

The Waterloo Wildcat

[En Espanol](#)

February 20, 2026

Dates to Remember:

February 23- Class and group picture day!

February 23- PTA General Hybrid Meeting; 6:30pm

March 2- Kindergarten and New First Grader Registration begins

March 3- School closes 3 hours early; student dismiss at 12:55pm

March 4-12- Waterloo's Book Fair!

March 5-6- Waterloo's Dental Clinic (new date)

March 5- PTA Game Night

March 9- Pre-K Registration begins

March 11- PTA Restaurant Night: Raising Cane's

March 17 - Individual Spring Picture Day!

March 20- School is closed.

March 23- PTA General Hybrid Meeting; 6:30pm

March 26- PTA BINGO Night (corrected date)

March 30-April 6- Spring Break. School is closed

April 15- School is closed.

April 20- PTA General Hybrid Meeting; 6:30pm

April 23- STEAM Fair; 6:30pm

April 25- Waterloo's Carnival! 2pm

Waterloo's Kindness Cupboard is off to a Great Start!



Thank you so much to everyone who has already donated to our Kindness Cupboard! We are delivering food to our first few families! Please keep your generous donations coming! You're already making a difference!

Volunteers for Class Picture Day (2/23) & Individual Picture Day (3/17) are Needed!

Waterloo is looking for Parent Volunteers on Monday, February 23, to help transition students to and from class pictures. Waterloo also needs help on Tuesday, March 17, with transitioning between individual Spring pictures. If you are available to help and have completed the mandatory volunteer training, please sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E094CACAD22A7FA7-62424354-class>

Class and Individual Picture Days are Coming Feb. 23rd and March 17th!

Say cheese! Students will take class and group pictures on February 23rd! Individual spring pictures will take place on March 17th!

Families can order pictures now! Please follow these directions:

- Go to: www.strawbrudge.net
- Click "Order pictures and yearbooks"
- Enter the code: FM483231 and click "find" to order

Registration is open now for Girls on the Run!

The season runs - week of March 16 to the week of June 1 with the season ending 5K on May 30th! Practices are held Tuesdays & Thursdays 4:00-5:15 after school for students in grades 3-5
<http://www.gotrcentralmd.org/>

Our Book Fair is coming up!

Mark your calendars for March 4th through March 12th to browse and shop at our Scholastic Book Fair. We will have extended evening hours from 4:30-6:30 on March 5th at the same time as Family Game Night. Look for information coming home with your student with dates, times, and directions for setting up an eWallet for your child to shop at the fair. Happy Reading!

Restaurant Night is Wednesday, March 11th, 4-9pm at Raising Cane's

Join us for our next PTA Restaurant Night at Raising Cane's! They will donate 15% of all their sales on March 11th when you present the flyer or enter the code: RCFUND96 online. Please see [the flyer!](#)

Our Dental Clinic has been Rescheduled

The Waterloo Dental Clinic originally scheduled for 1/29/26 and 1/30/26 has been rescheduled for March 5th and 6th 2026. All students who were registered for our January clinic will still receive dental care at school on the new dates. Parents can continue to register students for in-school dental care up until March 1st using the following link:
https://www.myschooldentist.com/WEHCMD_schsrn

SAVE THE DATE!

HCPSS Kindergarten and New First Grader Registration begins Monday, March 2, 2026 and Pre-K Registration begins Monday, March 9, 2026!

Coming Soon! Learning Together Program Applications!

The Waterloo Early Childhood Classes are making preparations for the upcoming 2026-2027 school year. Beginning in mid February applications for general education students to participate as peers through the Learning Together Program (LTP) will become available. These classes include general education and special education students. The program's focus is helping all children develop communication, literacy, math, problem solving, motor, and social skills. Parents of children who will be 3 by September 1st, may apply.

In alignment with [Maryland's Blueprint for the Future](#), new applications for students turning 4 by September 1 are not available. The Howard County Public School System continues to offer Prekindergarten for income eligible children who will be 4 years old by September 1. For additional information contact the school or visit: <https://www.hcpss.org/schools/pre-k-programs/>

HCPSS 2026 Family Academy Conference

HCPSS families are invited to attend the 2026 Family Academy Conference on Wednesday, March 4, 2026, from 5:30–8:30 pm at Long Reach High School. This free, districtwide event brings families, educators, and community partners together for an evening of learning, connection, and support. Families can enjoy a light dinner, a community resource fair, interactive workshops focused on academic achievement and well-being, and free childcare. Workshops will include topics such as college and career readiness, special education supports, curriculum updates, and hands-on learning strategies for use at home. Interpretation services will be available. Register online: [English](#), [Español](#), [中文](#), [한국어](#)
Flyers are available in [English](#), [Español](#), [中文](#), [한국어](#)

HCPSS Special Education Parent Resource Fair Information!

Saturday, March 14, 2026 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at the Cedar Lane School

The HCPSS Special Education Resource Fair provides families with information available from the community and HCPSS to support their students receiving special education and related services. Get connected to: Services within HCPSS, Recreational Activities, Camps, Community Groups, Service Providers, Transition Information, Assistive Technology, Behavioral Health, Howard County Government Resources, and Much More!

We'll have several activities for children! For information, please contact FSRC@hcpss.org. Registration is not required. This event is part of the HCPSS Parent Empowerment Series including training sessions related to special education and events for families of students with an IEP or IFSP.

Understanding Speech and Language Development in the Elementary Years

Monday, March 23, 6:30-7:30 p.m., virtual event [link here](#)

This workshop is designed for parents and caregivers who want to better understand speech and language development in children ages 5–11. The workshop will address topics including what typical speech, language, and communication skills look like during the elementary school years, where to turn if you have concerns, as well as online resources available to families.

[Registration is required.](#)

Join us for the HCPSS Family Empowerment Academy!

The [HCPSS Family Empowerment Academy](#) is designed to equip parents and guardians with practical strategies, resources, and insights to support their children's academic, social, and emotional success. The academy will take place on four consecutive Saturdays- March 7 through March 28, 2026, from 9:00-10:30 AM- and will feature interactive learning experiences, guest speakers, and opportunities to connect with other HCPSS families. Participation is limited to 30 participants, and registration is first-come, first-served. Attendance is encouraged for all four sessions. Language interpretation and childcare will be provided. Please complete the [application form](#) to be considered for participation.

Order Your 2025-2026 Yearbook Online!

Order Online at www.Strawbridge.net

Online Code: YB33686

1. Click Order Pictures and Yearbooks. Enter your Online Code.
2. Enter your name and email, then click Access Yearbook.
3. Enter your student's information, then click Submit Details.
4. Select your product and quantity. Click View Cart to proceed to checkout.

\$19 until 3/13 - early bird rate

\$25 until 4/10

The Kindness Cupboard is Here!

We are thrilled to introduce the *Kindness Cupboard*, a new initiative launched by our Student Support Team (SST) to ensure everyone in our school family has what they need to thrive. This resource will be stocked with non-perishable food items and essential household goods, available to all students and staff during school hours. We believe that by looking out for one another and removing barriers to basic necessities, we can foster a more supportive and caring environment for everyone. This program is rooted in compassion, dignity, and confidentiality. All items are distributed discreetly, with the goal of helping every child feel supported, safe, and valued.

We are currently accepting donations of non-perishable food items, including:

- Canned goods (soups, vegetables, fruit)
- Boxed meals and pasta
- Breakfast items
- Individually wrapped snacks
- Peanut butter and other shelf-stable items

Donations may be sent to school clearly labeled “Kindness Cupboard” or dropped in the Kindness Cupboard bin labeled outside within the vestibule. Every contribution, large or small, makes a meaningful difference in the life of a child.

Save the Date for Waterloo’s Spring Carnival!

We’ll see you Saturday, April 25th from 2-6pm! More details to come!

Have you Joined our PTA?

We have almost 100 families signed up for the PTA! If you haven’t signed up yet, please become a member now on our [PTA website!](#) Every member matters! Thank you for supporting your child(ren)!

Interested in getting more involved in the PTA? We are always looking for parents and families to help volunteer, join one of our amazing committees, or take on a leadership role. You can fill out our PTA Interest Survey:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf9jGNygf46PaTMnqnE1a1hmmDDE23sRDwIkRw9UXYYoZxWhw/viewform> or email ptawaterloo@gmail.com to let us know how we can best engage with you!

PTA News

Restaurant Night is Wednesday, March 11th, 4-9pm at Raising Cane's

Join us for our next PTA Restaurant Night at Raising Cane's! They will donate 15% of all their sales on March 11th when you present the flyer or enter the code RCFUND96 online. Please see [the flyer!](#)

It’s Time to Sign up for Waterloo’s Winter/Spring After School Enrichment Activities!

Please click [this link](#) to see all the great classes offered for students!

Thank You to Our Community Sponsors!

A huge thank you to our generous community sponsors for supporting Waterloo Elementary School! Please see our sponsors below:

[Bella Mia Pizza](#)

[Flagship Orthodontics](#)
[Abbotts Plumbing](#)
[Ricasa Automotive](#)
[Great Harvest Bakery & Cafe](#)
[Howard County Psychological Services, LLC](#)
[Jacobson Family Law](#)
[Peak Kitchen & Bath](#)

Their contributions help fund important PTA initiatives like Staff Appreciation Week and family events such as Back to School Night, Bingo Night, and the Spring Carnival! We encourage all families to show their appreciation by supporting these wonderful local businesses!

Interested in becoming a sponsor? Email us at WaterlooESfundraising@gmail.com for more information.

Stay Connected on Facebook

Stay up to date on school news, PTA events, and volunteer opportunities by following us on [Facebook!](#)  Follow and “like” our posts to help us reach more Waterloo families! Every like, comment, and share helps spread the word!

Calling all Local Businesses!



 **WATERLOO ELEMENTARY**
PTA

**BECOME A
COMMUNITY
SPONSOR**

Support our School - Build Community - Promote your Business

Join us in making this school year great!
Become a community sponsor to gain great marketing exposure for your business with hundreds of families that live, work, play, and shop in Howard County. Our PTA serves over 700 students.

Waterloo Elementary School PTA is a non-profit organization so your donation is tax-deductible.

For more information email: WaterlooESfundraising@gmail.com

*thanks
for your
support*

Waterloo Elementary School PTA is looking for community sponsors for the 2025-2026 school year. Sponsorships help us fund critical school initiatives and in return, businesses will receive valuable marketing exposure to our amazing school community.

Do you own or love a business? Email us and we'll be in touch!

WaterlooESfundraising@gmail.com

Some Business Ideas:

*real estate agents

*cleaning services

*dentists or orthodontists

*beauty services

*plumbers

*mechanics

*family photographer

Lunch Volunteer Information

We are looking for parent volunteers to help during lunch! The role of a lunch volunteer is to support the Waterloo staff by assisting with tasks that help lunch run smoothly, such as opening food items, guiding students, and keeping the cafeteria environment safe and organized. Please note that this volunteer role is not intended for visiting or socializing with your child, but rather to provide valuable support to the school community as a whole. Please review [these guidelines](#) before you sign up.

[Click here to sign up.](#) Please note, we will not have lunch volunteers on half days and unplanned school closures or delays. Additionally, we want as many families as possible to have an opportunity to volunteer if they wish, so please be mindful of the number of times you sign up per week/month.

When you arrive for your volunteer shift, please sign in through the front office.

Please note, you must complete [required volunteer trainings](#) prior to your shift (Confidentiality Training and Child Abuse and Neglect Training) and print or email your certificate to:

Brooke.ONeill@hcpss.org

HCPSS Community News

In alignment with Howard County Board of Education, the following announcements have been approved by the Public Information Office for distribution. To view upcoming events click:

<https://community-programs.hcpss.org>