



Plum Point Middle School Bits and Bites Newsletter

February 22, 2019

THIS WEEK'S REMINDERS

- 2/26- Five Guys Spirit Night
- 2/26- Open House- CTA-6:30
- 2/28- HHS Scheduling Night-6:30
- 3/1- 9th Gr. Scheduling Forms Due

THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Principal Notes

- **3rd Quarter Interims**

3rd Quarter Interims will be released online on Tuesday. Be sure to login into Home Access Center to access the interim for all subject areas. Please contact your child's teacher if you have questions or concerns about your child's progress.

- **Good Luck!**

Good luck to our students who will be participating in the Band, Orchestra, and Chorus festival assessments this week. Also, good luck to our Cheer and Poms squads as they compete at HHS on Tuesday evening at 6 pm.

- **Boys' Basketball Finals**

Congratulations to our Gators on a great season! They fell short in the finals against the WHMS Knights at HHS last night.

- **Spring Sports**

Softball and Baseball will begin clinics on Monday. They should be prepared for both indoor and outdoor sessions.

- **Special Education Parent Involvement Survey**

Parents or guardians of children receiving special education and related services will be mailed the *Maryland Special Education Parent Involvement Survey* from the Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services during the week of February 4, 2019. Parents are

asked to complete the survey and return it in the postage paid envelope by May 17, 2019. The Survey may also be completed online. Please look for details in your survey packet. To learn more, please visit <https://www.mdparentsurvey.com>.

- **LOVE YOUR PET MONTH!**

The SGA is collecting donations for local animal shelters during the month of February. Donations are to be turned into first period teachers. SGA officers will be around every Friday to tally and collect any items turned in. The first period class with the most donations for the month of February will win a special surprise! The winning class can vote on pizza, ice cream, or donuts!

- **Parent Support Needed**

We have had an increase in students taking videos, pictures and recordings during the school day. There have been reports that a lot of these videos and pictures are being posted on social media. This behavior directly violates the policy outlined in the Student Code of Conduct on page 19. Please remind your child that having their phone at school is a privilege.

- **Yearbooks** are now on sale.

Regular Price - 2/5 – 3/8 - \$35.00

Please refer to the attached form for more information Deadline is March 8th, 2019

- **School Safety Reminder:**

Just a friendly reminder, to continue to support our safe environment, all visitors will be asked to show ID upon entering the building. Thank you for your assistance ensuring the safety of our students and staff.

- **Maryland Tip Line**

Please review the attachment about the Safe Schools Maryland Tip Line. Led by the Maryland Center for School Safety within the Maryland State Department of Education, Safe Schools

Maryland is an anonymous tip reporting system that allows students, parents, and community members to easily report anonymous safety concerns anywhere in Maryland. Tips received are routed to local and state education, public safety, health, and/or social services support personnel for follow-up.

IMPORTANT REMINDER for Surprise Car Riders: We have been receiving many last-minute email requests for surprise car riders. Please ensure that you are sending these prior to 2:45pm all front office secretaries in the event one of them is not available at that time. We can't promise that the message will

get to your child prior to dismissal if it is sent after that time. Phone calls for surprise car riders must be followed up with an email for safety purposes. Please email the secretaries at the following email address:
PPMSSecretaries@ccps365.onmicrosoft.com
 Bus Notes are required for students that are guest riders on a different bus. Please be sure to use the form that is attached to this week's newsletter and remind your child to turn it in first thing in the morning so that they can be verified.

[Detailed information in regards to school policies & procedures](#)

NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

DATE	EVENTS
Monday, Feb. 25 th - B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drama - GREEN Lunch - Singing with Pellock/ 3:10pm • Chorus – 8th Grade – Gold Lunch • Poms/ Cheer Practice – 3:30pm • Baseball/ Softball - Clinics – 3:30pm
Tuesday, Feb. 26 th - A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3rd Quarter Interims Distributed Online • Dist. XII Festival Chorus -8th Grade- 8:10am • Drama – Gold Lunch/ 3:10pm • Baseball/ Softball - Clinics – 3:30pm • Five Guys Spirit Night – 5:00pm • Poms/ Cheer Competition – HHS - 6:00pm • Open House at Career & Tech Academy (CTA) 6:30pm
Wednesday, Feb. 27 th – B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dist. XII Festival Band - 8th Grade Band – 8:30am • Drama – Lunch Plus/ 3:15pm • Chorus - Gold Lunch-Pitch on Point Rehearsal • Baseball/ Softball - Clinics – 3:30pm
Thursday, Feb. 28 st - A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dist. XII Festival Orchestra Festival - 7th/ 8th Grade Orchestra – End of 3rd Pd • Gator Treat – PBIS • Box Tops Due • Drama Gold Lunch/ 3:10pm • Baseball/ Softball – Clinics – 3:30pm • HHS Information Night for incoming 9th Graders - 6:30pm
Friday, Mar. 1 st - B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gator Gear Day! • 8th grade Registration Forms Due • All State Jr. Chorus - 3/1 - 3/3 • Band - 8th Grade Band Rehearsal - GOLD Lunch - Ms. Schofield • Quarter Auction – Doors Open 6:00pm – Start 7:00pm

UPCOMING DATES

MARCH

6th- 2 HR Delayed Opening
 7th- PTSA Meeting-6pm
 29th- End of 3rd Qtr.- 2 Hr. Early Dismissal

APRIL

4th-6th- PPMS Play- *Alice in Wonderland*
 5th- 3rd Quarter Report Cards -online
 19th- 22nd- Spring Break
 23rd -Schools Reopen - Two Hr. Delayed Opening



Chorus

Pitch on Point A cappella group auditions open to all on Wednesdays during GOLD lunch next week and the week after break.

Congratulations to the following students who auditioned and made the Pitch On Point specialty singing choir for PPMS: Way to go singing Gators:

Archer, Zari; Becraft, Rylee; Brickey, Mary Crow, Taylor; Drummond, Canon; Eversole, Taylor; Eyler, Olivia; Ims, Anna; Ingle, Emily; Lieux, Andrew; May, Marissa McCarthy, Nicky; Mileo, Carmen Palat, Jordan; Reamy, Brooklyn; Riggs, Jady; Roach, Gabe; Rogers, Kayla; Sanborn, Mia; Scaggs, Leah Weilmunster, Andrew

Congratulations to Emily Ingle for having a very high score in the Maryland All State Choir auditions and being added to the Maryland All State Choir 2018-2019. PPMS will now have 11, instead of 10, students in the State group. Way to go PPMS!!!!

Art

The art room needs masking tape, paper plates, and erasers. Any donations would be greatly appreciated. Thanks so much!

January Student of the Month

Congratulations to the January Student of the Month winners!!!! Thank you to those who participated.

6th: Madelynn Kelly & Aidan Cassidy

7th: Abigail Foss & Sean Manley

8th: Bailee Hess & Seth Hilton

PPMS SPIRIT NIGHTS

March 14 – Salsarita’s and Sweet Frog

April 10 – Salsarita’s and Sweet Frog

May 15 – Salsarita’s and Sweet Frog

June 12 – Salsarita’s and Sweet Frog

PPMS History Fair Results

Historical Research Papers

Place	Student	Title	Teacher	Grade
Advancer	Madelyn Crawford	Tragedy in the East and Triumph in the West	Montgomery	6
Advancer	Emily Cummings	Hope Solo Golden Age of Goal Keeping	Penix	8
Advancer	William Patton	The Great London Fire of 1666	Penix	8
Honorable Mention	Asher Jolley	Selma to Montgomery	Penix	8

Individual Exhibits

Place	Student	Title	Teacher	Grade
Advancer	Camilo Riano	Cuban Revolution	Muffley	8
Advancer	Hayden Kelly	Pearl Harbor	Muffley	8
Advancer	Lilly Christley	Titanic	Penix	8
Honorable Mention	Ashley Sawyer	All American Girls Professional Baseball League	Muffley	8

Group Exhibits

Place	Student	Title	Teacher	Grade
Advancer	Bridget Incorvia Elania Shepardson Jessica Rosnage	Bone Marrow Transplant	Cox Penix	8
Advancer	Zari Archer Anna Ims Ashleigh Lourcey	Women's Lunatic Asylum Blackwell's Island	Muffley	8
Advancer	Gavin Hook Garrett Hook	The Tuskegee Airmen	Muffley	8
Honorable Mention	Olivia Hudson Emily Scrivener	Helen Keller	Cox Penix	8

Individual Websites

Place	Student	Title	Teacher	Grade
Advancer	Taylor Crow	Henrietta Lack	Penix	8
Advancer	Seth Hilton	D-Day	Penix	8
Advancer	Sophie Penix	Harriet Hubbard Ayer	Cox	7
Honorable Mention	David Johnson	Atomic Bomb of WWII	Muffley	8

Group Websites

Place	Student	Title	Teacher	Grade
Advancer	JD Boley Jack Waid Christian Aris	Muhammad Ali	Muffley Cox Penix	8
Advancer	Olivia Norris Samantha Blasey	Lewis Hine	Muffley	8
Advancer	Dalyce Schmidt Tuti Aponte- Martinez	Van Gogh	Penix	8

Individual & Group Performances – N/A this year

Individual & Group Documentaries

Place	Student	Title	Teacher	Grade
Advancer	Ashleigh Catlett Katelyn Tkach	Andersonville Prison	Penix Muffley	8
Advancer	Gabe Roach Tristen Mullaney Max Brexler	Strategic Defense Initiative	Penix Muffley	8
Advancer	Dean Ford Derek Rush Aaron Birchfield	Battle of Stalingrad	Penix	8
Advancer	Caleb Evans Canon Drummond	Andrew Jackson	Muffley	8
Advancer	Ryan Chan	Rwandan Genocide	Montgomery	6
Honorable Mention	Courtney Cox Nicole Gorberg Abigail Kim Andrew Lieux	Michaela Prince	Montgomery	6

“Best in Show” – Caleb Evans and Canon Drummond

The Maryland Seal of Biliteracy Program

The Maryland Seal of Biliteracy is a completely voluntary program for SENIORS who may know or study another language and are proficient in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in that language. For a student to be considered they must have a minimum of 725 on English 10 PARCC, and they must score Intermediate High or better (or AP 4 or 5) on a state-approved world language assessment in Reading, Speaking, Listening, and Writing.

Any SENIOR who has completed this process and meets the proficiency requirements will receive a letter and a certificate from the State Superintendent, recognition at senior awards, the Maryland Seal of Biliteracy designation on their official transcripts, and a medal to wear at graduation.

Heritage speakers of a language are eligible. Being a current or traditional foreign language student is not a requirement to apply. Students can test and apply in any language, not just languages taught in

CCPS. More information is available on the CCPS website under Departments – Instruction – Program Information – Maryland Seal of Biliteracy.

Students should see their high school counselor for an application and deadline information. The deadline for applications is March 29th. Students and parents can also contact Mrs. Britta Sparks, Supervisor of World Languages and ESOL, with questions about the program at 443-550-8043.

FRED B. BENJAMIN PEACE WRITING CONTEST

For Maryland Middle School Students

Description: This is an annual, statewide writing contest for middle school students in Maryland focusing on the themes of peace and social justice. The contest, now in its 23rd year, is sponsored by Anne Arundel Peace Action, Maryland Peace Action Education Fund, Benjamin Peace Foundation, and the Peace and Justice Center of Annapolis Friends Meeting.

Eligibility: All 7th and 8th grade students enrolled in public or private schools in Maryland or **home-schooled students at the same grade levels** are eligible to enter.

Requirements: Students must write no more than 1,200 words on the following topic:

The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution guarantees our most fundamental liberties, including prohibiting the government from restricting freedom of speech or the press, the free exercise of religion, the right to assemble peacefully, and the right to petition the government for a redress of grievances. However, these freedoms have been threatened throughout American history. Which one of these do you believe faces the greatest challenges currently? Support your views with examples from current events. What actions do you suggest protecting the freedom you selected?

The entry should be double-spaced and one-sided and accompanied by a separate cover sheet which includes all of these:

- Student's name, address and phone number (or e-mail address)
- School's name, address and phone number
- The name of the teacher sponsor, if applicable

Personal identifying information must not appear anywhere on the entry. Cover sheets should be attached to the entries by paperclip. No staples anywhere, please.

Deadline: Send entries and cover sheets to Peace Writing Contest, 310 Riverview Avenue, Annapolis, MD 21403-3328. Entries must be postmarked no later than April 30, 2019.

Awards: Winners will be selected by a panel of three distinguished judges. Winners will receive prizes of:
First place: \$350
Second place: \$250
Third place: \$150
Fourth place: \$100

Winners will be recognized at an awards ceremony. Attendance is not required to receive an award.

PPMS YEARBOOK

ONLINE ONLY

Early Bird Special Price (available until 2/4/19): \$30.00

Cost after 2/4/19: \$35.00

- Hard Cover Book Pricing: \$27.36, \$ 1.64 Tax, \$ 1.00 Fee, total of \$30.00
- Hard Cover Personalized Book Pricing: \$ 32.08, \$ 1.92 Tax, \$ 1.00 Fee, total of \$35.00

ONLINE ORDERING DIRECTIONS:

1. [Visit online ordering website](#)
2. Select the Add to Cart button
3. In pop-up window, you can add more books to your order by using the + or – (it will default to 1 book).
4. Fill in Student Name and Teacher (up to three students can be added)
5. Select the Add to Cart button when finished (items will be added to cart and you will return to the main screen).
6. Click on the Shopping Cart in the top right-hand corner to review order and checkout.

DRAMA

Please see the attached February calendar.

Please join the PTSA and help make memories
for our children by volunteering!

Membership and volunteer forms available on the PTSA bulletin board in the lobby.

It's an exciting new year for the PPMS PTSA! We have a mostly new board full of ideas. We have some fun events planned already. We are looking forward to a rewarding year for the gators!

2018-2019 PTSA Officers

- President – Natalie Mirtich
- Vice President 1 – Mel Blake
- Vice President 2 – Suzette Galyeon
- Treasurer – Leslie Helwig
- Secretary – Amy Kane
- Volunteer Coordinator- Barbara Shawyer
- Hospitality- Dawn Schiemer

Planned Events

- Family Movie Night
- Winter Dance
- Talent Show
- And many more!

Please email Natalie Mirtich with any questions about PTSA at
ppmspta@hotmail.com



Please be sure to “like” the PPMS Families Facebook page for information and interaction



Follow us on Twitter
[@PlumPointMSCCPS](https://twitter.com/PlumPointMSCCPS) to get the latest updates from PPMS.