



The Puma Blast



Short Pump Middle School: The School with P.R.I.D.E. and Heart
Vol. 3, Issue 5: October 8-12, 2018



This Week's Events

- October 8**
No School-Student Holiday
- October 9**
Pocahontas @ SPMS (Basketball, soccer, and tennis), 4:45pm
- October 10**
Pocahontas @ SPMS (football), 4:45pm
Mix It Up Day
- October 11**
(Basketball, soccer, and tennis) @ SPMS, 4:45pm

Mr. McAuley's Selfie of the Week



Have you picked up a good book recently? Your children have! Please ask them what they are reading. Pictured are students from Ms. Douthit's class.

Daily Announcements

Keep up-to-date with the daily school announcements! Click [HERE](#) to view them.

Looking to the Future

- October 15: TSA/VEX Robotics Parent Meeting 5:30pm in Rm #403
- October 16: IB Open House for current 6th graders
- October 17: Fundraiser Money Turn-in Date
- October 19: 8th Grade Mission Tomorrow Field Trip
- October 25: Picture Day (through gym classes)



Help Out Our School!

- Annual Fundraiser: the SPMS fundraiser is happening now!! See one of the below sections for more info.
- Link your Kroger Card to SPMS to help SPMS help our students!
- How to link your Kroger Plus Card:** 1) Visit www.Kroger.com/CommunityRewards and click Sign In. 2) Once logged in, select I'm a Customer/View Details. 3) Search for Short Pump Middle School by name. 4) Select Short Pump Middle School and click Enroll.
- Help our school by saving those **BOX TOPS**!! It's quick; it's easy, and it gives our students some great tools for learning!
Click on [THIS](#) to learn how!



6th Grade Parents and Students

Applications for the Moody International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program is now available in the school counseling office. An Open House will be held on October 16th at Moody Middle School from 4:30-5:30 p.m. and from 6:00-7:00 p.m. Applications are due to Mrs. Sharpe by November 16th. The writing prompt will be held on November 30th at Short Pump Middle School during the school day. More information about the program can be viewed [HERE](#). The flyer is [HERE](#)



The Sports Authority

If inclement weather is forecasted, the following link will be updated by 2 P.M. each day:
<https://tinyurl.com/spmssportsupdates>

Let's Keep It Safe, Pumas!

For the month of October, there will be various safety drills.

There will be:

- one fire drill
- a bus evacuation drill scheduled to occur before 10/16
- a tornado drill
- an earthquake drill currently scheduled for 10/18.

DRHS Band and Color Guard

Is your 7th or 8th grade child interested in the Deep Run Marching Band or Color Guard? Do they want to get a little taste of it now first hand? Students can play with the marching band or join the color guard on Friday, 10/12. Free Wildcat Band t-shirts for all students who join them! Check out the flyer for more information [HERE!](#)



and PowerSchool

Schoolology is the platform that Short Pump teachers use as their classroom management tool. Please visit the Short Pump website and click on the "Resources" tab to see the directions for the Schoolology Parent Portal.

You can now access your child's grades!

Be sure to keep abreast of all graded work. To create an account to view your child's grades, visit:

<http://henricoschools.us/powerschool/>

If you are not sure whether to go to PowerSchool or Schoolology, [CLICK HERE](#). If you need help with creating a parent Schoolology account, click [HERE](#).

Specialty Center Applications

It's that time of year! HCPS Specialty Center Applications for students entering 9th grade during the 2019-2020 school year (8th grade students) will be available online beginning November 19th! For specific information, click [HERE](#).



PTA Corner

-Enter this year's Reflections contest. The theme is "Heroes Around Us." Submission categories include: Dance, Writing, Photography, Film, Music, and Visual Arts. It's open to all students at SPMS! Contest winners will be announced before the Specialty Center Applications are due. Every student that enters will receive a lunch pass to eat outdoors! To learn more and to see the full rules, [CLICK HERE](#)

-When ordering pizzas, you can also help SPMS PTSA earn money by ordering from Papa Johns and using the promo code SPMS when you check out online.

School Fundraiser!!

The SPMS annual fundraiser is under way. Every order counts towards helping our school get white boards, smartboards, among other educational resources.

Encourage your child and family to get involved. Family and friends can also visit www.gaschoolstore.com and use school code 407775. Online sales also count. Visit [HERE](#) for more info. Turn in money on 10/17.

VEX Robotics

In conjunction with TSA, SPMS will be hosting a VEX Robotics club. Club meetings will be on Wednesdays from 3:15pm to 5:00pm starting October 24th. Deadline to register is October 19th. Information Flyers/Registration forms can be picked up in the main office or from Mr. Doolidge (Room 403). Please join us for a parent meeting on October 15th @ 5:30pm in the SPMS Cafe. This meeting will be a combination of TSA and VEX Robotics. Note: The original parent meeting on 10/9 is now on 10/15.



Get Involved

Calling all families: help us build real and authentic learning connections from the classroom to our community. Please fill out the following form to help us build a list of contacts with our community businesses. Our goal is to provide this list to our teachers as points of contact to bridge and build active participation with our students and the community we serve. Please fill out [THIS](#) form if you are willing to help our students with a real-world learning experience.

8th Grade Field Trip

8th grade students will have the opportunity to attend the Mission Tomorrow event at Richmond Raceway on 10/19. About 130 regional businesses and organizations will have booths with interactive activities designed to introduce students to a range of careers available in the Richmond region. Information and permission forms were sent home on 9/28 during Puma Den. Permission forms are due to their Puma Den teacher by Friday, 10/5. There is no cost for this trip. Click [HERE](#) for more info. Email Mrs. Brizendine if you have any questions: kmbrizen@henrico.k12.va.us.

Garden Club

Parents and students are invited to an SPMS Garden Club Cleanup Party on Saturday, October 13 from 10:00AM-2:00PM. We are seeking volunteers to help us clean up the old and rejuvenate the garden with some new features and fall items. We have several teachers with classes who are excited and anxious to use the space for some amazing projects and growing, but the space needs some love. If you have these items, please bring: wheelbarrows, shovels, rakes and pitch-forks. Even if you don't have the tools, bring yourself, personal water bottle and some enthusiasm for gardening. We look forward to seeing you out there! Please use [THIS LINK](#) to sign up. If you have questions, contact Ms. Hunter tmhunter1@henrico.k12.va.us or Mr. Cross (macross@henrico.k12.va.us).