A MESSAGE FROM MRS. DELLONE

Dear Hereford Families,

As the 2020-21 school year comes to a close, we celebrate our students, staff and community. You made it! It has been a challenging year. Together we have maintained our focus on our students’ wellbeing and academic progress.

I would like to share a statement in an email I sent to parents dated May 19, 2021.

“I want to recognize the resilience of our students and teachers. As I reflect on the past year, I am inspired by all that we have been able to accomplish during such a challenging time. Our students have learned so much that they will carry with them through their academic career, life, and future career. We cannot minimize the ways our students have pivoted, overcome, adapted, learned new skills, found ways to connect to staff and friends, and conquered challenging content.

Hereford Middle School and the Hereford Zone has a long history of community pride, academic excellence, and excellence in athletics, music, art, robotics... the list goes on. We know that our students have been impacted by the past year as all of us have; however, this year has not broken them or our community. Now is the time to wrap ourselves around our students and support them. We all want the same things for our students and the school community. Our students are listening to the adults in their lives, social media, and the...
I want our students to know that although this year has been challenging, they should be proud of all they have accomplished. As the adults in our children’s lives, we must build our students up. Although we have had to bend and twist through this year, our students are not broken. It has been my experience in the Hereford Zone that the community does not allow things to break them. I request your support in building our students up, focusing on what they have been able to accomplish, and assuring that they will succeed in their future. Our students will live up to our expectations.

Together we can ensure our students come out of the past year determined and focused. I call the community to action to support our students with positive words, posts, and actions. We love our students and know that you do too. Our students will continue the tradition of excellence because of the support of our community. #HerefordStrong #YouBelong #IBelong #WeBelong"

As we look forward, we are determined and committed to our students’ success. Preparations for next school year are underway. We are excited to welcome our incoming sixth graders. We are finalizing student schedules. You will be notified when schedules are available in Schoology. A summer mailing will be sent in late August.

Eighth graders, we will miss you as you move on to high school. We know that you will do amazing things, and we look forward to hearing about your academic and life accomplishments. Remember that the Hereford Middle School staff are here if you ever need us.

This summer, I hope that students and families take time to rest and rejuvenate. Do the things that make you happiest. Whether that is reading a book, taking a vacation, going on a hike, swimming, spending time with friends and family, I hope you are able to break away from electronics and have fun!

Have a great summer.

Sincerely,
Julie A. Dellone
Principal

FROM THE PTA

Dear HMS families and staff,

On behalf of the HMS PTA, we would like to thank you for your continued support throughout this past school year. We know that it was a year like no other, and presented some challenges for families and students, as well as our PTA. We are grateful for your continued support and are a stronger community because of it. For those of you who will still have students at HMS next year, we hope that you will continue to help the HMS PTA so that we can continue to provide programs and resources for students and staff. For those of you moving on to High School, we wish you the best of luck in your endeavors!

The HMS PTA is looking forward to a fantastic 2021-2022 school year and we could use your help! Whether you have 5 minutes or 5 hours, any time you can volunteer to the PTA is greatly appreciated. Please contact Melinda Stankowski at herefordmspta@gmail.com for more information on how to become a part of our HMS PTA crew. We certainly can’t do it without our volunteers.

Thank you again and have a fantastic summer!

Your HMS PTA

HMS Facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/herefordmspta/
HMS PTA Website:
https://www.herefordmiddlepta.com/

SPECIAL EDUCATION

If you have questions regarding Special Education services, IEP’s or 504’s, please contact:

- IEP Questions- Special Education/IEP Chair, Genese Neal, Email: gneal2@bcps.org
- 504 Questions- 504 Chair/ Assistant Principal, Brenda Thompson, bthompson4@bcps.org

A MESSAGE FROM THE GRADE LEVEL COORDINATORS:

6th Grade News

Can you believe it is already June! It has been so wonderful for all of your teachers to get to see so many of your in person. We also thank all of our online learners for continuing to log in and actively participate in classes. As a reminder, sixth grade students and teachers are separated into three interdisciplinary teams:

- The Innovators are taught primarily by Ms. McShane, Ms. Hood, Mr, Walsh, Ms. Deen, Ms. Cunningham, and our newest team member Ms. Velda
- The Explorers are primarily taught by Ms. Sutton, Mr. Deen, Ms. Keen, Ms. Aloi and Ms. Wagaman.
- The Legends are primarily taught by Ms. Smith, Mr. Friend, Ms Wit, and Ms. Schanberger

All sixth-grade students are supported by our school counselor, Ms. Richardson, and the sixth-grade team leader, Ms. Benson.

We have all worked so hard this year in spite of all the challenges we have faced! The teachers are so proud of the students’ accomplishments, patience, and perseverance. As we finish up our school year we will be learning the following things:

- In Science 6th grade we are learning about Earth Systems. Earth processes are the result of energy flowing and matter cycling within and among Earth’s systems. Earth changes addressed within this unit include the rock cycle, plate tectonics, geologic events, and continental drift.

- In 6th Grade World Language students are learning about extracurricular activities that take place in schools and communities in Spanish speaking countries. We investigate and compare the similarities and differences between those extracurricular activities in the United States and Hispanic countries. Students have opportunities to share their opinions of the activities and make comparisons to their own experiences.

- In April, ELA classes will be wrapping up our 4th unit and beginning a short unit about poetry. We will read poetry and even write some of our own. We will continue to use Vocab.com as a tool to help students practice with terms important to the unit.

- This month in 6th Grade Social Studies we enter the home stretch of the year and our final unit, ancient China! Students will begin the unit researching 2 major ways that Ancient China interacted with the world, first how it spread its culture in the Silk Road, and second how it defended that culture in the Great Wall of China. Students will then dive into the first 2 foundational dynasties of China, the Qin and the Han and explore the different ideologies that grew during those times, including Legalism, Confucianism and Taoism. We will end the unit with a unit test covering Rome and China towards the end of the year, and then it will be onto summer!
• In Math students in GT are working on Graphing Linear Equations & Solving Equations with Variables on Both Sides and in Math 6 students are working on Geometry & Statistics.

Our specials area classes are doing amazing things with the sixth grade.

• In Art, we will be studying the narratives found on different types of ancient Greek vessels and the techniques used to draw the pictures on clay. Students will then create a scratchboard, design a vessel, and illustrate a story on it using the technique of sgraffito.

• In Physical Education our 6th graders are Unit we are continuing with our Spring Sports theme. We have gone over many of the Summer Olympic games that students will see at Tokyo in July. We are finishing the year learning about Tennis, Pickleball, Baseball, and Lacrosse. Hoping for everyone to have an active and healthy summer.

• General Music students are building their skills on bucket drums discovering the different ways to make sounds on the buckets. They are also adding handbells and chrome music lab piano to allow for a melodic instrument in addition to the percussive sounds of the buckets.

• String students are continuing to play in person as well as virtually. So exciting to be able to safely make music together again! Band students finally received their county PPE and are starting to play again in the classroom!

• Chorus students also received a county PPE mask order and are able to able sing in the classroom again as well! So grateful to be able to make music together again!

• In Agriscience students explore what agriculture is and how it has influenced society. Students examine how technological advances have improved production agriculture practices. They are also starting to explore the role that natural resources play in both agriculture and day to day life.

• For Tech Ed Students are learning Python coding from the ground up. Students with varying coding experience are given weekly coding challenges that increase in complexity each week. By the end of this ten-lesson unit, students with no programming experience will be programming robots to autonomously vacuum a floor using multiple sensors. Advanced students will be coding search and rescue robots using text-based Python.

• In Effective Learning, students have been learning about what it takes to be a dynamic speaker. Improving their ability to communicate effectively will certainly help them succeed both now and in the future- no matter where their future might take them. Students took pride in eliminating filler words in their speech as they practiced appearing confident, poised, and as articulate as possible!

If you ever have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact your child’s teacher(s), Ms. Richardson, Ms. Benson, and/or administration. Remember that for all 5-day weeks we will continue to have asynchronous Wednesday. Please remember to log on to Schoology and complete any missing work or redo opportunities you may have. Also, most teachers will continue to have our small groups to provide additional supports on Wednesday mornings (see class pages for specific times). Thank you for a fantastic year in spite of all the challenges we have had to overcome!

7th Grade News

Welcome to 4th quarter, we’re in the homestretch of this school year. It’s been a delight to meet many of our students in person while we navigate the uncharted waters of hybrid learning. We have already made a lot of headway with content this year, and the teachers are so proud of the students’ accomplishments, patience, and perseverance. This quarter, students are, or will be, learning the following:

• **ELA**: In ELA, students have started their unit on argumentative writing. Students are working on tracing the development of argument through identifying and evaluating both evidence and reasoning in written claims. They will then work to apply these skills to their own writing.
• **Math:** In Pre-Algebra, students have been analyzing and comparing data of dot and box plots as well as finding the probability of various events. They have been using the data and samples to make predictions of real-life situations. In Algebra 1, students have been factoring quadratic functions (binomials, trinomials, and polynomials). In the upcoming weeks they will be learning to solve quadratic functions.

• **Science:** Students are in the second learning cycle of the Awaken the Force unit. During this time, they will learn about the non-contact force of gravity and how it impacts potential and kinetic energy. After this, we will transition into our 5th unit on light and sound waves.

• **Social Studies:** In World History students are currently exploring the pre-Columbian society of the Maya. We are discovering how the Maya were able to create and maintain a flourishing society in Central America. We are currently constructing an argument for which technological innovation is the most remarkable to show how they impacted the cultural development of these ancient peoples and how they continue to influence the modern world.

• **World Language:** This quarter in World Language classes students will share their "Day in the Life". By the end of the quarter students will be able to describe their morning, afternoon, weekend, and summer routines and compare them to young people in the target cultures.

• **Art:** 7th Grade Art classes are learning about visual narratives. We are exploring how to interpret and make inferences about an image based on our own experiences and what we know of the experiences of the artist. Students are choosing an artwork, interpreting the narrative in the artwork, then predicting what they think happened just before that image and just after that image. For their final image, they will create a triptych depicting their before image, the original image, and their after image.

• **Music:** General Music students are building their skills on bucket drums discovering the different ways to make sounds on the buckets. They are also adding handbells and chrome music lab piano to allow for a melodic instrument in addition to the percussive sounds of the buckets. String students are continuing to play in person as well as virtually. So exciting to be able to safely make music together again! Band students finally received their county PPE and are starting to play again in the classroom!!! Chorus students also received a county PPE mask order and should be able to start singing in the classroom again as well! So grateful to be able to make music together again!

• **CTE:** (With Mr. Stoe) All grade 6-8 students will begin to learn basic python programming during the 4th quarter. Each week, students are assigned a new programming challenge that increases in complexity. Lessons are differentiated based on student ability levels. After completing the computer programming unit, students will have a valuable skill set that can be applied in an ever-increasing automated society. Help sessions are offered every week outside of class. (With Mrs. Cales) 7th grade agriscience is all about animals! Students have discussed and explored key concepts such as domestication, animal classification, and animal husbandry. They are currently exploring two key ideologies in the animal industry, Animal Rights vs Animal Welfare.

• **PE:** Students in Physical Education classes are finishing a unit on Handball this week. Next week, we are starting a two-week unit on Hockey, covering both Ice and Field varieties. The Physical Education staff is working to make connections in our 4th quarter units to the Tokyo 2021 Olympics, so that students can watch and share their knowledge with family and friends.

If you ever have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact your child’s teacher(s), Mrs. Kongkr Aphun, and/or administration. We look forward to the experiences that await us the rest of this school year, and we will keep you posted as to upcoming events and content in the upcoming newsletters.

**8th Grade News**

It is hard to believe that we are coming to the end of the 2020-21 school year! This was a very unique and challenging year for everyone, but we all persevered. Below is a message that the Eighth Grade Team Representatives wrote and wanted to share.
Dear Family, Friends, and Teachers,

We, the Eighth Grade Class of HMS, would like to say thank you to all of our family, friends and teachers. Thank you for being so supportive and helpful during this difficult and challenging time. Thank you for helping us navigate and work through these times together. Your encouragement has made all of the difference! We are excited to see where our future takes us! We will always remember HMS and all of the lessons we have learned. #webelong!

Thank you again,
Eighth Grade Class 2021
Future Class of 2025

This is the material your Eighth grade student is currently learning about in their classes.

- In American History, students are working on our Soapbox Speeches and then will begin our lesson on The Election of 1860.

- Science classes will end the year with the Chesapeake Bay Unit and the study of natural resources.

- In Math students are working on quadratic equations and participating in a circle unit.

- In ELA 8 students have moved into the “Challenge of Combining Cultures” unit. They are reading “Refugee.” The Advanced Academic classes are currently completing the “Language and Communication” unit. They are reading “Chasing Lincoln’s Killer.”

Now some information regarding our special area classes.

- In Physical Education, our 8th graders are finishing up handball and hockey units.

- General Music students are building their skills on bucket drums discovering the different ways to make sounds on the buckets. They are also adding handbells and chrome music lab piano to allow for a melodic instrument in addition to the percussive sounds of the buckets.

- String students are continuing to play in person as well as virtually. So exciting to be able to safely make music together again!

- Band students finally received their county PPE and are starting to play again in the classroom!!!

- Chorus students also received a county PPE mask order and should be able to start singing in the classroom again as well!

- In Tech. Ed. students are learning about basic python programming during the 4th quarter. Each week, students are assigned a new programming challenge that increases in complexity. Lessons are differentiated based on student ability levels. After completing the computer programming unit, students will have a valuable skill set that can be applied in an ever increasing automated society. Help sessions are offered every week outside of class.

- In Effective Learning habits, Eighth graders will be learning about ethics and how one’s own ethics affect our choices both now as a student and then later in the working world. Students will have opportunities to reflect on how ethical of a person they believe themselves to be and how their ethics play a role in all types of decisions. We will even look at various “real life” scenarios to see what types of choices can be made versus what choices should be made.

The faculty here at HMS are so very proud of our outgoing Eighth Grade students! We know great things are in the Class of 2025’s future! Have a great summer!
Happy Spring! We are loving the warmer weather and the sunshine. Our students are too! Please continue to encourage your students to get outside on their virtual days when they have breaks to get physical activity and fresh air.

Join the HMS School Counseling Team in participating in the Mental Heath Mile! We are so excited to get our race bibs and join in the fun. For more information see below:

This May, BCPS will host its second annual “Virtual Mental Health Mile.”

“The idea for The Virtual Mental Health Mile,” said Courtney Blair, LCSW-C, BCPS supervisor of mental health, “is to bring about mental health awareness and to encourage students, families, and staff to engage in a physical activity – whether it is walking, running, swimming, or playing a sport. Boosting physical activity is one way to improve emotional well-being.”

Those interested in participating in The Virtual Mental Health Mile can register online. Those who register by Friday, May 21, will electronically receive a race bib. Participants are asked to share photos of how they completed their miles on social media using hashtag #BCPScares. The event is sponsored by the Mind Over Matters Campaign, First Financial Federal Credit Union, the BCPS Employee Assistance Program, and the BCPS Employee Wellness Committee.

As you have heard many times, self-care is important. Click on the link below for some ideas. Self Care Tips newsletter.pdf

Just Breathe!
Check out this site to help you learn to breathe more mindfully. Calm - Breathe with Calm

This is just a reminder that Baltimore County Public Schools’ require that all students transitioning from Grade 8 to Grade 9 to verify residency prior to the start of the school year. Letters were mailed to parents on April 23, 2021 explaining this process. The required documents can be sent in with your student, mailed to Hereford Middle School or emailed to Terri Francis, our School Counseling Secretary at tfrancis@bcps.org. Thank you to the parents that have already sent in their documents. If you emailed your documents, you would have received a response from Mrs. Francis letting you know if more documents were required or if we have everything we need. Student enrolled as homeless, shared domicile, or students in state-supervised care verify residency annually and are exempt from this process. Please contact Mrs. Francis if you have any questions.

Service Learning Hour Update:

BCPS is creating a new platform to record service learning hours and they are working to restore the data that was lost during the ransomware attack. The new system should be in place by the fall. While we are unable to view a student’s earned hours or enter new projects online currently, we are still accepting forms and keeping record of those hours. When the database is rebuilt, the hours for our 6th and 7th grade students will be entered into the system at HMS. The hours for 8th graders will be forwarded to their next school. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Shields at vshields@bcps.org.

Thank you!
FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE

May is skin cancer awareness month! Remember to use sunscreen and head coverings!

Unvaccinated children are still advised to wear a mask. If your child has been tested for Covid due to symptoms, exposure to a close contact or return from travel: PLEASE do NOT send them to school until you have received the results. If you have any questions, call Mrs. Kernan.

(443)809-6868

AFTER HOUR EMERGENICES

If you have an after hours emergency, please call 911 or one of the resources listed below.

RESOURCES

Emergency – 911

Maryland Help Line - 211

Baltimore Crisis Response – 410-433-5175 (24 hours a day 7 days a week)

MD Dept of Health Crisis Line – 1-800-422-0009

Suicide Hotline Text CONNECT to 741741, for more information visit www.crisistextline.org

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline – 1-800-273-8255

My Neighbors Foundation- 410-374-4657
**NEW** Free Summer Program for Students with interest in STEM/Transportation

NOTE: The deadline to apply has been extended to June 1, 2021.

The National Transportation Center at Morgan State University announces it will once again host the annual National Summer Transportation Institute (NSTI) from July 1, 2021-July 30, 2021.

Encourage & recruit interested students in applying for Morgan State's NSTI, which is free. This summer's NSTI will be completely virtual. NSTI will operate Monday-Friday from 9:00 AM-1:00 PM. Students must be rising 7th-12th graders for the 2021-2022 school year. Students who have strong intellectual curiosity, demonstrate academic excellence and are interested in transportation or engineering to apply to our summer program. NSTI allows students to use the summer to advance their knowledge of STEM concepts in the context of transportation engineering and understand how transportation safety makes a difference in the everyday lives of people.

The 2021 summer program includes a strong curriculum, which will educate students about potential professional opportunities in transportation and related activities and the academic skills needed to prepare for these careers. With a supportive team of Teachers and Counselors, students will conduct research and be exposed to various forms of transportation, such as water transportation, motor carrier safety, and air transportation, as well as transportation history, trends and innovation. Students will receive a stipend to assist with the cost of participating and be provided with resources such as the Practice Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) and Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) to prepare for college coursework, financial literacy workshops and social-emotional activities.

Check them out on social media!

www.facebook.com/urbanmobilityandequitycenter
www.facebook.com/morganntc
Twitter: @umecresearch
@NTCMorgan
YouTube: Nancy Jackson - YouTube
Instagram: ntcumec
Get the Facts About Skin Cancer

- Skin cancer is the most common type of cancer in the U.S. and worldwide.
- 1 in 5 Americans will develop skin cancer by age 70.
- Every hour, more than 2 people die of skin cancer.
- If you catch skin cancer early enough, you can be A-OK.
- Your risk for melanoma doubles if you’ve had more than 5 sunburns.
- Regular daily use of SPF 15 or higher sunscreen reduces your risk of melanoma by 50%.

9 Ways You Can Protect Your Skin

1. Seek the shade, especially between 10 AM and 4 PM.
2. Don’t get sunburned.
3. Avoid tanning, and never use UV tanning beds.
4. Cover up with clothing, including a broad-brimmed hat and UV-blocking sunglasses.
5. Keep newborns out of the sun. Use sunscreen on babies over the age of six months.
6. Use a broad-spectrum (UVA/UVB) sunscreen with an SPF of 15 or higher every day. For extended outdoor activity, use a water-resistant, broad-spectrum sunscreen with an SPF of 30 or higher.
7. Apply 1 ounce of sunscreen to your entire body 30 minutes before going outside. Reapply every two hours or after swimming or sweating.
8. Examine your skin head-to-toe every month.
9. See a dermatologist at least once a year for a professional skin exam.

For more information, visit SkinCancer.org