<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<td>Winter Concert: Grade One - 6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>PTO Spirit Night: Deniro’s 4:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>PTO Meeting 7:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Winter Break</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Winter Break</td>
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Ms. Deidre Lynch  
Assistant Principal

Mrs. Charlene Behnke  
Principal

Mrs. Nitsa Stakias Zdziera  
PTO President
PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

We would like to thank all the parents and community members who visited Honeygo Elementary School during American Education Week. We celebrate the opportunity to showcase our wonderful staff and our students learning. We welcomed over 1,200 visitors to our school during the week! On Thursday alone, we hosted almost 500 grandparents and community members. Special thanks to our PTO for funding our shuttle bus and for the many parents who helped us over that week.

Thank you to all the parents who send your children to school each day and on time. This month we are highlighting the importance of school attendance. There are a few students who are beginning to have chronic attendance issues. A student who misses 9 or more days of school during the year is considered by the State of Maryland to have unsatisfactory attendance.

Research shows that compared to regularly attending students, chronically absent students receive lower grades and show less than expected learning gains. Please note that good attendance is a key reason that students are successful. It is important that the school receive a note from the parent when a child is absent. Notes for absences must be sent to school within five days in order to be accepted by the school.

Attached to this newsletter is a sheet labeled “Student Absence Notes” to help you to provide student absent excuses to our teachers when your child is out of school and additional information about the importance of school attendance.

Lawful Absences – Absences from school are lawful only under the following conditions:

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<tbody>
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<td>01</td>
<td>Death in Family</td>
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<td>02</td>
<td>Illness of the Child</td>
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<td>03</td>
<td>Court Summons</td>
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<td>07</td>
<td>Hazardous Weather Conditions</td>
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<td>08</td>
<td>Work Approved</td>
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<td>09</td>
<td>Religious Holiday</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>State Emergency</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Other Emergency</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Health Exclusion</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>Suspension</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Lack of Authorized Transportation</td>
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Please know that it is Maryland law that students attend school regularly. Absences for visits to other states or countries are considered unexcused. An attendance committee comprised of staff members and the school’s pupil personnel worker are closely monitoring all students’ attendance.

We wish everyone a very wonderful and exciting holiday season! See you back in school on January 2, 2020.

Charlene Behnke
Principal
**BUS SAFETY**
We are working to support a culture of kindness in school and on our school buses. Please support our efforts to maximize bus safety by discussing with your child the importance of

**POSITIVE BEHAVIOR ON THE BUS.**
We encourage you to ask if she/he is:
- demonstrating respect and kindness to the driver and fellow passengers?
- treating the bus and seats with care?
- being sure never to eat on the bus?
- talking quietly only to students seated close by and only about appropriate topics?
- keeping hands and bodies to himself/herself?
- avoiding any activities that could distract the bus driver from paying attention to driving?

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**
Colder weather is coming, but in physical education students have been working hard on their rope jumping skills and stamina. Students worked on their rope jumping coordination to earn ninja belts and head bands. Rope jumping is a great aerobic exercise that students can continue to practice year-round.

Honeygo Lanes will be coming to the Honeygo gymnasium during the month of December. Students will be enhancing their bowling skills by participating in a variety of games and challenges.

Fifth graders will be participating in a ballroom dance program the week of December 16th during their special area time each day. Thank you to our Honeygo PTO for supporting this program. Fifth graders will learn the leader and follower positions for the tango, cha-cha, merengue, and swing dances. Parents and guardians of fifth graders please be on the lookout for an information sheet regarding the program.

Thank you for your continued support of the Honeygo PE program. Please make sure your student is wearing their tennis shoes on their physical education day. If your student has an extra pair of tennis shoes that they can leave in their locker, that is a great back-up for days they may forget.

Remember, even though the weather is getting colder, participate in physical activity and exercise for 60 minutes every day. Make sure you capture your student’s activities (dance, soccer, hiking, etc.) and share your pictures and stories on Twitter using #HoneygoWellness.

Honeygo…..On the Run!!!!

Steve Ey (sey@bcps.org) and Zach Keesecker (zkeesecker@bcps.org)
Follow on Twitter @HoneygoPhysEd

**READING AT HONEYGO**
Our Honeygo thinkers have been using their strategies of making connections and visualizing. They are using these metacognition strategies across all subject areas. Our focus for November and December is on making inferences. In order to make an inference, we need to use prior knowledge and clues to infer and make meaning. It’s important for students to understand the various types of information they use to make inferences. This may include information presented in the text, or it may be background knowledge that a student brings to the learning setting.

There are many fun ways to practice making inferences at home:

1. **Play “what is happening in this picture”-** Find an interesting picture and have your child infer what will happen next.
2. **Watch Pixar Short Films-** You can find lots of titles on YouTube and TeacherTube. Watch these films to have your child make some inferences.
3. **Wordless Books-** These are great for making inferences about what is happening and promoting discussion. David Wiesner had many wordless pictures books. Having only illustrations and no text forces kids to carefully observe what is going on and notice small details in order to understand the story's meaning.

Amy Holland
Reading Specialist
Honeygo Elementary
COUNSELOR CONNECTION

We hope that everyone had a
Thanksgiving that allowed you to rest,
relax, and rejuvenate for the month to

come. December is here and it is always a
month that has fun activities but also added stress. Our
monthly counseling lessons for November focused on
conflict resolution. Students learned how to handle conflict
in a healthy manner and how to resolve conflicts peacefully.
Hopefully you received the lesson letter that was sent home
with your child after their class lesson. A special letter was
sent home before Thanksgiving to let parents know that
during the month of December the BCPS Counselor Core
Curriculum lessons focus on personal safety and decision
making. These lessons include age appropriate information
on body safety, neglect, and abuse prevention strategies and
highlight the importance of telling a trusted adult about
uncomfortable situations. We hope these lessons will help to
reinforce the information and strategies that you have
already given your children, and that your family can discuss
together the important information presented in these
lessons. Look for the parent letter that will come home after
each lesson, and we encourage you to use this information as
a starting point for safety discussions you will have with
your children. As always, please contact us if you have any
questions or concerns regarding the emotional health of your
children, wcarver@bcps.org or jconnolly2@bcps.org at 443-
809-8700. We wish you all a wonderful month and happy
holidays!

Volunteer Applications
If you haven’t completed the BCPS volunteer
application and training, please don’t wait
until later in the year if you plan to volunteer.
It takes several days to review the
applications, so they cannot be turned in the day you would
like to volunteer. Volunteers must complete a new
application each year for each school they would like to
support. Please send both your completed application and
training certificate to Mrs. Carver. After it is reviewed, your
name will be added to our Approved Volunteer list. Feel free
to contact Mrs. Carver if you have questions about the
application or training at wcarver@bcps.org or 443-809-
8606.

Parent Night Information Survey
Thank you to all the parents,
guardians, and grandparents who
participated in our survey during
American Education Week. We are totaling the responses
and will then be planning our first parent information night
of the year. This will take place in January, so look for more
information about the topic, date, and time. We will send
home a response form so you can sign up to attend.

HONEYGO GIVES BACK

Students in Honeygo Gives Back
have been very busy working on
several projects. The students
helped collect donations needed for
the Raise Craze Service Night, and
we want to thank everyone for their
generous donations. After counting
everything, more items were turned in, so our exact totals are
not known, but we do know we collected:

174 + Single Toothbrushes
123+ Travel Sized Toothpastes
31 Toothbrush and Toothpaste packs
732+ New and Gently Used Children’s Books
10+ boxes and 2 large plastic tubs of candy!

The club members worked hard helping at the Service Night
by assisting at each of the stations to help students complete
acts of kindness. Candy was bagged for the military, notes of
appreciation were written to community helpers and
veterans, bookmarks were made to put in the donated books,
and the “tooth” products were bagged with notes of
inspiration that were written for women at a homeless
shelter. We are now working on 4 projects that will be
completed by the holidays. First is the Food Drive, which is
going on now and continues until December 13th. The food
collected will be donated to the Community Assistance
Network, and it will be used to help families in Baltimore
County. A Giving Tree will be in the lobby starting on
December 2nd, and students and families are encouraged to
place new gloves, mittens, hats, scarves, and socks on the
tree for children and adults of all ages. All items need to be
on the tree by December 12th. The third project will be
students from Honeygo Gives Back delivering the items
from the Giving Tree to the Eastside Family Shelter at
Franklin Square. The students will make a craft with student
residents, read to the children, and play some games. Finally,
the members will be staying after school on December 17th
to wrap 250+ pairs of gloves for a local men’s shelter. Wow!
When all this is done, we will have earned that winter
vacation!!

We are very excited to be off to such an ambitious start, and
we appreciate your support. Without your help these students
would not be able to make the difference they want to make
in our community. Please see the attached flyer for more
information about the Food Drive and Giving Tree.

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¡Hola! ¡Saludos de la clase de español! The fourth graders are working hard on their proficiency! In fourth grade, students are learning about family, how to describe their personality and physical characteristics, and their likes and dislikes! Students have also started working on their online component of the Spanish program.

In fifth grade, we will begin our second unit that discusses foods and meals. Fifth-grade students have also started working on their online component of the Spanish program.

Are you looking to practice some Spanish at home? Ask your child to teach you what they learned in Spanish class each week!

¡Hasta luego!

HAVE A GREAT WINTER BREAK!
Honeygo Elementary School

ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

All Day. Every Day.

Baltimore County expects students to maintain satisfactory attendance at the state standard of 94% or higher, and defines chronic absenteeism as missing 10% of the school year. At Honeygo, attendance is a priority and our Attendance Committee meets monthly to look closely at the attendance of every student. Students who are absent more than 6% of the year to date are the focus of the committee’s attention.

Did you know?

Poor attendance in the first month of school can predict chronic absence for the entire year.

10 minutes late every day = 30 hours of missed instruction in a school year.

By showing up to school every day, students are developing a work ethic and preparing for future success.

Attending school regularly helps students feel better about school and themselves!

Research has proven a high correlation between regular school attendance and academic performance. Attendance is the key to high school graduation and college and career readiness. Students who regularly attend school are more likely to read on grade level, less likely to drop out of school, and more likely to graduate on time.

2019-2020 Information Calendar
Baltimore County Public Schools

A child who misses a day of school misses a day of learning. Although 2 days per month may not seem like a lot, it translates into 20 days per year or one month of school. Over the course of thirteen years of school, it translates into 260 days, or nearly 1 ½ years of school.
Things your child can miss in a typical school day:

* Phonics
* Whole group instruction
* Math
* Collaboration with peers
* Writing
* Modeling of skills done by the teacher
* Reading
* Collaborative conversations and discussions amongst peers
* Valuable instruction time which covers grade-level material in all content areas
* Being a part of daily routines
* Being a part of our classroom family
* Skills for both math and ELA that build upon one another
* Responsive small group instruction
* Whole and small group instruction during math and ELA
* Collaborative group work
* Daily graded assignments that can't be sent home to complete (math and ELA)
* Hands-on manipulatives that improve students' learning experience
* Graded assignments such as tests/quizzes
* Explicit whole group instruction

REMEMBER!

☐ Send your child to school every day.

☐ The school doors open at 9 AM and your child is late after 9:15 AM. Being late affects the start of your child’s day.

☐ If your child has a fever or is vomiting, please keep them home until they are 24 hours fever and vomit free. Contact Mrs. Kammann, the school nurse, if you have questions.

☐ ALWAYS send in a note for why your child is absent. If no note is sent, it is coded as an unexcused/illegal absence.

☐ Vacation is not an excusable absence. Please try to plan your vacations during days off in the school schedule.

☐ If your child is not wanting to attend school, please reach out to your child’s teacher and/or school counselor so they can help.
Honeygo Gives Back
Food Drive to Support C.A.N. (Community Assistance Network)

November 18 – December 13, 2019

What you can donate:
- Canned fruits and vegetables
- Pasta & Pasta Sauce
- Canned soups
- Cereal / oatmeal
- Juices
- Peanut Butter
- Tuna Fish
- Anything non-perishable

Please, no glass containers!

Place your donations in the collection boxes on the upper level of the Grand Staircase.

Honeygo Gives Back
Club Sponsor