

October 6, 2023

Hello HMS Families,

I hope everyone had a great week! Just a reminder, FCS schools and offices are closed on Monday and HMS students are off Tuesday and Wednesday as well. Staff have meetings and trainings on Tuesday and Wednesday, so please reach out via email if you need to meet with/speak with a staff member on these days.

Have a great long weekend!

Thank you to everyone who attended and/or volunteered at Thursday night's PTA Family Event/Book Fair. Everyone had a lot of fun shopping the Book Fair, making wands, taking pictures, visiting the "Magical Creatures," and enjoying some snacks!

Processes and Procedures Reminder(s)/Update(s):

- The end of the day can be a little hectic when our families don't follow our procedures. Here are a few reminders:
 - o If you need to check your child out of school early, **please remember we do not allow checkouts after 3:30!** If they are leaving early, send them in to the Front Office in the morning with a note from you. This makes the whole process easier and more efficient, and prevents us from having to disrupt their class when it's time for them to leave.
 - o Parents should not park in the lot to pick their child up during regular dismissal. This is an unsafe practice, as it requires students to cross the carpool line to get to you.
 - o Afternoon carpool is tricky. Please review the document linked here, and follow the crowd at dismissal and you can see how it all works - [Carpool Procedures / Carpool Procedures \(fultonschools.org\)](https://www.fultonschools.org/Carpool-Procedures)

"Word of the Week" - Vocabulary development is a crucial component of an effective literacy program, and we are restarting Word of the Week for the 23-24 school year. Each week, we identify a new vocabulary word that we want our students to become more familiar with and be able to add to their repertoire. Our hope is that by exposing students to a different word every week, they can begin to "own" these words and make them a part of their working vocabulary! We encourage you to find ways to use this word in your conversations with your students whenever the opportunity presents itself!

Due to the short week next week, we will not have a "Word of the Week."

News and Notes:

- HMS Fall Picture retakes are scheduled for October 13th. Click on the following links for ordering information. [Email Flyer-2023-10-13 \(1\) - Retakes.pdf](#) [Full Color Flyer-2023-10-13 - retakes.pdf](#)
- Attention 7th and 8th Grade families - The HMS counseling department will be presenting a "Signs of Suicide" refresher video/lesson to all 7th and 8th grade students this year. These presentations will take place in the cafeteria during advisement. 8th graders will participate on October 17th or

October 18th and 7th graders will participate on October 24th or October 25th. Please review the document linked here for more information - [SOS- parent letter for 7th-8th.docx](#)

- Jasmine Forrest, the Summit therapist here at Hopewell, will be starting a parent-based anxiety therapy group in the month of October. This group is a parent-based therapy group for children and adolescent anxiety. Parents will learn how to alleviate their children's anxiety by changing the way they respond to their children's symptoms. Parents will not be required to make their children change their behavior, but will be shown how to replace their own accommodating behaviors (which allow anxiety to flourish) with supportive responses that demonstrate both acceptance of children's difficulties and confidence in their ability to cope. Click the following link for a flyer - [Flyer JForrest Parenting10.11 \(1\) \(3\).pdf](#).

For Parents of Children with Anxiety

Wednesdays from 6:00 - 7:30 PM

October 11th - November 29th (Skips week of November 22nd)

To sign up call The Summit at (678) 893-5300

School Activities:

- All 7th graders are invited to a Fall Festival on Friday, October 20th from 4:15 until 6:00 p.m. This is an outdoor event for 7th graders ONLY. Students need to be picked up promptly at 6:00 p.m. in the carpool line. Food, music, and games will be provided! Students are expected to show their Mustang PRIDE at the event.

If you would like your student to participate in this event, please fill out the permission form using the link below. One form should be completed for each 7th grade student. Also, we are asking for a \$6 donation per student to offset the cost of the event.

*Note: The OSP link for payment is embedded in the form linked below.

[Permission Form - 7th Grade Festival](#)



- In Honor of National Bullying Prevention Month, the Student Council is challenging their peers to be Unapologetically Kind and to Stand up to Bullying! Here is a message from one Student Council Member:

Greetings, Hopewell parents! As we approach October 18th, let's unite for Anti-Bullying Day. This day serves as a reminder to recognize the impact of bullying and take a stand against it. Encourage your children to wear blue, showcasing your family's commitment to a bully-free environment both within and beyond our school community. It's a small gesture with a significant impact—one you'll be proud to make! Students are also challenged to create a **button against bullying** to win a prize on October 18. Help spread the word that Mustangs are unapologetically kind and stand against bullying.



- **YEARBOOK:** The HMS 2023-2024 yearbook is now on sale on the Jostens website. If you purchase your book early in the school year, you are guaranteed the LOWEST price (which is \$50) and there are some additional personalization benefits available to you. If you have any questions about yearbook purchases, please contact Mrs. Karen Allen (allenk2@fultonschools.org).

The link is: <https://bit.ly/3YpEgAi>

- **8th Grade Parents only** – Yearbook Recognition Ads are on sale NOW. These are the pages in the back of the book that recognize your 8th graders before they move on to high school. The ad is created by you using the Jostens online software. **There is a deadline for this optional purchase: December 15.** This year the ad costs \$45 and can be created using this link: <https://bit.ly/3s1cxtV>
- **YEARBOOK NEEDS YOUR HELP!** The yearbook staff is inviting students and parents to submit photos for the yearbook. If you've got great photos of school and community events or you and your friends just having fun outside of school, we'd like to see them. Our photographers can't be everywhere. Help us get as many photos as possible to create a terrific book everyone will want to have. Ideas can be sports photos from feeder teams, Halloween and other holidays, or pictures of students just hanging out and having a good time on the weekends. There is no limit to the number of photos you can submit. To submit, just click on the link: https://images.jostens.com/0mRzn1-bo_AYGOy_MnaE1TA

- Got old athletic shoes sitting in your closet or garage? Junior Beta wants them! We are conducting a shoe drive for new and used athletic shoes. They can be any type of sneakers or running shoes. Cleats (with no metal spikes) are welcome as well. Shoes are sent to women in third-world countries where the shoes are recycled, repurposed, or resold to make them more financially independent. We are collecting shoes until October 31. If you have any you want to donate – please send them in with your children and have them drop it off in Mrs. Allen's room (C117).

Other Items:

- The City of Milton invites all eligible voters to be part of our upcoming general municipal elections! Citizens must register to vote in Milton by October 10 to cast ballots for who will fill three City Council seats. (And if you have recently moved here, you'll need to change your registration by that date.) In-person Advanced Voting starts October 16 at Milton's City Hall, while there are 3 different Election Day (November 7) polling locations depending on where you live/are registered. For more information, go to www.miltonga.gov/Elections.
- Innovation Academy is hosting a Phoenix Tank on Friday, October 27th. Students who sign up will take a FCS bus to and from IA where they will spend the day doing a deep dive into the world of Design Thinking as students embark on a journey of managing their own business. [Click here](#) for more details. If you want your student to participate in this unique experience, please complete [this form](#). There are limited spots available, but you will be notified on October 16th if your student will be attending.
- Innovation Academy will be hosting a **free STEM Saturday for all 7th and 8th grade students** who are eligible to apply on **11/4/2023 from 9am-12pm**. This day each student will engage in STEM activities that will be led by our students and teachers. Registration for the day will begin at 8:30 with activities beginning at 9:00am.

Sign-ups will be available to the first 100 students who sign-up. Every sign-up after the first 100 will be waitlisted. **Deadline to apply is 10/22/23 (use the QR code below)**. Any questions, please reach out to guraishyh@fultonschools.org



- From the PTA:
 - o Reflections - Does your student enjoy art, music and dance or have an interest in writing, producing films and taking photos? We invite them to unleash their inner artist with PTA Reflections! Reflections is a national art contest celebrating the importance of arts education. In the 50+ years since the program's founding, millions of students have been inspired to participate by reflecting on a specific, student-selected theme to create original artwork. For inspiration, visit the Reflections virtual art gallery and learn more about prizes and scholarships at PTA.org/Reflections/Awards.

This year's theme is: I am hopeful because...

Entries are due no later than Friday October 20th. Download submission guidelines and an entry form from the Hopewell PTA website:

<https://hopewellmspta.membershiptoolkit.com>

Feel free to reach out to the HMS Reflections Chair Katie Black at vlackkm@yahoo.com with any questions.

- Book Fair - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4AA4AE2EA4F4C70-2023>
 - It is that time of year again for the annual Book Fair at Hopewell Middle School.
 - When: **October 5 - 17th from 7:45 AM - 4:15PM**
 - Where: HMS Media Center
 - How do students attend? They come with their ELA classes during the school day.
 - How can I help? Volunteer spots are open now for parents to volunteer to help with the Book Fair. Prior to volunteering you need to complete the Fulton County Volunteer requirements by going to <https://www.fultonschools.org/volunteer>. Don't worry it is quick and easy! On the day you volunteer sign in with the front desk and head back to the Media Center.

General Reminders:

- HMS has an email specifically for sending in notes/excuses for student absences. You can email your parent, doctor, dentist, etc. note to HMSAttendance@fultonschools.org. This is not for early dismissal requests. These notes should be sent into the front office with your student in the morning on the day they need to leave early. You do not need to email individual teachers to notify them of an absence.
- If you need to check your child out of school early, **please remember we do not allow checkouts after 3:30!** If they are leaving early, send them in to the Front Office in the morning with a note from you. This makes the whole process easier and more efficient, and prevents us from having to disrupt their class when it's time for them to leave.
- The Front Office closes at 5:00, so please do not expect anyone to answer the phones or be there to buzz you in unless there is an evening activity.

Thanks so much for your support of our school!

Sincerely,

Michael LeMoyne
Principal – Hopewell Middle School

HMS Website - <http://school.fultonschools.org/ms/hopewell/Pages/default.aspx>

Follow me on Twitter - @MichaelLeMoyne

Follow HMS on Twitter - @HMSMustangPride