

## **Crofton Meadows Elementary Weekly Wrap Up – Friday, March 20, 2020**

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Good Afternoon Crofton Meadows Elementary Families!

Here is your Weekly Wrap Up for the week ending Friday, March 20, 2020.

### **(School System Shutdown Edition!)**

**What's Happening** - As we finish our first week of school closure, I hope that this newsletter finds you and your family healthy and safe! The health and safety of our students and their families is AACPS's number one priority. The disruption the closure causes your family is huge, but please know that all AACPS decisions are being made following the guidance of federal, state and local health officials. Again, our priority is the health and safety of our students, their families and the community as a whole. As of 3:00 PM today, no decisions have been made about school closures after March 27, 2020, but in an abundance of caution, the school system and CMES are making plans for the potential of further disruptions.

Here is what we know now:

#### **e-learning**

During the week of March 23, 2020 – March 27, 2020 the e-learning website at [www.aacps.org](http://www.aacps.org) will have update review lessons for students to access. Please remember that these lessons are to review skills that students have already been taught at their grade level. The lessons are not designed to teach new content. If the closure lasts longer than what has currently been announced, AACPS is looking at ways to bring new instruction to the platform. Some parents have been reaching out to teachers and asking them to provide instruction and new content to their students. AACPS has directed the teachers not to do this during these two weeks. Teachers may reach out to “check in” with their students and families, but they are not required to do so at this time. In addition to the e-learning website, we have created a resource ([CMES Brain Gym](#)) that parents and students can use for educational ideas to add to the e-learning lessons. As with the e-learning lessons, these are suggested activities. They are not required and will not be graded.

**AACPS is providing meals to children ages 3-18** - AACPS has 52 sites (31 schools and 21 mobile site) for meal distribution for any child ages 3-18 regardless of FARMS status. AACPS will be adding 7 additional school sites and 2 more mobile sites starting Monday, March 23, 2020. They served 15,543 meals on Wednesday! The school system has requested a waiver from the federal standards that state a

food distribution site must be located in a place which serves a school with a FARMS population of greater than 50% (hence, the additional sites opening on Monday.) Check out [www.aacps.org](http://www.aacps.org) for located on the meal distribution sites

**Schedule and Calendar Changes** - Please refer to [www.aacps.org](http://www.aacps.org) for up-to-date information on changes and cancelations to AACPS sponsored events.

### **CMES Events**

**Field Trips** – At the direction of the superintendent of AACPS, all field trips have been canceled. Any monies or fees that have been paid will be refunded as soon as possible.

**Assemblies, Clubs, Meetings, Events, etc.** – At the direction of the superintendent of AACPS, all meeting, assemblies, meetings, clubs, etc. have been canceled until further notice.

**IEP and 504 Meetings** – All IEP and 504 meetings scheduled between March 16<sup>th</sup> to March 27<sup>th</sup> have been canceled. The staff at CMES will be reaching out to those families that will need to be rescheduled.

**Changes to Science Fair** – We recognize that many students have started their science fair projects and we want to encourage this activity, however the CMES Science Fair for this year will be OPTIONAL for all students, including those in grades 3-5. We are looking into a way to create a virtual Science Fair for those that would like to participate. Guidelines and procedures to participate will be coming shortly. In the meantime, if you would like to participate in the science fair, continue to work on your projects. Dates for entering a project in the virtual Science Fair will be sent out next week.

**Additional On-line Resources** - You have probably been inundated with emails about on-line learning. Additional resources that are embedded in the e-learning website have been approved by AACPS. Additionally, resources that are included in this newsletter have been vetted by AACPS. We have set up a process for teachers to make recommendations for additional on-line resources through the AACPS Office of Technology. One of the major concerns is the number of on-line resources that offer free access and once you sign up you find out there is a charge after the initial month or so.

**Students with IEPs** - The special education team sent home packets of work for students with IEPs for academic areas last week. The packets are meant to be used in place of or in addition to the materials on e-learning site. This was done with the understanding that some children may need something different or additional, therefore, many of the materials have more explicit and clear instructions and can be done with minimal adult support. These assignments will not be graded but rather will be an avenue for students to practice skills already learned.

**Volunteers** – Although we greatly appreciate our wonderful volunteers, upon direction from AACPS, we ask that volunteering in the school take a pause. We will let everybody know when we can welcome the volunteers back into the building.

**Fifth Grade Promotion** – TBD

**Spring Band/Strings/Chorus Concerts** – TBD

**Field Day** - TBD

**Kindergarten Registration for 2020-2021** – Kindergarten Registration is still scheduled to begin on April 1, 2020. Any changes will be posted on the AACPS website.

**A Message from our Guidance Counselor:** As we prepare for the closing of schools it is important to remember that children’s anxiety may be heightened during this time. We have included a helpful article by the National Association of School Psychologists on how to support your children regarding the coronavirus. During the next two weeks I would encourage you to help your child practice stress reducing coping skills such as journaling, reading, coloring, yoga and mindfulness practice. I have included some apps that can be downloaded for free on a mobile device that might be helpful: Headspace, Breathe Think Do with Sesame, Calm, Daniel’s Tiger’s Grr-ific Feelings and GoNoodle. In addition, if your family needs help with food during the school closing you can contact Caring Cupboard at [contact@caringcupboardllc.com](mailto:contact@caringcupboardllc.com). They may be able to provide delivery also if transportation is a problem.

For those in need of emergency food assistance the following information is provided:

Host	Date	Time	Location
Kingdom Celebration Center	Thu 3/19/2020	10am- 2pm	1350 Blair Dr. Odenton, MD 21113
Empowering Believers Church	Fri 3/20/2020	11am- 2pm	7566 E Howard Rd. Glen Burnie, MD 21060
Friendship Community Baptist Church	Sat 3/21/2020	11am- 4pm	37 Jewell Rd, Dunkirk, MD 20754
Kingdom Celebration Church	Mon 3/23/2020	10am- 2pm	1350 Blair Dr. Odenton, MD 21113

H2O for Life	Wed 3/25/2020	3pm - 5pm	5317 C Ritchie Hwy Brooklyn Park, MD 21225
H2O for Life	Wed 4/1/2020	3pm- 5pm	5317 C Ritchie Hwy Brooklyn Park, MD 21225
AA Co. Partnership for Children, Youth & Families at St. Matthews Church	Sat 4/5/2020	TBD	6234 Shady Side Rd, Shady Side, MD 20764

**A Message from our PE Teacher:** If you would like to stay active and healthy over the next two weeks at home [here](#) is a list of at home movement opportunities that are fun for the whole family.

**A Message from our Media Specialist:** In an effort to provide high-quality resources for students while our school is closed, we want you to know that your child still has remote and continued access to our school databases, eBooks and numerous applications such as the Google Education package, WeVideo, Wixie, Typing Club, First in Math and many other applications that your child uses on a daily basis.

Databases appropriate for Primary: students are (in the order of ease of use and readability): PebbleGo, World Book Early Learning, Discovery Education, and DK. The remaining databases are geared toward Intermediate grades. Many of the databases have narration abilities. When using eBooks, the Capstone and Mackin books can be accessed without a user name and password. Capstone is Ms. Radisi's preferred platform as the books are narrated with a human voice rather than a computer-generated voice.

Various ways to access our databases and eBooks:

In URL, type mackinvia.com

Select our school

User name is: your child's student ID number

Password is: the last 4 digits of the student ID

or:

Download <https://www.google.com/chrome/> browser to access Classlinks (your child uses the applications included on their Classlinks page frequently for in-school instruction)

**CMES Yearbook** - It's that time again to purchase those memories captured during the school year. You will have an opportunity to customize two free pages. Yearbooks are \$16.40 Please follow the link below to purchase yours today!

Pass code 1014807036532753

Purchase Link <https://www.treering.com/validate?PassCode=1014807036532753>

TreeRing video <https://www.treering.com/Watch-the-TreeRing-Personalized-Yearbook-Demo>

**Marvelous Mustangs** - This week's Marvelous Mustangs are: Ms. Lori, Mr. James, Mr. Sterling, and Mr. Jesse, our wonderful custodians who are working hard to clean and disinfect our school. You are setting the example for *The Crofton Meadows Way* – Work Hard. Be Kind. Be Safe.

**First In Math!** -

**Crofton Meadows is currently the TOP SCHOOL in the state of Maryland!  
We did it! We are now in the Top 20 Schools in the nation!!! Can we hit Sweet 16? I think we can!**

**FIM Updates!**

Teams of the Week:

1st Place- Mrs. Gleason's 3rd Grade

2nd place Mrs. Hampson's 2nd Grade

3rd Place- Ma. Adams' 3rdGrade

Players of the Week:

1st Place Charles - 2nd Grade

2nd Place- Alex 2nd Grade

3rd Place- Ezekial 4th Grade

CONGRATULATIONS to ALL of our **NEW GRAND CHAMPIONS 10,000+ Stickers!**  
Way to Go!

3rd Grade- Jeremiel

**Planning Ahead:**

March 16 – 27, 2020

School Closed by order of the Governor and State Superintendent of Schools. All school related activities have been cancelled until further notice.

**PTO News**

In guidance with AACPS all PTO activities are cancelled Monday, March 16 - Friday, March 27. This includes PTO meetings, movie night, and school programs. The following programs are cancelled for the remainder of the school year: Chess Club (no club today), Abrakadoodle Art Club, Robotics Club, Girls on the Run. For those paid programs, the companies will be reaching out about refunds.

**Feedback about the entire Weekly Wrap Up** is welcome at [jtrumbule@aacps.org](mailto:jtrumbule@aacps.org).