

Central Elementary School Newsletter



November 2023

"Diving into Learning"

From the Principal:

Hello Central Elementary School Families-

It's November, and we know that means we're in for some exciting events in the coming months. With so many communities and cultures celebrating major holidays this season, it's a wonderful time to be a kid (and a pretty great time to work with kids, too!)

These holidays and traditions, though, can also remind us of the wide range of cultures and experiences our children bring to school with them. This season can remind us that at Central Elementary, it's not just our commonalities- the traditions and values we share- that make us strong. It's our differences too.

This time of year, as we find opportunities to gather and celebrate with friends and loved ones, consider taking some time to talk to your kids about their classmates. Ask them what they've noticed about things they have in common or areas where they're different. Do any of them celebrate different holidays? Speak a different language? Learn differently? How might school feel different for students from different backgrounds? Current events play a part in this conversation, too- students may not realize that there are families around us that are directly impacted by the conflicts in Ukraine, Israel, and elsewhere. What might school feel like for them? Most importantly, how can we help them feel connected and supported?

As a close-knit community, we can remember that welcoming others doesn't always just mean including them in our world- sometimes it means opening ourselves up to theirs, too. With so much going on this time of year, it's a perfect opportunity to teach our children about the value of diversity- and maybe to let them teach us a little bit, too.

All the Best,
Mr. Thompson

Important Dates:

November 1st- Teacher Workday- Schools Closed for Elementary and Middle Schools

November 2nd- Book Fair Family Night- Story Hour and Ice Cream Social (5:30-8:00)

November 6th-8th- CogAT Testing for 2nd and 5th Grades

Central Elementary School Communication

Website:

<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>

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

<https://twitter.com/CentralESaacps>

CES PTO centralespto.org

November 10th- PTO Movie Night

November 20th-21st- Parent Teacher Conferences (Teachers will contact families)- Schools Closed for Students

November 22nd-24th- Thanksgiving Break- Schools Closed

December 1st- School Picture Retakes

December 5th- Unity Day- 2 Hr. Early Dismissal

December 14th- Strings Concert (6:00 pm)

December 25th-January 1st- Winter Break

Parents and Guardians,
Beginning on November 7th, students in grades 3rd-5th grades will take part in lessons about substance abuse prevention. Please read more about the content of these lessons in the following letter.

[Letter: Let's Start Talking MD Act Lessons](#)

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Venturella, the school counselor at lvventurella@aacps.org or 410-222-1075.



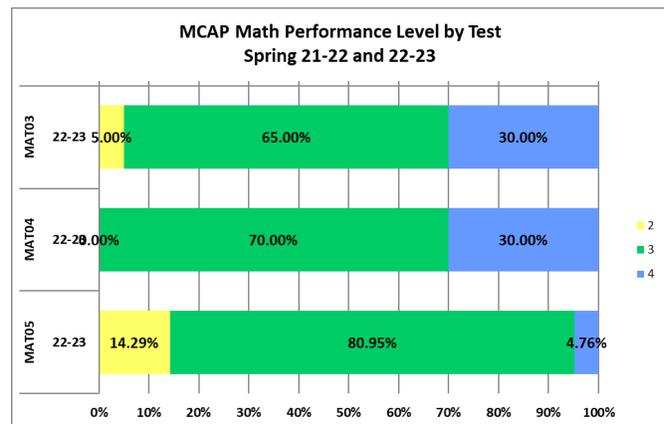
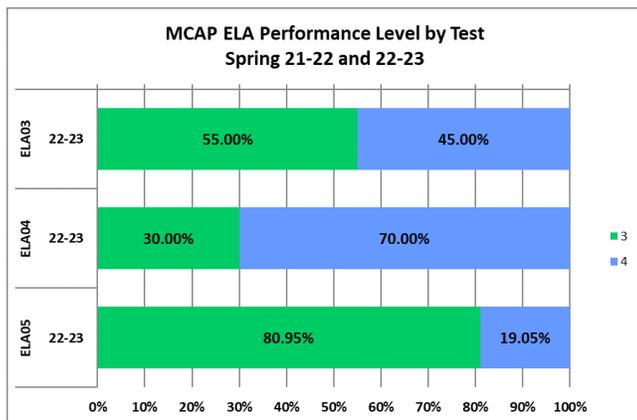
iReady Expectations

YES! AACPS is still doing iReady!

If you're unsure how to supplement your child's instruction, remember that all students should be engaging in 30-50 minutes of iReady Reading every week, and many should be doing 30-50 minutes of math per week as well. [Click here for more information](#) about AACPS's expectations for students work on iReady!

Advanced Learning at Central Elementary

The Central Elementary Advanced Learner Programs Committee is focused on supporting gifted and advanced learners through ongoing data analysis to ensure students are working at their full potential. The data charts below show how GT students performed on ELA and Math MCAP in the spring of 2023. All GT students scored at either the proficient learner level or distinguished learner level on ELA MCAP. In Math, five percent of 2022-2023 3rd Grade GT learners (current 4th Grade) scored at the developing learner level- all others were proficient or distinguished. Our School Improvement goal is to increase the number of students who score proficient or better on MCAP in 2024. Our school Leadership, School Improvement, and ALPs teams have drilled down to identify students who are on the cusp of proficiency. We are working collaboratively to support these students through targeted instruction.



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/>)

Family Movie Night

Friday November 10th 5:30-8PM/CES Gym



Pre-Order your movie tickets and food and **SAVE** money!
Please send cash or check (CES PTO) along with the completed form.
You can also **ORDER ONLINE** at CentralESPTO.org.
Pre-Order tickets and food closes on Thursday Nov 9th.

STUDENT NAME: _____ TEACHER/GRADE: _____
ORDER SUBMITTED BY: _____ EMAIL/PHONE: _____

Movie Tickets \$5 (4 and under are free) Tickets at the door: \$7	Quantity:
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Combos Includes: A Main, Side and a Drink	Cost	Quantity
Walking Taco Combo	\$6	
Cheese Pizza Combo	\$4	
Pepperoni Pizza Combo	\$4	
Whole Large Cheese Pizza	\$15	
Whole Large Pepperoni Pizza	\$15	



AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

(Email lventurella@aacps.org for financial assistance for this event.)

Meet the
**AACPS
SPECIAL
EDUCATION
FAMILY**



**INTEGRITY
INNOVATION
INCLUSIVITY**

AACPS • DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION



SONYA MCELROY

Director, Birth to Five,
Special Services & Nonpublic



DIANE MCGOWAN

Director, Specially Designed
Instruction & Compliance



ERIN BELCHER

Coordinator
Special Services



NICOLE Q. WHITE

Coordinator
Specialized Instruction



REBECCA LEE

Coordinator
Specialized Instruction

INCLUDING
MEGHAN LYNCH
ERIN SIMMONS
JEAN RAYMOND
JENNIFER BROWN
ANGELA SCHNEIDER

Please RSVP by November 6
or scan the code



5175 Solomon's Island Road Lothian, MD 20711

NOV | 16st | 2023
4:30-7:00pm

BRANCH EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER

ADULTS

Skins & Stitches*Wednesday, November 1 at 2 pm*

Join us as we enjoy a variety of needlecrafts, like crochet, knitting, and more. All are welcome.

**USCG Auxiliary Cold Water Survival***Saturday, November 4 at 1 pm*

Join the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, Herring Bay for a 3 hour course intended to educate all boaters about the dangers of cold-water accidents. This course will offer a special video viewing of the U.S. Coast Guard's Cold Water Boot Camp training.

Making Cards for Our Troops*Friday, November 10 at 10:30 am*

Join the team from Making Cards for Our Troops where you will make professional quality (blank) greeting cards. All are welcome, from experienced paper crafters to the uninitiated. All supplies will be provided.

Co-Conspirators Book Club*Tuesday, November 14 at 7 pm*

Join us for a book club dedicated to mysteries and thrillers. This month, we will be discussing The Only Survivors, by Megan Miranda.

Online and in-person. Register to receive the Zoom link.

Strum Along with Us!*Saturday, November 18 at 10 am*

Join us to strum and sing. Basic instruction for beginners, music books and a limited number of ukuleles will be provided.

Please register to reserve a ukulele.

TEENS

Native American Heritage Month Paint Night*Thursday, November 2 at 6 pm*

Spend an evening learning about Native American artists and create art inspired by their work! All supplies will be provided. Submit your creation to be displayed in our Club 1117 gallery throughout Native American Heritage Month!

Registration required.

KIDS

Paws to Read*Saturday, November 4 at 10 am*

Children in elementary school improve their reading skills while enjoying the rapt attention of canine tutors.

Call the Edgewater Library at 410-222-1538 to register.

**Early Reader Book Club***Thursday, November 16 at 4 pm*

Join us for a special book club just for beginning readers! Kids will listen to a story, play word-decoding games, participate in a read-along, and make a craft. This program is best for children in kindergarten through 2nd grade.

Registration is preferred.

...more ADULTS**South County Senior Center Book Club***Monday, November 20 at 1 pm*

This month we will be discussing The Violin Conspiracy by Brendan Slocumb. All are welcome.

PRESCHOOLERS

Baby, Process that Art!*Monday, November 6 at 10:30 am*

Explore open-ended activities and different art techniques with a focus on the creative process. This activity may get messy, so please dress accordingly!

**Music & Movement***Saturday, November 11 at 10:30 am*

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

Nature Story Time at Beverly Triton Park*Monday, November 13 at 10:30 am*

Children will build literacy skills and develop an appreciation for nature while we read books, sing songs, and take a short hike on the trails accompanied by a park ranger.

Bedtime Stories for Robots*Thursday, November 30 at 6 pm*

Families with young children will enjoy a special story time with Cubetto the robot. Read robot stories, sing songs, and help Cubetto get home for bedtime!

TEENS & KIDS

Homeschool Hangout*Friday, November 3 at 2 pm*

Homeschoolers, visit the library for a special program just for you! Play games, try new tech, make a craft, and learn something new!

This program is best for kids ages 6 and up.