Good evening, Catonsville Middle School Families!

This is the Monday Message for December 20, 2021.

Thanks to everyone for their flexibility with our early dismissal due to the water issues today!

BCPS Calendar Change:

Thursday, December 23, 2021, will now have a three-hour early dismissal. CMS students will be dismissed at 12:00 and Winter Break will begin. Schools will reopen on Monday, January 3, 2022!

Masks are a Must:

According to Baltimore County metrics, COVID numbers are on the rise. It is imperative that students come to school with a well-fitting mask, and that these masks remain up over their mouth and nose at all times except during lunch when they are eating. Please know that expectations for masking are addressed in the BCPS Student Handbook, and students will be held accountable if they refuse to wear their mask appropriately.

Please encourage your child to keep track of their mask, even when they head outside during lunch. Tucking an extra into their backpack would be helpful! Thank you to the kind CMS family who brought by a box of masks last week!

Winter Spirit Week:

We are in the midst of our Winter Spirit Week! Tomorrow is Character Day, and students can dress as their favorite winter character. Ms. Chame Martinez said something about Olaf?? Click on the attachment below for themes for Wednesday and Thursday!

Donations Accepted!

The NJHS (National Junior Honor Society) and BTM (Boys to Men) are joining forces to make a difference. We have sponsored the Westside Men’s Shelter and are providing much need supplies. There are cardboard boxes advertise throughout the building and we would love for your child to bring in donations! Every little bit helps!

Interested in GT Art?

Eighth Grade GT Art applications are currently being accepted. Current 7th grade students who are interested in GT 8th Grade Art should review and complete the application packet as well as submit their artwork by January 21st. See the attached letter with requirements.

After School Clubs and Activities:

Beginning this Wednesday and continuing through January 7, all after school clubs and activities will be cancelled.
A Message from the School Counseling Office:

Students as we will be off for winter break for the next few days, please remember that your school counselors will not be available while school is closed. During the school day, if you need to talk with someone you may reach out to your school counselor during school hours. However, after school hours, during school breaks or on the weekend, your counselors will not be available. Any message that you send to your school counselor outside of school hours will be read during the next school day and your counselor will respond to you within 24 hours (during the school day). Below is a list of contacts that may help you.

Remember- if you, or someone with you, is in serious danger - call 911 immediately!

1. Baltimore County Crisis Response: 410.931.2214
2. Crisis text line: Text the word "HOME" to 741741 for free 24-hour support
3. Maryland Suicide and Crisis Hotline: 1.800.422.0009
4. National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1.800.273.TALK (8255)
5. United Way: 211
6. Baltimore County DSS: 410.887.TIME
7. The Trevor Project: 1.866.488.7386 or text START to 678678
8. Maryland Food Bank: 410.737.8282

If you are not in danger but are feeling a bit overwhelmed or stressed, here is a resource you can use to cope with strong emotions, click here: First Try This

James Webb Space Telescope Launch:

We are eagerly anticipating the launch of what has been termed NASA's "flagship" observatory - the James Webb Space Telescope (JWST or Webb). This 8-minute video highlights the feats of engineering and the 300 single-point failures of getting Webb launched, UNFOLDED!, and into its orbit 1 MILLION miles from Earth. This project has a lot of Maryland connections. The Space Telescope Institute in Baltimore will ultimately control the telescope once in position and much of the design and construction took place at Goddard Space Flight Center in Prince Georges County. These are very exciting times for science in Maryland!

Live coverage of the launch - scheduled for 7:20am on Wednesday, December 22nd - will air on NASA TV, the NASA app, and the NASA website. #gowebbgo

Web Links 29 Days on the Edge

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uUAvXYW5bml

Lost and Found:

Jackets, lunch boxes, and water bottles, oh my! Please have your child check out the lost and found in the cafeteria for missing items. Another donation will be going to Good Will before the winter break.

Parent Identification:

Our new RAPTOR system is now up and running. If you come in to pick up your child for early dismissal, please bring your ID with you! Thank you!

We wish all of our families a warm, wonderful winter break!