Personal Responsibility | Respect | Integrity | Diligence | Excellence

# **Important Dates**

- 3/30-4/6 Spring Break
- 4/14 Report Cards Issued
- 4/14 PTSA Meeting
- 4/14 & 4/15 MSA Science Assessment
- 4/16 GT Orientation
- 4/17 8th Grade Class Photo
- 4/17 Twin Day
- 5/5 Spring Concert I
- 5/7 Spring Concert II

# A Note from the Principal

Dear TVMS Families,

Today marks the end of the third quarter. Students have been working diligently in and out of class.

In previous correspondence, I indicated that quarterly letters were sent home with each student who did not earn passing grades in core content classes. Last week, I mailed home letters to parents, indicating that contact should be made with counselors, so we can collaborate on a plan for continued success for students who are still working to maintain passing grades. Student Services' staff will be reaching out to all families who we still have not heard from, regarding these student achievement letters.

This newsletter is filled with good news about student accomplishments. TVMS has much to be proud of when it comes to our student performance and character. It is hard to believe that the newest school in Howard County will soon be completing its first year. Students, parents, and staff have done a remarkable job working together to make TVMS a great place to work and learn.

I want to wish our TVMS students, staff, and community a safe and enjoyable Spring Break. I look forward to seeing everyone back on April 7th.

Regards, Shiney Ann John Principal





#### **MSA Science Assessment**

Reminder that the MSA Science Assessment for 8th graders is coming soon, and your child will test on the following days:

#### April 14 and 15

It is essential that all students come to school on time on testing days. We ask that you not schedule appointments, out of school visits, or other conflicts on those days to limit the time your child 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 flexibility!

#### 8th Grade Date Alerts

The 8th grade team would like to alert parents of upcoming dates as well as date changes in 8th grade events.

- Please keep an eye out for the Washington D.C. permission forms coming home this week. All forms and payment are due no later than Friday, April 17th.
- Due to snow days, the 8th grade celebration date has been moved to Friday, June 5th.
- Due to snow days, the 8th grade Farewell Ceremony has been moved to Wednesday, June 10th.

If you have questions, please email the 8th grade team leader, Ms. Quinn at <a href="mailto:kathleen\_quinn@hcpss.org">kathleen\_quinn@hcpss.org</a>.

#### **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. All items not retrieved by April 10th will be donated to a charity.

# **TVMS Spirit Wear**

The deadline to order TVMS Spirt Wear has been extended until April 10th. Order forms were sent home with your student last week. They are available in the front office and are also attached to this email. Show your TVMS spirit!

### **Policy Corner**

# Trespassing or Willful Disturbance (Policy 3020)

The school system has the legal authority to take action when anyone willfully disturbs or otherwise prevents the orderly conduct of school system instruction, administration or activities. Additionally, Maryland law provides criminal penalties for any individual who trespasses on school property or fails to leave school property after being asked to do so by authorized personnel.

Any willful disturbance or interference with the orderly conduct of activities, including bodily harm or threats of bodily harm to an individual who is lawfully on school property; threats to a student or employee by any means including in-person, by telephone, or by electronic means; or any willful damage or defacing of school property or building is a violation of policy and may be a violation of the law.

Any individual who is found to be on school property after receiving prior legal notice that his/her access to school system property has been denied, or who remains on the property after being asked to leave, is considered to be trespassing. For a complete description of the policy, please refer to the Student& Parent Handbook 2014-15.



# **Tips for School Success**

#### **Show Your Love**

One of the most important parenting skills needed for raising healthy teens involves positive attention. Spend time with your teen to show him or her that you care. Listen to your teen when he or she talks, and respect your teen's feelings. Also, keep in mind that only reprimanding your teen and never giving him or her any justified praise can prove demoralizing. For every time you discipline or correct your teen, try to compliment him or her twice. If your teen doesn't seem interested in bonding, keep trying. Regularly eating meals together might be a good way to connect. Better yet, invite your teen to prepare the meal with you. On days when you're having trouble talking to your teen, consider each doing your own thing in the same space. Being near each other could lead to the start of a conversation. You might also encourage your teen to talk to other supportive adults, such as an uncle or older cousin, for guidance. For more tips, please visit <a href="http://">http://</a> www.mayoclinic.org/healthyliving/tween-and-teen-health/indepth/parenting-tips-for-teens/ art-20044693.

# Message from Media

Encourage all students to return overdue media items.

### **Immunization Requirement 2015-2016**

The State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene has issued a list of new immunization requirements for the 2015-2016 school year. In addition to the current requirements, effective the first day of school 2015-2016 the following will be required:

- 2 doses of Varicella vaccine will be required for student entry into Kindergarten and 1st grade.
- I dose of Tdap vaccine will be required for student entry into the 7th and 8th grade.
- 1 dose of Meningococcal vaccine will be required for student entry into the 7th and 8th grade.

#### **TVMS Symphonic Band Members**

On Thursday, March 19, our TVMS Symphonic Band Members received superior ratings (1's) from all four adjudicators at the HCPSS Middle School Band Assessment held at Hammond High School. The students were remarkable as they opened the music festival as the first of the twenty middle school bands to perform!

This top rating provides our young musicians with an invitation to the Maryland State Band Festival scheduled for mid-May. Some of the comments the students received from the adjudicators included: "What a beautiful, dark, rich tone from the entire band. The band was extremely cohesive. That's the way to open a new school!"

Congratulations to our TVMS Symphonic Band Members for their demonstration of musical pride.

#### Yearbook

Reminder to order the inaugural TVMS yearbook. **Deadline is April 22nd.** Simply click on the link below to check all of the available options (paperback, hardcover, personalizations, etc.) Order online at <a href="https://www.ybpay.lifetouch.com">wbpay.lifetouch.com</a> (Yearbook ID Code 12257815).

# Thank you Green Valley Marketplace

We are grateful for Green Valley Marketplace's partnership with Thomas Viaduct Middle School and their Spring Break treats for our staff on March 27th.



#### 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!

### 43rd Annual Spring Student Exhibition

You are cordially invited to attend the artists' reception for the Spring Student Exhibition at the Mall in Columbia on April 8th for artwork done by students in the Howard County Public School System. Panels will be placed throughout the mall grouped by elementary, middle, and high schools. Maps will be available at the courtesy desk near Lord and Taylor. Refreshments are available from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the lower level escalator court near Lord and Taylor. **The exhibition runs from April 7, 10 a.m. through April 16, noon.** 

#### **TVMS Student Artists with Artwork on Display**

8th Grade: Ama Addo, Lena Brennan, Justin Chae, Julia Gates, Miyako Lewis, Angie Lopez,

Sam Martin, Alannah Muhammad, Sadia Phipps, Henry Thang

**7th Grade:** Miguel Amaro, Makenzie Brooks, Drew Carman, Rachel Carter, Crystal Guevara,

Coziah Izzard, Shelby Kone, Jennifer Martinez, Talia Matthews, Candace Mayers, Sui

Par, Emily Polimeni, Lacey Ramey, Caleb Ray, MikaLeigh Rogers, Scott Trout,

Thrisha Vijay, Makayla Wagner, Auriel White

**6th Grade:** Madison Barrett, Peteros Gebrewold, Steven Harrell, Rem Iang, Lian Kim,

Kristina McKirahan, Siddharth Patil, Gabe Ranoa, Valentina Rico-Cervantes,

Husain Rizvi

#### Gifted and Talented News

#### **TVMS Enrichment Fair**

On Thursday, April 30th, TVMS will host the TVMS Enrichment Fair from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. There will be five sessions showcasing TVMS staff, students, and programs that have been conducted in and out of the classroom such as Beyond the Wolf Den and class projects.

#### **Howard County National History Day Competition**

Congratulations to Alex Marsh, Simon Guteng, Jr., Josh Mensah, and Hannah Gorel for their participation at the Howard County National History Day Competition. A special congratulations to Hannah Gorel who will advance to the State Competition in May.

#### **TVMS Debate Team**

Congratulations to the TVMS Debate team for winning their debate at the Howard County Middle School Debates.

### **Black Saga Competition**

Congratulations to Brandon Langmia, Gerald Brown, and Simon Guteng, Jr., for placing in the top ten in the state at the Black Saga competition!

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#### 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 March

#### **8th Grade Students:**

ELA - Cheyly Flores
Math - Axel Lopez
Reading - Armani Carroll
Science - Cheyenne Riley
Social Studies - Aria Rhodes
Art - Julia Gates
FACS - Terrell Jones
Health - Yasmeen Green
Performing Arts - Alex Marsh
Physical Education - Sarah Justice
Technology Education - Stoil Avamov
World Language - Simon Guteng

#### **6th Grade Students:**

ELA - Devon Gorel
Math - Amir Mixon
Reading - Jabari Pinkney
Science - Sharif Jenkins
Social Studies - Sana Jamal
Art - Gabe Ranoa
FACS - Jalen Geason
Health - Gabriel Shin
Performing Arts - Jadyn Howard
Physical Education - Evan Crider
Technology Education - Zachary Kane

#### 7th Grade Students

ELA - Sasha Pousti
Math - Saige Meyers
Reading - Ekta Patel
Science - Matthew Faulkner
Social Studies - Thrisha Vijayaragunathan
Art - Sui Cin
FACS - David Liv
Health - Tristan Stepniak
Performing Arts - Crystal Herrera
Physical Education - Emily Polimeni
Technology Education - Sean Hicks
World Language - Flavianne Oyamo



# **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 may be picked up in the Front Office, requested via email at <a href="mailto:michelle\_mackall@hcpss.org">michelle\_mackall@hcpss.org</a>, or found online at the <a href="mailto:TVMS website">TVMS website</a>.

Congratulations to Mrs. John, Principal, our newest Alpha Staff recipient.

# **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.

#### Cinderella Performance

*Cinderella* will be presented by our Beyond the Wolf Den students on Saturday, May 30th, at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., in the TVMS cafeteria. You will not want to miss this spectacular performance!