

Principal's Message on 04/07

Good Evening Stallion Families,

It was a great week of learning! Thank you to all the families that were able to come out for movie night on Friday night. Congratulations to all of our students that participated in the Bowie Baysox's reading program and attended the game on Saturday night. It was a fun night!

New: Solar Eclipse

As you know, a solar eclipse is going to occur on Monday, April 8th. MCPS will be operating on a regular schedule for the day. Safety reminders and information regarding the eclipse for families can be found [HERE](#) and [HERE](#).

Scientists have predicted that our eclipse will begin around 2:04 p.m., will reach its fullest potential around 3:20 p.m. which is our dismissal, and conclude by 4:32 p.m. Students and staff must avoid looking directly at the sun unless they are able to properly use [designated and approved eclipse viewing glasses](#).

- The PTA and families have provided eclipse glasses for all of our students.
- We will remind students that they are not to look directly towards the sun and should travel home as they normally would.
- We ask that all parents reiterate with their children the safety concerns with staring at the eclipse and the harmful effects that it may have on their vision.
- As a school, we will not be hosting any whole school viewing events however individual classes may elect to do.
 - **Some classes may go outside before dismissal, if you would prefer that your child not go outside to view the eclipse before dismissal, please notify your child's homeroom teacher no later than Monday, April 8th by 1:00pm.**
 - **If we do not hear from you and your child's class is going outside before dismissal they will be part of the experience.**

We look forward to sharing this exciting experience with our students. If you have any questions, please contact your child's homeroom teacher.

STEM Fair on April 9th

The Snowden Farm Elementary School PTA is holding the 3rd STEM Fair at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, April 9th, 2024! We invite all our students and their families to participate in this exciting and educational event.

New: Fun Run on 04/18

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We need a few volunteers to help us with our 2024 SFES Booster Fun Run on Thursday, 4/18. We are breaking up the Fun Run into two groups (9:30am grades K-2 and 10:30am for grades 3-5). One of the areas is to pass out water cups to students in between laps who don't have their water bottle and the other is to mark laps on the back of the student's t-shirts as they complete a lap. Please visit our [Sign-Up Genius Link](#) to select a time slot.

REGISTER TODAY: You can now register for our **SFES Fun Run!** Our goal is to raise \$25,000 for PTA/school events throughout the year and to strengthen our school community. Registering is easy and free! Register Now on [MYBOOSTER.COM](#), and it's free!

Be sure to check out the easy sharing functions on [MYBOOSTER.COM](#) to let others know how they can help support our school. If we are able to get 70% of our school registered, the PTA will provide snacks for our students. Thank you for working with us to make our school stronger. We are grateful for your support! If you have any questions please contact Eliana Saltares at vp2@sfespta.org.

[Booster Overview Video](#)

New: Yearbook

Don't forget to order your 2023-2024 Snowden Farm ES Yearbook! Sales will close on **Friday, April 19th** and yearbooks will be distributed through your child's homeroom teacher before the last day of school. Don't miss out on capturing the memories!

- Click to order, <https://shop.yearbookmarket.com/snowdenfarmelementary>.

Testing Dates

Students in grades 3- 5 will be taking the Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program in both English/Language Arts and Mathematics this spring. The current schedule for testing is as follows:

- 3rd Grade:
 - 3rd Grade ELA testing: 4/4, 4/5, 4/8 & 4/9
 - 3rd Grade Math testing: 4/15 & 4/19
- 4th Grade:
 - 4th Grade ELA testing: 5/2, 5/6, 5/9, 5/10
 - 4th Grade Math testing: 5/13 & 5/16

- 5th Grade:
 - 5th Grade ELA testing: 5/2, 5/6, 5/7, & 5/9
 - 5th Grade Math testing: 5/13 & 5/16

We will share more information as we get closer to testing but wanted to make you aware of the dates. We appreciate your support with testing! If you have any questions, please contact Kayla Gross at Kayla_M_Gross@mcpsmd.org

New: Game Changers Conference on 04/20

We are thrilled to extend a warm invitation to [The 2024 Spring Game Changer Conference for Young Males!](#) hosted by UCF (Unity Christian Fellowship, Inc)! This transformative event is set to take place on **Saturday, April 20, 2024**, from **8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** at **The Universities at Shady Grove**, located at 9630 Gudelsky Dr, Rockville, MD 20850. Transportation may be available through MCPS from your area.

Conference Goal:

Our mission is to craft a “Game Changer” experience that reignites and builds the social-emotional wellness, confidence, and values our young males need to ascend to the next level and become a true Success Story. This conference is a beacon of hope and empowerment. We encourage young males to embrace a positive attitude and pursue academic excellence to reach their full potential, boosting High School graduation and College Readiness Rates.

2024 Theme:


The World is shifting Forward! Focus Forward and Compete”

This year's theme encourages our students to see themselves as competitors in life's big game, where trying hard, being smart, and playing well lead to winning their dreams. It asks everyone to think about how they can give their best, aim high, and really go after what they want in life with all their heart.

We aim to inspire and encourage our young males to compete academically and socially, showing them that their lives are valued, and their potential is limitless in this post-COVID pandemic era.

Conference Features:

- **Life Skills Stations, Panel Conversations, and Enrichment Forums:** A variety of interactive sessions designed to equip students with essential life skills and knowledge.
- **STEM Exposure Experience:** An opportunity for students to explore and engage with STEM-related activities and learning.

- **Parent Advocacy Academy Roundtable:** Parents are encouraged to attend workshops themed "New School Parenting for Old School Issues" to learn how to better advocate for their students.
- **Super Powers Education for Parents - We Care!** (Drug Awareness Trailer). Parents education, Community Opioid Prevention Education (COPE) Trailer. The trailer is focused on educating parents about warning signs of drug use in children, only participants 18+ are permitted.
-  **Register Now:**
 - Don't miss out on this golden opportunity! Secure your student's spot by registering through [2024 Spring Game Changer Conference](#). Spaces are limited, and we are anticipating a vibrant turnout!

Essay Writing Competition:

Theme: "Being a Competitor is a Game Changer: How will you Compete to win and own your future?"

- To foster academic excellence, we are excited to announce the **Essay Writing Competition** for students! Participants are encouraged to submit a **300-word essay** answering the essay theme question.
- **Essay Submissions are due by Wednesday, April 10, 2024**, at [GC Essay Contest Submission](#). Huge prizes await the winners in each age division!

To learn more about UCF and The Game Changer Conference visit our websites at www.UCFINC.org and www.TheGameConference.org.

New: Lost and Found

Before the warmer weather makes everyone forget about winter coats, we still have several winter jackets in the Lost and Found to claim! There are also plenty of water bottles and lunch boxes without names on them to be taken home. Please have your student check the Lost and Found for any missing items. It would also be helpful if items were labeled with student names so they can more easily be reunited with their owner. We will be clearing out the Lost and Found on Friday, April 19.

Career Day on April 30th

Calling all adults with interesting careers! We are excited to host Snowden Farm's 1st Annual Career Day on the morning of Tuesday, April 30, and we would love your help.

- Please fill out the [short survey here](#) to indicate your interest by Friday, April 5.

- We will be in touch with more information once we have reviewed responses.
- Please reach out to our Counselors with any questions (allison_n_pena@mcpsmd.org, danielle_e_luckett@mcpsmd.org)

Attendance Reminders

Please remember that if your student is going to be out for any reason; travel, appointment, illness... to please send an email to the teacher and attendance secretary (Sherrie_H_Cardea@mcpsmd.org). Thank you for your continued support.

Upcoming Important Dates

- 04/09- 4th Grade Trip to Annapolis and STEM Night at 6:00 PM
- 04/10- No School for students
- 4/11- 3rd Grade Trip to the Trolley Museum and 4th Grade Social Studies Showcase
- 4/12- 3rd Grade Trip to the Trolley Museum
- 04/15- Pajama Day
- 04/16- Spring and Class Pictures
- 04/18- Boosterthon/ Fun Run and Wellness Night
- 04/22- Asynchronous Learning Day for students, more details to come

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to reach out to the school, 240-740-5800.

With Gratitude,
Michelle Fortune