



MOUNT SAVAGE NEWS

May/June 2025

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



HAPPY SPRING ! Although the school year is speeding by, we still have a lot going on!

May 28th is our Music Recruitment Tour, and 4th Grade field trip

June 2nd is our celebratory Luau

June 3rd is our summer lunchbox kickoff

June 6th is 5th Grade DARE Graduation

Last Day for students is June 10th

PARENTS POINTS TO PONDER –

The recent deaths across our country, combined with hundreds of reported lung injury cases continue to intensify causing alarm for the health and safety of those who are using vaping products. The deaths appear to be the first mysterious lung illnesses now under investigation by state and federal health officials in connection to vaping—at least 193 cases in 22 states, many in teens and young adults, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

If you or a loved one is vaping—PLEASE STOP

Until the cause of vaping related an irreversible lung damage and deaths can be determined. Your life may depend on it.

TITLE 1 PARENT/FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

Parent/family engagement is an important factor in the academic success of students. This plan describes how the Allegany County Public Schools will plan and support programs, activities and procedures for involving parent/families in all schools with a Title 1 program. The policy is also posted in our school and is on the Alegany County Public Schools' website: www.acpsmd.org

Creative Arts

Students are finishing up art projects based on value. The art element value is described as the lightness or darkness of a color or an artwork. Students are working in paint, scratch board and pencil. We are proud of the progress and creativity displayed this year in elementary art.



YEARBOOKS!

Middle School Yearbooks will be distributed to students on June 6th! There will be a very limited number available for purchase at a cost of \$35. Please see Miss Clarke before June 6th to guarantee getting a copy!

Pre-K News!

Ms. Skidmore and Mrs. Amy's Pre-K class had a wonderful holiday season! We had another Story time with Ms. Stacey from the Allegany County Public Library. She read lots of festive stories and we had fun doing some movement dances! We also had our Raising a Reader kick off event with a Gingerbread House building day. Parents were invited and we created lots of delicious houses! Lastly, we ended our holiday fun with the Christmas concert and the PBIS Christmas activities. We performed a scarf routine to the Nutcracker Suite. For the PBIS fun, we had a snowball fight and stacked green and red cups to create a Christmas tower. We are looking forward to a fun January with another visit from Ms. Stacey and Mis Misty from the public library as well as some wintertime snow activities. Thanks for reading about all the fun activities happening in Pre-K!

Kindergarten

Kindergarten is excited to finish our school year with a lot of exciting activities! We went on our Rocky Gap field trip last week and we had so much fun! We are looking forward to our fun day with our friends. We are finishing reading and math next week! Our kindergarten friends are becoming such great beginning readers and we are so proud of them! As things are coming to an end, we would like to say thank you for all of our students' hard work in kindergarten. We hope everyone has a wonderful and safe summer.



First Grade!

Wrapping up First Grade!

We can't believe we are almost finished with our first grade year and getting ready to move upstairs to second grade! We have been working hard on our end of year tests in reading and math. We are finishing up our Frontier Explorers reading unit and reading our fun stories about Kay and Martez. We are finishing up math by reviewing all the skills we have learned this year and preparing for second grade math. In health we are learning about healthy habits to take care of our minds and bodies and how to be safe. Please remember the most important activity to do over the summer to be ready for second grade is to **read, read, read**, at least 20 minutes each day. Visit the local libraries to find some great books to enjoy over the summer. We wish everyone a safe and fun-filled summer!

Second Grade

We are so excited for summer! Enjoy the break. Be sure to read and practice math facts to be ready for third grade!

Third Grade

Just like that—*boom*—the school year is a wrap! Mr. A and Ms. Blacka are low-key devastated (and also maybe a little ready for a nap). We crushed multiplication and division, became expert readers, and got our science on with biology and earth science. We even visited Frostburg, where we met the *actual* mayor and learned how a city runs, and rode the rails on the Western Maryland Scenic Railroad. Oh—and we took the MCAP for the first time and totally showed it who's boss.

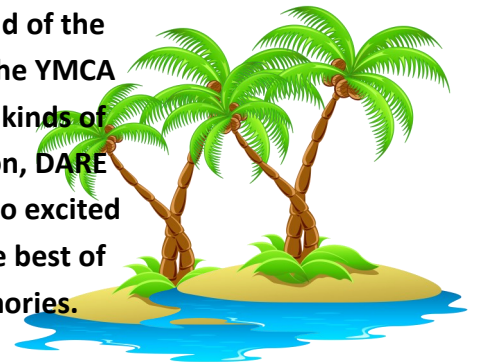
It's been a year of learning, growing, and maybe losing a few glue sticks. Mr. A and Ms. Blacka will miss their amazing classes and hope everyone has an epic summer—and an even better 4th grade. You've earned it!

4th Grade

Wow! Where has the school year gone? Fourth grade is preparing for a very busy last few months of school. MCAP, a Luau, field trips, and fun days are all in our near future. Students have been working hard to master all of those fourth grade skills before the end of the year. We have been busy learning all about fractions in math. Our fraction unit covers many skills from comparing fractions to adding and subtracting mixed numbers to multiplying fractions by a whole number just to name a few. In ELA we are beginning our unit on The American Revolution which also double dips into our Social Studies standards. And in science, students have been completing experiments to learn how weathering and erosion occur in nature. We are also looking forward to our field trips

5th Grade

Hello fifth grade families! We have been very busy in fifth grade as the end of the year approaches, but we are having lots of fun! We recently traveled to the YMCA for our final field trip, where students went swimming and got to play all kinds of fun games! We are also gearing up for a wonderful MCAP Luau celebration, DARE celebration, and school fun day to end off the year with a smile! We are so excited for our students as they move on to middle school, and we wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors. We have had a wonderful year full of memories. Happy Summer!



6th Grade

Sixth graders are currently learning about the following:

- In science class, students are exploring body systems and cells. Students will be viewing dissections and looking at medical images/diagrams to learn about parts of the body. They will also be using microscopes to explore different types of cells.
- In English Language Arts, students have begun the unit, "Surviving the Unthinkable", and have been considering the question, "What does it take to be a survivor?" The unit includes selections about the civil war in Sudan, the sinking of the Titanic, and the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans. For the most part, sixth-grade students seem to enjoy survival stories and are great fans of the *I Survived* book series, so this has been a high-interest unit.
- In Math, we will be finishing up with a unit on statistics. This will consist of graphing and analyzing the data for measures of central tendency; finding the mean, median, mode, and the mean standard deviation. At the conclusion of this unit, students will begin a few 7th grade math concepts to better prepare them for next year.
- In Social Studies, students learned about Ancient China and the Terracotta Army as well as ancient civilizations in India and some of the world's major religions that began there. More recently, students have been studying climate change issues and its effects on various issues around the world, from the Alaskan and Canadian Arctic to the islands of The Maldives in the Indian Ocean.

SEVENTH GRADE

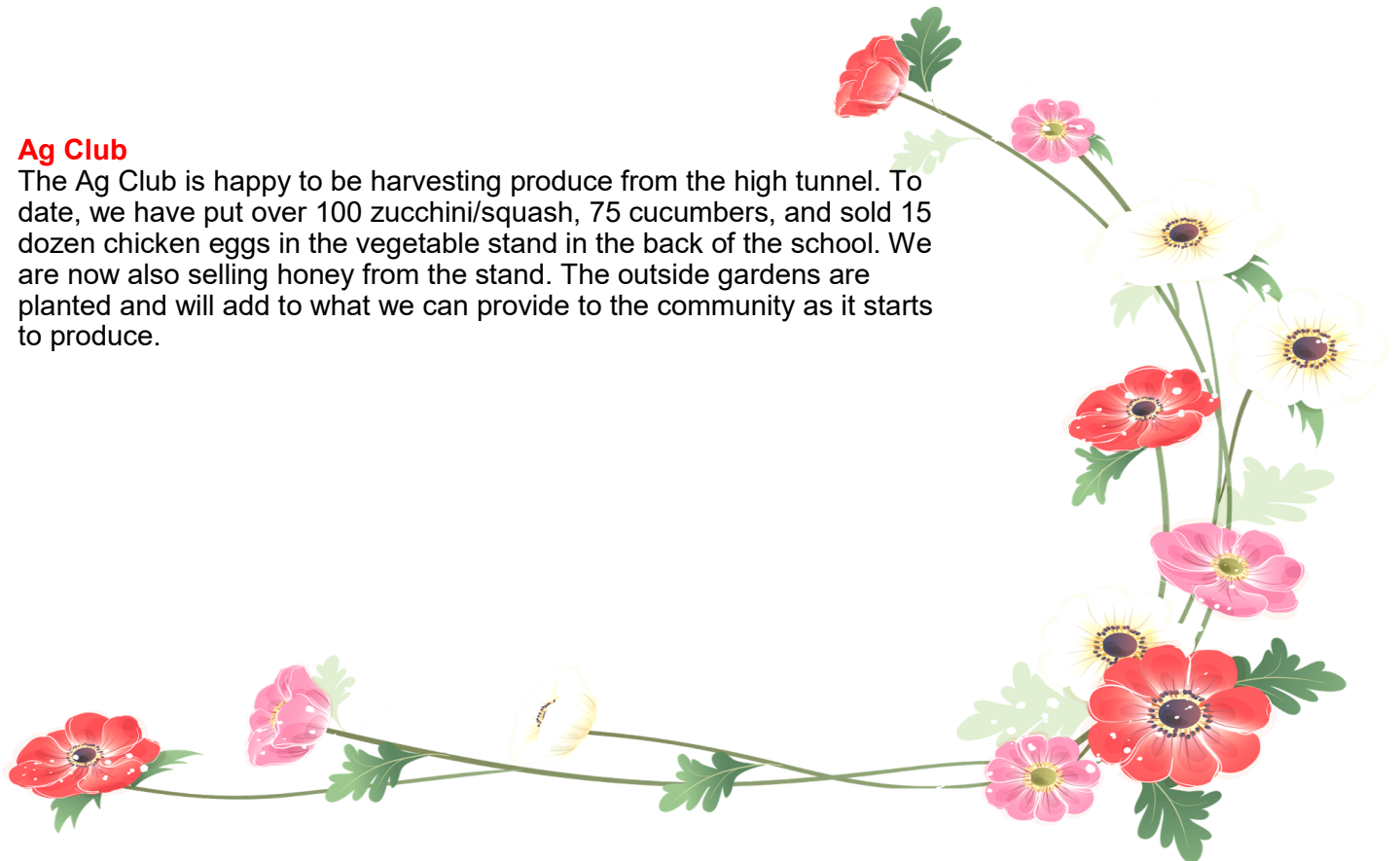
Seventh grade students had a fun day on May 12th when they were able to participate in a number of JTF activities. This event was organized by the 7th grade team to show our appreciation for a great year of school. Students are completing end of year projects and testing and will soon be enjoying a well deserved summer break.

8th Grade

The end of the school year is a very busy time for the eighth grade students. They will visit the Career Center for Technical Education (CCTE) on Wednesday, June 4. This is a wonderful opportunity to explore all of the great programs CCTE has to offer. On Thursday, June 5, is the 8th Grade Hershey Park field trip and Friday, June 6, is the 8th grade social in the afternoon during periods 9 and 10. Mark your calendars!

Ag Club

The Ag Club is happy to be harvesting produce from the high tunnel. To date, we have put over 100 zucchini/squash, 75 cucumbers, and sold 15 dozen chicken eggs in the vegetable stand in the back of the school. We are now also selling honey from the stand. The outside gardens are planted and will add to what we can provide to the community as it starts to produce.



May is the month of MCAP, and Mount Savage has gone Hawaiian! There's no missing the amazing tropical decor decking the school thanks to COP funds and the efforts of students, staff, and our amazing PTA volunteers. Despite the flooding and delays, testing has been successfully completed; with elementary students kept energized by snacks donated by the PTA with assistance from COP funding.

Kicking off a month of Island fun, we hosted the Title I Island Learning event, with COP funds expanding the event with more fun, food, and learning. Students chose from a selection of Hawaiian themed books curated by Main Street Books. Staff hosted activities for kids and parents, offering families insight into Title I, MCAP, and the math and ELA curriculum. Mrs. Deshaies and Ms. Welling were on hand to provide mental health tips and resources for the summer months. While island beats played on our new portable speakers, Hawaiian Barbecue skewers and snow cones from Cafe Oasis were served in the cafeteria.

Mount Savage loves the outdoors, and COP funding has been used to create spaces for learning and the community. Our first pavilions and sheds have been completed. We've ordered tables to accommodate 32 students at the playground pavilion and 72 at the upper pavilion. The playground shed is being equipped to accommodate the needs of our Green School gardeners and of course, new recess equipment.

The tools housed in the playground shed are going to see a lot of use thanks to Mrs. Nolan's efforts to make our Elementary a Green School. Our native plant pollinator garden has been tilled, the fence is going up with help from our Middle School CREW, and students are planting as weather allows. Bins, bags, and other needs have been purchased to make sure our recyclables get to the right place.

Of course, no one's going to remember May of 2025 without mention of the floods. Mount Savage has been working with the community school coordinators in the George's Creek area, especially Westmar, to direct community resources to where they'll be of most assistance. COP funding and partnerships allowed us to provide additional resources to some of our families in Mount Savage, as well.

Community School activities won't stop when the students go home. We've been working with the Frostburg Summer Lunchbox Program and the many community partners involved with that endeavor to bring lunches for kids to Mount Savage. ACPS will be providing meals, funded by the USDA's SUN bucks program. Volunteers will pick the meals up from Beall elementary and bring them to Mount Savage for distribution at Mountainside Ministries. On July 15, we'll be inviting an author, food truck, and community partners for a doggone fun event. On August 15th, we'll have the always-popular Splash Party at the Frostburg pool.

