



# PUMA BLAST



WEEK OF OCTOBER 26<sup>TH</sup>

## Virtual Parent/ Teacher Conferences

We will be hosting Parent Teacher Conferences on

**Monday, 11/2 from 3-6 PM.**

Office hours will close at 2:30 PM so teachers can prepare to greet parents beginning at 3:00 PM.

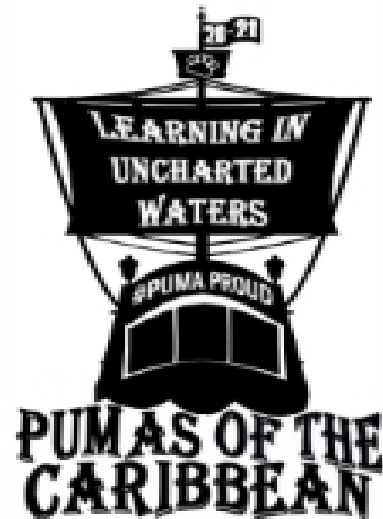
Link to sign up:

<https://www.ptcfast.com/schools/Short Pump Middle School 5>

[Parent Instructions](#)

## Henrico County Public School COVID-19 Resource

[Student Guide](#)



## Attention 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Families

**Specialty center application information can be found on this site: <https://henricoschools.us/specialty-centers/>.**

**Information sessions will be posted on this site on October 20<sup>th</sup>.**

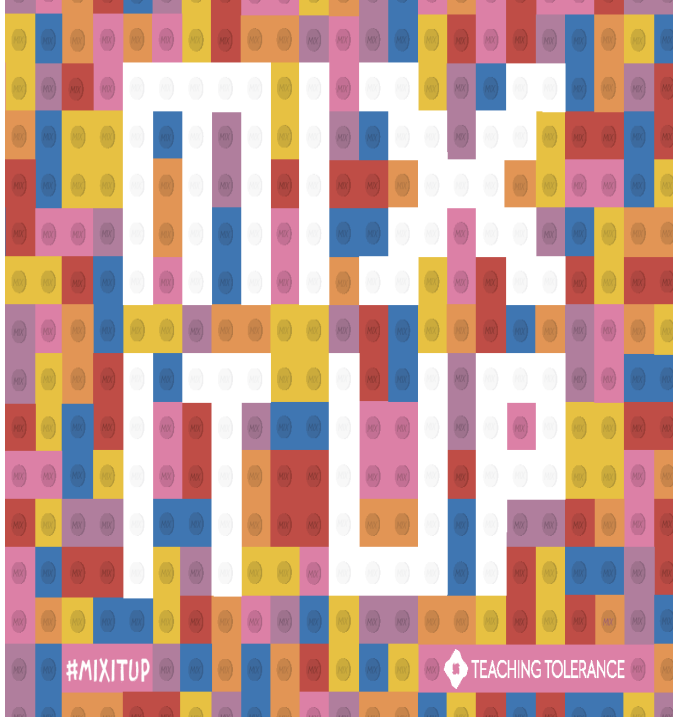
**The open house schedule is also located at that site and can be found by clicking this [link](#).**

**The first open house is this Monday, October 26<sup>th</sup>!**

**Henrico High School's IB Program chair has compiled some general resources that may be helpful that can be found at this [link](#).**

**Just a reminder, applications are not available until November 16th and are due January 15th!**

## Mix it Up Day



Students will be participating in a Mix it Up Day advisory activity on Friday, October 30th!

All students should log on to their normal advisory class that day. Their teacher will take attendance and give them instructions on joining a new class for the day!

Students will stay within their grade levels but will get to interact with a new group of students to brainstorm ideas to include in "School Pride Guides" for future new students!

We are excited to Mix it Up on October 30th!

Want to help create a post for SPMS social media?  
Use [this form](#) to submit!

Here are some of the hashtags we will be using:

- **#MotivatingPumas**--Posts/quotes to motivate Pumas
- **#MaintenanceMonday**--Pictures of C&M doing work around school
- **#MadScientistMonday**--Student/teacher results from experiments in science classes
- **#MusicMoments**--Video/pictures of students playing instruments
- **#TuesdayTreats**--Pictures of your lunch
- **#PumaCreations**--Showcase artwork from teachers/students
- **#WellnessWednesday**--Students/teachers staying active or practicing mindfulness

Want to know more?

Registration is now open

LET'S GO TO THE

# GALÁPAGOS

IN SUMMER OF 2021

Scan



Email Brock Snyder with questions  
bmsnyder@henrico.k12.va.us



## EARN CASH FOR YOUR SCHOOL

LITTLE BY LITTLE WE CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE.

The Box Tops mobile app uses state-of-the-art technology to scan your store receipt, find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to your school's earnings online.

DONT HAVE THE BOX TOPS APP YET? DOWNLOAD IT NOW:



### HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:



**BUY**

**BOX TOPS PRODUCTS**

You can find Box Tops on hundreds of products throughout the store.



**SCAN**

**YOUR RECEIPT**

Use the app to snap a photo of your receipt within 14 days of purchase.



**EARN**

**CASH FOR YOUR SCHOOL**

Box Tops earnings are identified and automatically updated online.



## Celebrate Red Ribbon Week® (October 23-31)

[www.redribbon.org](http://www.redribbon.org)



### Did You Know?

Children of parents who talk to their teens regularly about drugs are 42% less likely to use drugs than those who don't; yet, only a quarter of teens report having these conversations. Red Ribbon Week® (October 23-31), the oldest and largest drug prevention campaign in the nation, is your opportunity to get the ongoing conversation started. This year's theme is Be Happy. Be Brave. Be Drug Free.™ Visit [www.redribbon.org](http://www.redribbon.org) to learn more about Red Ribbon Week® and get tips for talking to your kids about drugs. The life you save may be that of your own child or a dear friend.

**Students will be participating in a Red Ribbon Week lesson and discussion on Monday, October 26th in advisory!**

Want a fun way to start or continue the conversation about drugs with your children AND have a chance to win an iPad? National Family Partnership is sponsoring a photo contest. This contest is free, simple and you could win an iPad and \$1,000 for our school!! Log onto [www.redribbon.org/contest](http://www.redribbon.org/contest) and find out more!

### HCPS Online Services

If you need assistance or information about HCPS online services, including PowerSchool and Schoology, please visit our online services homepage.

<https://henricoschools.us/online-services/>

Please find [attached a short video](#) that explains more about the site.

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Families



**All 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will be attending a virtual Mission Tomorrow field trip on November 12<sup>th</sup> 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM**

**More information coming soon!**



The SPMS library is OPEN and ready to serve our students and community by providing opportunities to READ, EXPLORE, LEARN, and SHARE. Our Virtual Library Learning Commons provides book check-out, book recommendations, book club and more. Students can participate in extra-curricular activities that provide the opportunity for exploring, learning and sharing through our 3d design club, maker challenges and more.

Check out the Virtual Library Learning Commons by visiting <https://shortpumpms.henricoschools.us/> and clicking on the library icon.

## Attention 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students

### Maggie L. Walker Governor's School Applications

Parents of 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who are eligible to apply to Maggie L. Walker Governor's School should have received a SchoolMessenger notification on October 14<sup>th</sup>.

[Please click here for more information](#)

If your 8<sup>th</sup> grader did not receive a notification but would like to be considered as an applicant due to special circumstances, please provide a letter of explanation to the Educational Specialist for Gifted Programs, Henrico County Public Schools, by November 4, 2020.

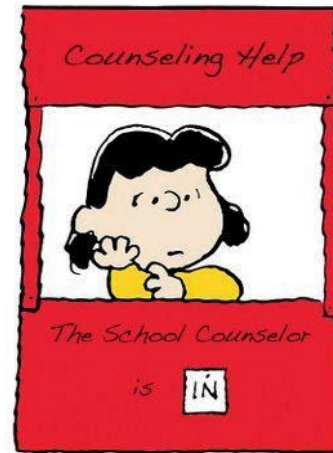
## Counselor's Corner

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor: Kellyn Gitomer**

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor: Jentae Mayo**

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Counselor: Heather Sharpe**

Check out the [SPMS Counseling Website](#)  
and our [Bitmoji Counseling Suite!](#)



### **Events:**

**October 23-31: [Red Ribbon Week](#)**

**October 28: [CodeRVA](#) Open House (Virtual 7:00 p.m.)**

**October 30: [Mix it Up Day](#)**

**November 2-6: Virtual College and Career Awareness Days**

**November 6: College Paraphernalia Day**

**November 6: Moody IB Applications Due (Available on Schoology October 5)**

**November 9: Informational session for students and parents at MLWGS 6:30-9:00 p.m.**

**November 16: [Specialty Center](#) Applications Available**

**December 1: Moody IB Writing Prompt for 6<sup>th</sup> grade student applicants**

**December 1: [CodeRVA](#) Open House (Virtual 7:00 p.m.)**

## Attention 6<sup>th</sup> grade Families

Beginning Monday, October 5, 2020 the Henrico County International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program application will be available in the Short Pump Middle School Counseling Course in Schoology.

Current 6<sup>th</sup> grade students and families who are interested should click on the folder entitled "6<sup>th</sup> Grade Resources". Once there, look for the "IB Application 7 2021-2022" folder. This folder contains information on the program, the application timeline, and the student application!

**Applications are due November 6, 2020.**

## HCPS will continue free school meals for all students through the end of the 2020-21 school year!

- Free meals are available to any child 18 or younger at all HCPS school locations and identified bus stops.
- Parents and guardians can pick up meals at any HCPS location regardless of where their student is enrolled.
- No student name or ID is needed to receive meals.

Distribution of free meals will take place at all schools.

- Monday through Thursday (Friday meals are distributed on Thursdays)
- 7:00 am – 9:00 am- Hot breakfasts (when available) and cold lunches
- 11:30 am – 1:30 pm- Hot lunches as well as cold breakfasts for the next day.

[Click here for more information](#)

Did you miss yearbook pickup?

Don't forget to swing by school and pick it up!  
Monday – Friday between  
8:00 am – 4:30 pm

If you did not purchase a yearbook but would like one simply stop by the main office with \$25 cash or check.

### SAVE THE DATE!

- Student Holiday Election Day  
Tuesday 11/3
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade only: Mission  
Tomorrow virtual field trip  
Thursday 11/12  
10:30 am – 12:30 pm
- Student Holiday-Diwali  
Last day of Quarter One  
Friday 11/13
- Thanksgiving Holiday  
Wednesday 11/25 – Friday 11/27
- Winter Break  
Monday 12/21 – Friday 1/1