Mary H. Matula Elementary School
January 13, 2022

Dolphins' Cove

iReady Diagnostic Testing

Students in grades 1 – 5 will take a second *i-Ready* assessment in January. Below, you will find information about the program and how teachers use it in the classroom.

What is *i-Ready*?

i-Ready is an online program that will help us determine your child's strengths and areas for growth, personalize their learning, and monitor their progress throughout the school year. *i-Ready* allows us to meet your child where they are and provides us with data to inform instruction.

The *i-Ready Diagnostic* is an adaptive assessment that adjusts its questions to suit your child's needs. Each item a student receives is based on their answer to the previous question. For example, a series of correct answers will result in slightly harder questions, while a series of incorrect answers will yield slightly easier ones. The purpose of this is not to give your child a score or grade but to determine how to best support their learning.

When will your child take the test?

- Math Testing: January 18th and/or 19th
- Reading Testing: January 24th and/or 25th

What can I do to help?

To help prepare your child for the *i-Ready Diagnostic*, encourage them to:

- Get a good night's sleep and eat a full breakfast the day of the assessment.
- Try their best on each question and try not to rush.
- Try not to worry about questions to which they do not know the answers—remind them that it is expected that they will only get about half of the questions correct.
- Be respectful of other students who take longer to finish.
- Use paper and pencil to show work for math questions.

What happens next?

- The *i-Ready Diagnostic* will provide results that help identify your child's strengths and determine next steps for instruction. Results will be shared with parents when all students have completed testing.
- If you have any questions about *i-Ready*, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher. You can also learn more about *i-Ready* by visiting i-ReadyCentral.com/FamilyCenter.
- As always, thank you for your continued support and for being a partner in your child's learning!

Masks

Masks continue to be required for all staff, students and visitors to CCPS buildings. Daily, we have many students arrive without masks, which poses a hardship as the school's supply is limited. Please send your child with a mask and a spare daily. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

The Charles County public school system does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age or disability in its programs, activities or employment practices. For inquiries, please contact Kathy Kiessling, Title IX/ADA/Section 504 Coordinator (students) or Nikial M. Majors, Title IX/ADA/Section 504 Coordinator (employees/adults) at Charles County Public Schools, Jesse L. Starkey Administration Building, P.O. Box 2770, La Plata, MD 200646; 301-932-6610/301-870-3814. For special accommodations, call 301-934-7230 or TDD 1-800-735-2258 two weeks prior to the event. CCPS provides nondiscriminatory equal access to school facilities in accordance with its Use of Facilities rules to designated youth groups (including, but not limited to Boy Scouts).

Calendar of Events

January 17 - Schools and offices closed in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday

January 21 - Semester break - Schools closed for students

January 24-28 - College Awareness Week - Please see attached flyer

January 26 - 2nd Marking Period Ends

January 27 - 3rd Marking Period Begins

January 28 - 2-Hour Early Dismissal - Deep Dive into Self-Control - Wear BLACK today!

February 1 - Report Cards Posted

Emergency Contact Information

Please notify the main office should there be any change to your child's home address or contact phone numbers so that the information can be updated in our system.

COVID Exposure/Positive Case

Thank you to the many families who have made the school aware of COVID related student absences.

Should your student have a positive COVID exposure or test positive himself, please call the school office and speak to administration. School administration keeps track of exposures and positive cases and can assist families in knowing how to access student work during the quarantine period.

Dress for the Weather

Recess and physical education classes are part of our students' daily schedules. Students are able to go outside as long as the temperature is above 32 degrees. Please make sure your student is dressed for outdoor activities as well as temperature fluctuations within the building - layering clothing is suggested!

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college week

JANUARY 24 -28

MON	**DORM DAY** wear your comfy dorm clothes
TUES	**OUR FUTURE IS BRIGHT!** wear neon colors
WEDS	**COLLEGE SHIRT DAY** wear a college shirt or the colors of your favorite college
THURS	**DRESS FOR SUCCESS** dress for your future career
FRI	**OUR FUTURE STARTS HERE!** show your Matula spirit

Let's Deep Dive into Self-Control!

Wear BLACK on Friday, January 28th.

Self-Control: Choosing to do what you should even when you don't want to

Each month, we'll take a Deep Dive into our Daily Splash to learn more about our monthly character trait. We encourage you to dress in the color that represents our Daily Splash on our Deep Dive Days!