

Darter Tacklebox Week 26, March 3, 2024

Good evening, Darlington Elementary School! We are live here at the “Bubble.” This is Alberta Porter, Danielle O’Neill, Reading Specialist, Stephanie Guzman, and fourth grader, Kaleb.

Darter Scholars -kindergarteners did a great job using Reading Superpowers while reading with their 4th grade pen pals.

DAES Tree Research Problem of Practice-we celebrate a group of students who have researched and determined 4 different types of trees to replace the 13 lost in 2020. They have presented their research to students, community members and have invited the community to donate trees for their tree planting ceremony in April.

SMART Watches of any kind are treated with the same expectations as those for cell phones. They must be off and inside backpacks. Please see the HCPS handbook for more details.

PTA –please volunteer to support the upcoming PTA walkathon. PTA extends a welcome to all for in person PTA Meeting in the Media Center, our next meeting is March 14 at 7 p.m.

PTA Spring Clothes Drive will run through March 14th – March 20th, at The Deer Creek Friend’s Carriage House see the uploaded flyer.

Kids Heart Challenge-Mr. Wilkinson sends a huge WAHOOOO! We achieved our goal of raising \$2,500.00 to support the American Heart Association.

Picture Day March 8, 2024-please see the flyer that will be sent home on Monday, March 4, 2004, for two different picture options, one will be the class picture and 1 will be for an individual picture, priced separately. Please note there will be two flyers sent home.

Growing Together as Readers – keep reading and tracking reading minutes and please turn in your February Reading Tracker to Mrs. Guzman. And another way to support reading, here is Mrs. Guzman.

Darlington Book Blast, BOOKS ARE FUN, began on Thursday. Attached, see the Treasure Map steps to start earning books and treasures.

When is sick too sick for school?-please read this important tool to help increase students’ attendance.

AND NOW.....it is time for the Corny jokes of the week!

Q: What falls during March but never gets hurt?

A: The rain.

Q: How do you know that bees are happy?

A: Because they hum while they work.

Have a Self-assured Sunday and a Marketable Monday.

Asynchronous Days

On January 22, 2024, HCPS learned that the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) approved our 2023-2024 School Year Virtual Day Instruction Plan, which requested the use of three (3) asynchronous virtual instruction days in the event of inclement weather.

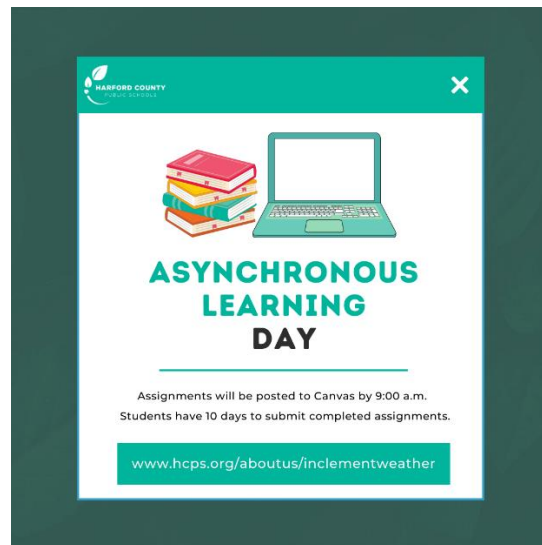
Following the approval of our virtual instruction plan, the next inclement weather day(s) will be utilized as asynchronous virtual learning day(s). When asynchronous virtual instruction is utilized, that information will be released with inclement weather communications.

At the direction of the Superintendent, all employees will be expected to work and/or be available for work during an identified asynchronous inclement weather day. Employees will remain virtual for their duty day unless given further direction by their supervisor. Here is the link to the staff FAQ with additional details: <https://www.smores.com/3rgmx1>.

This information will be shared with our community TODAY, Friday, January 26, 2024, via Mass Notification communications (call, text, email) and on social media.

Staff, students, and families may visit the [inclement weather page](#) on hcps.org for more information about virtual learning days, including FAQs, resources for Canvas, and more. This page will be updated regularly with additional information; please check it often during this season.

For easy reference for our entire community, when the school system is utilizing a virtual instruction day, the following graphic will be shared on social media.



Chromebook Covers-In the next few weeks, students will be receiving county issued cases for their Chromebooks to help protect the Chromebook from damage. The cases will be put on at school. These cases are to remain on the Chromebook AT ALL TIMES and not removed. Only these county issued cases can be placed on Chromebooks (no personal cases if they were previously purchased). Additional stickers and/or labels may NOT be placed on the cases. Thank you!



School Spirit Days: please see below for upcoming spirit days:

School Spirit Days – March - June

Reading Month Activities:

March 1st- **Read Across America Day** (Wear red, white, and black or Dr. Seuss attire)

March 6 **Wordy Wednesday** (Wear a Word on your shirt)

March 8 **Dress to Impress** (Wear Red Carpet Day dress nice)

March 12 **Wacky Sock Day** (Wear Socks Day)

March 15 **Cozy up with a Good Book** (Wear PJs and bring a flash light to school)

March 18 **Reading is "Super Fun"** (Wear Your favorite Super Hero shirt)

March 21 **Book Character Day** (Dress up as your favorite Book Character)

April 2 – Autism Awareness Day – wear blue

SC - April 19 - Workout Day

SC - May 10 - Beach Day

***SC – Identified by Student Council**

Reminders:

Student Lunches-we continue to promote wellness and healthy choices. We encourage you to help your child pack healthy options. Recently, we have seen cookies only in lunches which does not qualify as a lunch. We thank you for working with your child.

Chromebook Covers-The school district will be applying covers to all Chromebooks. Please see, below, the expectations for the covers.

Winter Weather -While students may not want to wear a coat when leaving home, it is important that they at least have one in their backpacks for possible emergency building exits or recess.

Dental Care: Please see the affordable dental cleaning attachment.

From the Office-just a reminder to notify us if your contact information changes, that means cell numbers and addresses (both house and email).

SMART Watches of any kind are treated with the same expectations as those for cell phones. They must be off and inside backpacks. Please see the HCPS handbook for more details.

Absences-please remember to submit vacation requests 10 school days prior to the trip in order for the vacation to be approved as a lawful absence. All absences require a note to the school.

From the School Counselor-Mrs. Mussini- From Mrs. Mussini, Our School Counselor: Through the generosity of community partners, we have many coats available. If you are in need of the following sizes, please contact Mrs. Mussini at 410-638-3700.

- Girls & Boys 5/6
- Girls 7/8
- Girls & Boys 10/12
- Girls & Boys 14/16

Also, as always, I am here for your child and your family. If I can be of assistance in any way, please do not hesitate to reach out to me!

DARLINGTON ELEMENTARY PTA MEMBERSHIP

We encourage each family to join the PTA. Your \$10 membership fee per person gives you a voting voice in the PTA. Even if you don't plan to attend meetings, we encourage you to become a member as a way to continue the PTA efforts at your child's school. Please complete the membership form below and return it to the school with your child by **September 29th**. You can also join and pay online with MemberHub: <https://darterspta.memberhub.com/store> *Note there is a small transaction fee online*



Being part of your child's PTA is an opportunity contribute to your child's school experience. We welcome each of you to be involved in a way that works with your schedule. We appreciate all levels of help! Involvement brings a sense of accomplishment, appreciation for the events at school, camaraderie, friendship and an opportunity to learn new skills and share your talents!

Please plan to attend our next PTA Election/Meeting on Thursday, September 7th at 7pm at Darlington Elementary School. If our facilities request is not approved the meeting will be at Francis Silver Park instead.

For questions about the PTA, contact DAES PTA via email darlingtonelempta@yahoo.com

***Please detach below & return to your child's teacher by Sept 29th. THANK YOU!
Membership cards are sent by email – please provide a unique email for each member!!***

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Darlington Elementary School PTA 2023-2024 Membership Application

Please provide the names of each parent or caregiver to be included in the membership. We also ask you to list the name of each child attending Darlington Elementary School.

Member Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Is this Member willing to Volunteer to Support PTA Activities YES NO

Member Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Is this Member willing to Volunteer to Support PTA Activities YES NO

Enclosed is \$ _____ (Please include \$10 for each adult member. Make checks payable to DAES PTA)

Your Darter's Name(s)

Student Name _____ Grade _____

Student Name _____ Grade _____

Student Name _____ Grade _____