

Central Elementary School Newsletter



March 2024

"Diving into Learning"

From the Principal:

Hello Central Elementary School Families-

The arrival of Spring brings a lot of excitement. For many of our students, sports are starting back up. Warming weather and Daylight Saving Time allow more opportunities for playing outside, and here at school we begin preparing for standardized testing. Amid all of this intensity and competition, it comes as no surprise that March is also the month that we highlight our favorite quiet time activity- reading.

So often, our discussions of reading focus on levels and skills. Especially this time of year, as we evaluate reading curricula and prepare for assessments, we're careful to consider fluency and comprehension, explicitly teaching text features and parts of speech. How timely, then, that March features Dr. Seuss's birthday and Read Across America week, as well as World Poetry Day and our Spring Book Fair. Toss in some rainy spring days and you've got a great month to remember not just the value, but also the joy of reading. March arrives just in time to remind us that reading is so much more than just a subject. It's a pleasure- maybe even a passion.

This month, consider finding ways to remind your child that reading isn't always something we *have* to do- it can be something we want to do. Help them find a book they love at our book fair, or at some of the wonderful Public Library events listed below. Invite them to think of reading as a potential retreat from the intensity of their other activities. And don't forget that one of the best ways to encourage children to read for pleasure- a habit that is shown to have multiple long-term benefits- is for them to see their parents doing the same. So as you find yourself caught up in the excitement of spring, remember that slowing down and picking up a book for yourself isn't just enjoyable- it might be life-changing.

All the Best,
Mr. Thompson

Important Dates:

March 7th: 6-6:30pm Middle School Virtual Parent Information Session

March 15th-22nd: Book Fair

March 22nd: Rope Warrior Assembly

Central Elementary School Communication

Website:

[https://www.aacps.org/
Page/4193](https://www.aacps.org/Page/4193)

Connect ED:

Phone/email parent
notification system

Paper Flyers: Backpack
mail for students (taken
home in folders)

School Agenda Books:

Provided for each
student

Email: Staff emails can
be found at

[https://www.aacps.org/
Page/4200](https://www.aacps.org/Page/4200)

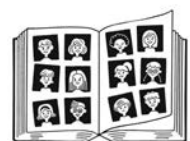
Twitter: (No account
required) Information
about late buses in the
afternoon, photos from
school events, flyers.

[https://twitter.com/Cen
tralESaacps](https://twitter.com/CentralESaacps)

CES PTO

centralespto.org

Yearbooks are on sale
from now until April
12th! Yearbooks can
be ordered online
only- [click here for more information!](#)



March 25th-April 1: Spring Break- Schools and Offices Closed

April 4th: 2 Hour Early Dismissal- End of Marking Period

April 5th: 2 Hour Early Dismissal- End of Marking Period

April 5th: 6-8:30pm PTO Spring Swish Basketball Game

April 8th: 12th- 3rd Grade MCAP Testing

April 10th: Eid al-Fitr- Schools and Offices Closed

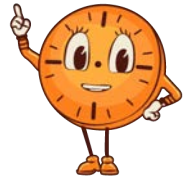
April 15th-19th: 5th Grade MCAP Testing

April 26th: 6:00 pm Drama Club Performance

May 6th-10th: 4th Grade MCAP Testing

Please do your best to drop students off promptly in the morning.

Remember, instructional activities begin in the classroom at 8:00 am!



Parents- please be sure that your child has a change of clothes (one that fits!) here at school. This is essential for primary students, and it's not a bad idea for intermediate students (spring can get muddy!)



Our Spring Book Fair runs Friday, March 15-Friday, March 22! Students will shop during their media classes. Please look for a flyer with all the details, coming home soon, along with information from the PTO about volunteering!



Have you ever considered taking a more active role in our Central Elementary School Community? We're looking for dedicated, enthusiastic individuals to serve as Lunch Monitors and Temporary Support Assistants. We have part-time and full time opportunities- [click here](#) to learn more, or contact [Mr. Thompson!](#)

The deadline for Tiger Trot sponsorship is Friday, March 8th! If you'd like for your business to be a part of our exciting efforts to build a new playground, you can [click here for more information](#)

Read and Hit a Home Run!

Students who read four books in March can [complete this form](#) to receive two free Baysox tickets!



Mark your calendars- the PTO Spring Swish is back on April 5th! You can [Order Tickets and T-Shirts Here](#)

Volunteering and PTO:

Don't forget- if you're hoping to volunteer in school or at PTO events, you'll need a background check. [Click here to learn more about completing one](#), and check out the Central Elementary PTO page to learn more about opportunities (centralespto.org or <https://www.facebook.com/CentralESPTO/>)



EGATE

Excellence in Gifted
and Talented Education

We're proud to announce that Central Elementary School has earned the distinguished honor of being recertified as an EGATE school! EGATE is an awards program to recognize PK12 Maryland Public Schools, which have gifted and talented education programs that are aligned with Maryland's Criteria for Excellence: Gifted and Talented Program Guidelines and COMAR 13A.04.07 Gifted and Talented Education.

Schools who have earned the EGATE Award focused on improving all levels of student achievement, including the achievement of students who are advanced/gifted and talented. Each EGATE school submitted a comprehensive application, which provided documentation of twenty-one different criteria under four program objectives. The four program objectives are Student Identification, Curriculum and Instruction, Professionally Qualified Teachers and Professional Development, and Program Management and Evaluation.

The EGATE schools were recognized with Governor's proclamations at a February reception, proudly display the EGATE banner, hosted celebratory visits, and serve as models for other schools seeking to achieve EGATE status.

[Click here to learn more](#) about this honor in AACPS!



Friday, April 5
@ South River High School

Unity Day



Beverly Triton Nature Park

1202 Triton Beach Rd, Edgewater,
MD 21037

March 19th, 2024

4:00 - 6:00 pm



The **Unity Day celebration** event is hosted by the **Anne Arundel County Human Relations Commission**, in efforts to **unite** local residents and students to celebrate the **value of diversity!**

Come join us at this **fun** and **community oriented** event!

Look Forward to...

- Food Trucks
- Meeting **County government & community members**
- Engaging **Key Note Speakers**
- Interactive activities
- Earning **Service Learning Hours**

Belong. Grow. Succeed

Five colorful Easter eggs with various patterns: pink with blue dots and yellow zig-zags, yellow with pink zig-zags and green dots, white with blue and brown wavy lines and dots, teal with yellow stars and dots, and pink with green triangles and yellow dots.

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY POLICE,
SOUTHERN DISTRICT'S

Hippity Hop with a Cop

MARCH 16,
2024 | 2PM -
4PM

Southern District
Police Station
35 Stepneys Lane
Edgewater

Don't Forget To Bring a Bag for Candy!

Five colorful Easter eggs with various patterns: pink with green triangles and yellow dots, teal with yellow stars and dots, white with blue and brown wavy lines and dots, yellow with pink zig-zags and green dots, and pink with yellow zig-zags and blue dots.

Central Elementary

YOU ARE IN THE YEARBOOK

RESERVE YOUR COPY TODAY

PRICE:

\$19.00

LAST DAY TO ORDER:

April 12, 2024

SCAN QR CODE TO ORDER or VISIT:

<https://shop.yearbookmarket.com/centralelementary>



Scan to Order

BRANCH EVENTS FOR MARCH

ADULTS

Master Gardeners Information Session*Saturday, March 2 at 10:30 am*

Learn about the Edgewater Library's Native Garden from Master Gardener Anne Sawyer.

Skins & Stitches*Wednesday, March 6 at 2 pm*

Meet old friends and new while we enjoy all forms of needlework.

5 Steps to a Native Garden*Saturday, March 9 at 10:30 am*

Native gardens increase biodiversity, connect to natural ecosystems, and provide habitat for native wildlife. Join a Master Gardener for a step-by-step explanation of how to incorporate native plants into your garden.

Co-Conspirators Book Club*Tuesday, March 12 at 7 pm*

This month we will be discussing *The Spy Coast* by Tess Gerritsen. A retired CIA operative in small-town Maine tackles the ghosts of her past. Attend online or in-person. Register to receive the Zoom link.

South County Senior Center Book Club*Monday, March 18 at 1 pm*

This month we will be discussing *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus.

Riverbed Blues: Exploring Underwater Grasses*Saturday, March 23 at 10:30 am*

Join Arundel Rivers Federation, your local Riverkeeper organization, to learn about one of the Bay's most precious and vulnerable resources: underwater grass beds.



FAMILIES

Art in Our Schools Community Reception*Wednesday, March 6 at 4:30 pm*

Stop by to view Edgewater students' artwork and meet the featured artists!

ALL AGES

Pi Day Party*Thursday, March 14 at 5:30 pm*

Celebrate Pi Day at the library! Learn about this special number and its use in mathematics through stories, games, and crafts. Win a prize by reciting the most digits of pi and enjoy a piece of pie at the same time!

**Reach for the Stars with Sally Ride***Saturday, March 20 at 11 am*

Blast off for adventure with Dr. Sally Ride, America's first female astronaut, and learn about her journey and its challenges. Then, in the game show portion, the whole audience can guess at odd, surprising facts about life in zero gravity aboard the space shuttle.



TEENS & ADULTS

Ukulele Strum & Learn*Tuesday, March 5 at 6 pm*

It's easier than you think to have fun on the ukulele. Registration is not required, but please register if you will not be bringing a ukulele.

Who Run the World? Girls! Trivia Night*Thursday, March 28 at 7 pm*

Join us for an evening of stimulating questions and friendly competition that will challenge your knowledge of women's history. Registration required for teams and individuals.



PRESCHOOLERS

Music & Movement*Saturday, March 2 at 10:30 am*

Sing, chant, play instruments and dance while exploring sounds, rhythms and patterns that make up our language.

Little Engineers: Constructive Play*Monday, March 11 at 10:30 am*

Pre-K children will explore open-ended activities and play by building, shaping, and manipulating objects to create something new.

**Bedtime Stories for Dragons***Monday, March 18 at 5:30 pm*

Join us for bedtime stories, songs, and an activity all about dragons!

**Nature Story Time at South River Farm Park***Monday, March 25 at 10:30 am*

Enjoy a fresh-air story time at South River Farm Park! Children will develop an appreciation for nature while we read books, sing songs, and take a short hike on the trails accompanied by a ranger.

KIDS

Homeschool Hangout*Friday, March 8 at 2 pm*

Homeschoolers, visit the library for a special program just for you! All ages are welcome.

Early Reader Book Club*Thursday, March 21 at 4 pm*

Kids will listen to a story, play word-decoding games, participate in a read-along, and make a craft.

Dog Man Party*Tuesday, March 26 at 3 pm*

Join us for a supa awesome party! The graphic novel series by Dav Pilkey is releasing the next book, and we will celebrate with crafts, games, and other fun activities.

