Tracht
World Language - Emily Polimeni
Darlene Kessie