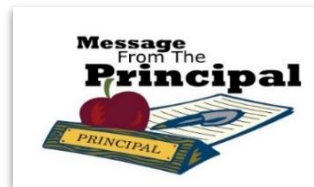




# RPCS February 2025

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## NEWSLETTER



Happy Black Love Month! Happy Black History Month! This month, we celebrate our love for each other and our love for the culture. At Roots, we celebrate Black people and our culture 365 days a year. We are happy to celebrate our elders and acknowledge the contributions of our ancestors that have come before us to lay the foundation of cultural pride. We have a lot of fun and educational activities planned for this month and hope that you can join us. This month, we honor Frederick Douglass who once said that *"power concedes nothing without a demand."* Let us keep that in mind as we find ourselves in a post-election. Let us be reminded that there is power in numbers and strength in unity. Together we can win!

~ Baba Tyshawn

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## BLACK LOVE SKATE PARTY FUNDRAISER

We are having our Annual Black Love Skate Party Fundraiser on Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup>.

Tickets may be purchased through the PAC President. Admission includes entry and skate rental. Family and friends are welcome to join us. We look forward to your support!



When: **Sunday, February 16, 2025**

Where: **Isaiah 58 Skate House**

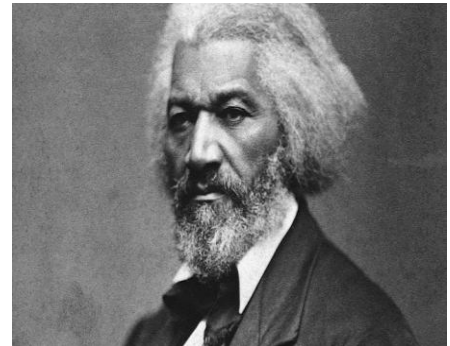
Location: **Temple Hills, Maryland**

Time: **10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

This month, we will commemorate the birth and lifetime work of **Frederick Douglass**. He was born on February 14, 1817. Although born into slavery in Maryland, he later obtained his freedom. Frederick Douglass was a noted orator, author, abolitionist, and the founder of a newspaper called "*The North Star*." He died in 1895. The Frederick Douglass Home, located in Anacostia (Southeast DC) became a national landmark & tourist attraction.



*"It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men."*

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We celebrate the birthday of our beloved ancestor, **Chloe Anthony Wofford Morrison**, known as **Toni Morrison**, born on February 18, 1931, in Lorain, Ohio. She has become one of the most celebrated novelists of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. In 1978, Toni Morrison won the National Book Critics' Award for "*Song of Solomon*" and in 1988 the Fiction Pulitzer Prize for "*Beloved*". In 1996, she was awarded a medal by The National Book Foundation for her contribution to American Letters.

*"If there's a book that you want to read, but it hasn't been written yet, then you must write it."*

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We will celebrate the birthday of our present-day hero, **Michael Jeffrey Jordan**, born February 17, 1963, also known by his initials MJ is an American businessman, activist, author, actor, and former professional basketball player. His biography on the official NBA website states: "By acclamation, Michael Jordan is the greatest basketball player of all time." He played fifteen seasons in the National Basketball Association (NBA), winning six NBA championships with the Chicago Bulls. Jordan is the principal owner and chairman of the Charlotte Hornets of the NBA and of 23XI Racing in the NASCAR Cup Series. He was integral in popularizing the NBA around the world in the 1980s and 1990s, becoming a global cultural icon in the process.



*"Never say never, because limits, like fears, are often just an illusion."*



## OUR ROOTS BIRTHDAYS

Godwill Ngon A Kowo – 2/1  
Mama Jasmine Holloway – 2/2  
Riley Summers – 2/2  
Baba Sadiki Hall – 2/4  
Reyna DeBruhl – 2/5  
Steven Jackson – 2/6  
Josiah Stegall – 2/7  
Egypt Williams – 2/13  
Kennedie Street – 2/13  
Koa Saunders-Goodson – 2/17  
Alayah Winstead – 2/26  
Khalise Easter – 2/26

**The Birthday Party will be held on Friday, February 28 at 3:30pm!**

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## HABARI GANI?!

*“What’s the News?”*

All students must arrive at school for field trips by 8:30am. If your child arrives after 9:00am, when the bus leaves, there is NO acceptance of the child for that day. Children cannot be left in the office or brought on the trip after the class leaves school. *Parents are not permitted to drive separately; all parents and students must ride on the bus with the school.*

- During the month of February – Grades 2-5 are currently working on their **Black History Research Projects** provided by Baba Darryl. The deadline is scheduled for March 1, 2025. Students must bring their finished projects to school on Monday, March 3, 2025.
- On Monday, February 3, 2025 – Kwanzaa Essay Contest winners will be announced. Distribution of prizes are forthcoming!
- On Thursday, February 6, 2025 – **Officer Tate and the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) will host a Black History Program** at the Kennedy Street location, starting at 11:00am.
- On Friday, February 7, 2025 – Grades KG-5 will attend a **Science presentation on “Electricity & Magnetism” with Baba Darryl** in the Multipurpose Room.
- On Thursday, February 13, 2025 – Roots will host its second **Open House Event** from 10am-12pm. We look forward to meeting all prospective families.
- On Sunday, February 16, 2025 – **Black Love Skate Party** (PAC-sponsored event) will be held at Isaiah 58 Skate House from 10pm-1pm. All family and friends are welcome to join us!
- On Sunday, February 16, 2025 – **Taratibu Youth Presentation** – Wawa Aba: Toughness & Perservance Show will be held at Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater (Kogod Theater). Tickets are now on sale. 2pm and 6pm showtimes.
- On Monday, February 17, 2025 – **SCHOOL CLOSED** (President’s Day)
- On Wednesday, February 19, 2025 – **HALF SCHOOL DAY**
  - Early Dismissal at 1pm. Please arrange for a timely pickup. Latecomers will receive a late fee notice after 1pm.
- On Friday, February 21, 2025 – Field Trip for Grades K-5 (*TBD – Tentative*)

# KWANZAA ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS

Congratulations to our Kwanzaa Essay Contest Winners for SY 2024-25... HARAMBE!!!

**1<sup>st</sup> Place**

**Blair Whittaker (5<sup>th</sup>)**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place**

**Hayal Samson (4<sup>th</sup>)**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place**

**Dakota Wren (4<sup>th</sup>)**

**Honorable Mention**

**Malachi Oji (5<sup>th</sup>)**

**1<sup>st</sup> Place**

**Kaleb Tensae (3<sup>rd</sup>)**

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## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Roots is working diligently to build our social media presence. Follow us on all platforms and feel free to spread the word. In addition, please check out our [upgraded website!](#)

Have any suggestions to improve our programming? Please stop by the front office to drop your thoughts in the suggestion box. We appreciate your unwavering support!



[@ROOTSPCS](#) (Twitter)



[@ROOTSPUBLICCHARTERSCHOOL](#) (Instagram)



[@ROOTSPCSDC](#) (TikTok)

Your feedback is very important to us.  
Please scan the QR code below to  
provide your feedback monthly!





## PAC ANNOUNCEMENTS

PAC meetings are scheduled for the last Thursday of each month. The next **PAC Meeting** will be held in-person on Thursday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. We will discuss upcoming events, questions, concerns, and ideas you may have in mind.

All committee chairpersons are required to attend the meetings, and all parents are encouraged to volunteer on **PAC** committees. Offer your skills; let us know your plans to help the school.

**NOTE:** On-site childcare will be provided. Light refreshments will be served!

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### *Special Thanks To:*

- All parents for donation of classroom supplies for both campuses.
- Mama Aliyah Davis for donation of sanitary supplies for Kennedy Street location.
- Mama Desiree Thompson for donation of ice cream for the students.
- Mama Breionia Showell for lending a helping hand on January 24.
- Baba Mark Wheatle for donation of breakfast pastries for staff at Kennedy Street location.
- Mama Lynette Monroe-Wilson and PAC Committee for organizing a Get-Well basket for Mama Ayo.

