

# TVMS Newsletter

## March 18, 2016

### Important Dates

<b>March 21 – 24</b>	Spirit Week
<b>March 25 – April 3</b>	Spring Break
<b>April 14</b>	Talent Show
<b>April 20</b>	Family Health and Wellness Night

### A Note From the Principal

TVMS Families,

We are excited to highlight many of the wonderful accomplishments our TVMS students have been making in this newsletter. Our students show TVMS PRIDE in everything they do. Next week our students and staff will continue to show their TVMS PRIDE by participating in Spirit Week.

With the time change, spring arriving, and the weather getting warmer, it is essential that our students arrive to school on time, ready to fully engage in learning inside and outside of the classroom.

As we approach spring break, I want to wish our TVMS students, staff, and community a safe and enjoyable spring break.

Regards,  
Shiney Ann John  
Principal

### Chick-Fil-A Partners with Thomas Viaduct

Chick-fil-A Arundel Mills and Thomas Viaduct Middle School Partnership supports educational efforts, acknowledges student achievement, and provides resources to students and families. From left to right: Joe Dinoto, Operator of Chick-fil-A Arundel Mills and Shiney Ann John, Principal of Thomas Viaduct Middle Schools.



### TVMS Phone Numbers

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Fax

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## Yearbook

Be sure to order the TVMS yearbook. It will be full of beautiful color photos to celebrate the amazing year. Hundreds of photos will help preserve your child's memories of the year. Forms are also available in the front office and Media Center. If you would like to order online, simply go to the link to check all of the available options (paperback, hardcover, personalization, etc.). Save money by pre-ordering your yearbook today at [www.ybpay.lifetouch.com](http://www.ybpay.lifetouch.com) (Yearbook ID Code 12257816).

## Spirit Week is coming

Show your TVMS pride by participating in Spirit Week, March 21-24!

- March 21<sup>st</sup>** Wear your silliest and craziest socks!
- March 22<sup>nd</sup>** Get your blue on by wearing blue from head to toe!
- March 23<sup>rd</sup>** Grab a friend and dress alike and see if your classmates can tell who's who for Twin Day!
- March 24<sup>th</sup>** Wear your wackiest and tackiest clothes!

## Car Riders - Drop Off / Pick Up Zone

To ensure an orderly and safe process for TVMS car riders, in the mornings and afternoons when you are dropping off or picking up your student, you will see staff directing you to the designated Car Rider drop off/pick up area. The area will be clearly marked for parents. Please follow staff direction to ease the flow of traffic. We appreciate your cooperation.

## 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade String Orchestra Receives Superior Ratings

Congratulations to Catina Ramis and the Thomas Viaduct 7th and 8th grade String Orchestra, who earned Superior (1) Ratings from *all 4 judges* at the Howard County Middle School Orchestra Assessment performance on Tuesday, March 15, 2016. This assessment included their sight-reading score, which is one of the more difficult skill assessments for middle school students. Their scores qualify them for the state festival, which is the first time a Thomas Viaduct orchestra will have performed at this level. Their performance was truly focused, precise, and expressive. The students were also excellent audience members at Reservoir High School, showing TVMS PRIDE.

## TVMS Artists Collaborate to Participate in Art Exhibition

Eight students will represent TVMS in the "Game Changers: Collaboration, Play, and the Search for New Ideas" art exhibition at the Howard County Center for the Arts in Ellicott City. We are proud to announce that three, large-scale cardboard masks, created by groups of students in 7th grade art class, will be part of the exhibition. Please view the TVMS artwork from March 11th through April 22<sup>nd</sup>, along with all the other submissions from K-12th grade HCPSS art classes. The students with artwork in the exhibition are:

Kyleigh Eaton  
Tiffany Furr  
Lyzander Marantal  
Sarah Muhammad

Abigail Ni Ni Tha  
Lisa Roache  
Jordan Rodriguez  
Gabriel Shin

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## **TVMS Student Artists Participate in Art Exhibition**

Two students will represent TVMS in the Youth Art Month Exhibition at the Howard County Public Library (Miller Branch). We are proud to announce that Casey Tluangi (6th grade) and Mang Iang (7th grade) have artwork on display at the library from February 29th to April 3rd. Please view the artwork, along with all the other submissions from HCPSS Art classes.

## **Health and Wellness Night**

The Second Annual Health and Wellness Night will take place on April 20th from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at Thomas Viaduct Middle School. This year, we are excited to be including Ducketts Lane Elementary School. In addition to exciting health and wellness activities, games, and prizes, we will be hosting the first ever *Hoops for Heart* event at TVMS. Students have already begun fundraising for this event. We hope to not only raise money, but also raise awareness to help the American Heart Association and their work with kids and adults with heart disease.

## **News from the GT Film Institute**

On Friday, February 19, 2016, twenty, sixth and seventh graders attended a field trip to American University. These students represented Thomas Viaduct's Film Institute seminar.

The students met with American University professors and graduate students in small groups to present their ideas, and receive feedback, as well and learn new filmmaking techniques. Following these sessions the students ate lunch in the University dining hall and took a tour of the campus.

The students had a great time and represented Thomas Viaduct Middle School well! Their final films will be showcased at the AFI Theater in Silver Spring on Friday, April 22, 2016.

## **National History Day Participant Accomplishments**

TVMS would like to extend our thanks and congratulations to Marcus Magsayo, Julie Tu, and Vung Bawi for their participation at the National History Day County Competition on March 12th at Reservoir High school. They demonstrated commitment and dedication and represented our school with TVMS PRIDE.

## **County Spelling Bee Participant**

Congratulations to Marcus Magsayo who competed in the Howard County Spelling Bee this past weekend. Marcus worked hard and beat his own personal record. Nice job, Marcus!

## **1<sup>st</sup> Annual TVMS Talent Show**

Join us on Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m., for the first ever Thomas Viaduct Talent Show! Students from all three grades were encouraged to sign up to perform, so they could showcase their talents, strengths, and shine on the TVMS Café stage.

Proceeds from this event will go directly to the Warrior Salute Veterans Services. The TVMS PTSA will run a concession stand during the evening as well. More information to come about this exciting event!

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## PARCC and MAP Testing

Thomas Viaduct Middle School will begin administration of the PARCC and MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) assessments during the upcoming weeks. We are sending out the testing schedule in advance so families can plan ahead when scheduling appointments for students. Thank you for your support.

### **Sixth Grade Testing Schedule:**

PARCC English Language Arts: May 3, 4, 5, and 6

PARCC Math: May 16, 17, and 18

MAP Reading: May 31

MAP Math: June 1

### **Seventh Grade Testing Schedule:**

PARCC English Language Arts: May 9, 10, 11, and 12

PARCC Math: May 25, 26, and 27

MAP Reading: May 18

MAP Math: May 19

### **Eighth Grade Testing Schedule:**

PARCC English Language Arts: April 25, 27, 28; May 2

PARCC Math: May 19, 23, and 24

MAP Reading: May 9

MAP Math: May 1

## Naviance

Throughout the school year, students are learning about their strengths' themes and how to use their strengths toward personal success and goals. Although students have each of these strengths within themselves, certain themes have been identified as their top three strengths. Each month we will be highlighting one of the ten strength themes in order to allow you to become more familiar with each--achieving, caring, competing, confidence, dependability, discoverer, future thinker, organizer, presence, and relating.

This month we are highlighting: **DISCOVERER**

What can parents/guardians do to help their DISCOVERER learn and grow through strengths development?

Ask them what they working on, inside or outside the classroom. What is their favorite new idea of the week? What could you do to support their explorations?

Observe and ask how they like to learn. Use the information to keep them asking "How?" and "Why?" Is there a place where they can spread out a project and not have to put it away? Is there a special place for the student to build, construct, read, or work on his or her own projects? Show interest in what they are working on by watching, being inquisitive, or lending a "helping hand" when needed.

Sometimes interest in a subject is intense but short-lived. Start with a list of possible subjects to explore, but let the kids guide the topics and suggest new ones. For Discoverers, the thrill is in starting something new, so they may be ready to move on to the next exciting project rather than finish the old one. Position yourself as a fellow learner rather than as an expert, and let them become the experts. There are many ways to explore and learn. Using different approaches like reading, experimenting, construction, deconstruction, and field trips will integrate and deepen learning.

Stay tuned! In our next newsletter, we will introduce the April Strength of the Month: FUTURE THINKER.

We look forward to "GROWING STRONG" together this school year!

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## Alpha Staff

Is there a TVMS staff member who is making a difference in your student's life? Please nominate him/her for Alpha Staff. Eligible to be nominated are teachers, counselors, office, custodial, and administrative staff. Students, parents, administrators, colleagues, or community members can nominate staff for their excellence in the classroom. Forms may be picked up in the Front Office, requested via email at [michelle\\_mackall@hcpss.org](mailto:michelle_mackall@hcpss.org), or found online at the TVMS [website](#).

## Maryland Teacher of the Year to talk at McDaniel College

Join us for smartTALK, conversation with Jody Zepp, 2015 Maryland Teacher of the Year, led by Roger Casey, Tuesday, March 22, 7 p.m., Decker Center Forum, 2 College Hill; Westminster, MD. Admission is FREE. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.; for more information call 410-857-2290.

## Hammond High News – Future Golden Bears

Eighth grade students interested in auditioning for Hammond High School's Dance Company should review the information in the link below, which includes registration information and March deadlines. [https://sites.google.com/a/hcpss.me/hahs\\_kuhl\\_dance/auditions](https://sites.google.com/a/hcpss.me/hahs_kuhl_dance/auditions).

## Guilford Elementary Tigers 5K and 1-Mile Fun Run

Guilford Elementary Fifth Grade Team and PTA are sponsoring the First Annual Guilford Tigers 5K and 1-Mile Fun Run on March 19 at 9 a.m. The race will start and finish at Guilford Elementary School, 7335 Oakland Mills Road; Columbia, MD 21046. All children under 18 must register and be accompanied by an adult. Registration begins Monday, February 22, and closes Friday, March 11. For more information on registration, please visit the website at <http://ges.hcpss.org/messages/first-annual-guilford-tigers-5k-and-1-mile-fun-run>.

## Musical Theater Camp – Slayton House Camp of the Arts

The Slayton House Theatre Camp of the Arts is offering three musical theater camps this summer.

**Session One:** June 20 – July 8 (Broadway edition, 3 weeks)

**Session Two:** July 11 – July 22

**Session Three:** July 25 – August 5

For more information and registration forms, visit [www.Campofthearts.com](http://www.Campofthearts.com) or call 410-730-3987.

## Tips for School Success – Show interest in their studies

Show interest in your child's studies by talking with them daily about what they are learning and doing in school (don't take "nothing" for an answer!). If you know your child has a project for science, get involved. The same goes for cheerleading, sports, and music — any extracurricular activities. For more information visit, <http://www.scholastic.com/parents/resources/article/more-school-involvement/success-tips-middle-school-principal>.

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## **Policy Corner – Student Dress Code** *(Policy 9210)*

Student dress and appearance are the basic responsibility of students and their parents/guardians as long as they are consistent with the school system's responsibility to ensure that school environments are healthy, safe and conducive to student learning. It is a violation of this policy for any student to wear attire that interferes with the educational mission of the schools, is disruptive to the school environment, or that could endanger the health or safety of that student or others during school hours and school activities. This includes, but is not limited to, attire that:

- Unduly exposes or reveals skin or undergarments. This may include: tank tops; halter tops; top that are strapless, low cut, or expose the midriff; pants worn low or loose that expose skin or undergarments.
- Causes or is likely to cause a substantial or material disruption to school activities or the orderly operation of the school. This may include buttons, display bands, armbands, flags, decals or other badges of symbolic expression.
- Covers the head, including hats, sunglasses, bandanas, hoods and visors, or head coverings of any kind.
- Depicts profanity, obscenity, the use of weapons, or violence.
- Promotes use of tobacco, drugs, alcohol, or other illegal or harmful products.
- Promotes, implies or contains sexually suggestive messages.
- Depicts gang affiliation.
- Contains language or symbols that demean an identifiable person or group or infringe on the rights of others.
- Contains rude, disrespectful, or discourteous expressions inconsistent with civil discourse and behavior.
- May damage school property.

Attire worn for medical reasons or required in practicing a religious belief is permitted. Student attire will support a healthy and safe academic school environment.

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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 – Jordan Gregory  
Math – Marissa Nanton  
Reading – Naima Portillo  
Science – Maurine Kallon  
Social Studies – Kyle Tracht  
Art – Christina Enodien  
FACS – Carey Olivis  
Health – Brian Coe  
Performing Arts – Candace Mayers  
Physical Education – Jayden Freshwater  
Technology Education – Sean Becraft  
World Language – Jada Sanders

#### 7th Grade Students:

ELA – Zeena Osman  
Math – Nathan Roy  
Reading – Jalynn Roberts  
Science – Dev Amin  
Social Studies – Gabe Ranoa  
Art – Lynise Thompson  
FACS – Kaisle Williams  
Health – Tiffany Furr  
Performing Arts – Christian Verastegui  
Physical Education – Daniel Shin  
Technology Education – Joseph Griffin  
World Language – Devon Gorel

#### 6th Grade Students:

ELA – Aaliyah McCarthy  
Math – Trinity Key  
Reading – Sara Jones  
Science – Priscilla Ledezma-Villa  
Social Studies – Adedamola Toyinbo  
Art – Nadia Aslam  
FACS – Dominick Bell  
Health – Luis Orellana  
Performing Arts – Senhri Iang  
Physical Education – Becca Becraft  
Technology Education – Joshua Speich  
World Language – Jameelah Destry

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