



# DRAGON TALES

Ferndale Early Education Center  
105 Packard Avenue  
Glen Burnie, MD 21061  
[www.aacps.org](http://www.aacps.org)

## NEWSLETTER

### *Principal's Message*

***School Motto: Ferndale believes in me. I believe it. I achieve it.***

Dear Ferndale Families,

**October 2023**

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! We are off to a fabulous start. There is so much to share. Here's a small sample of all the wonderful happenings at Ferndale so far:

- Our custodians have the school sparkling from floor to ceiling! The awesome teachers and staff have created inviting, creative and safe learning environments for your children.
- Our outdoor STEM classroom has 2 new riding cars in the Transportation center. Teachers have collected caterpillars from our milkweed plants so students can watch them turn into butterflies.
- Your children are off to a great start! Routines are coming along, and the classrooms are filled with so much creative energy!
- We have begun to highlight our Students of the Month! Ferndale is so lucky to have a school full of special students; each are unique and awesome! Mrs. Greene, our counselor, will lead this program.
- Our Strive for 9 days or less this school year and/or 90% or better attendance is underway. Regular, consistent attendance is very important.

To see all of the exciting happenings, please follow us on Twitter @FerndaleEarlyEd. Newsletters will be shared monthly with important information about school events and policies. As a **Green School**, we strive to reduce, reuse and recycle. To that end, we will post our website on our website at <https://www.aacps.org/Page/4313> as well as email you a copy. Paper copies will be provided upon your request. Continue to stay connected through Connect-Ed messages, email, phone and text. Our school website is also a great source of up-to-date information. Our awesome resource teacher, Mrs. May, has all of our information posted for your reference, and Mrs. Calderon-Carrion provides translated information in Spanish as well. Thank you to those who were able to attend *Back to School Night*. If you were not able to attend, please reach out to your child's teacher for the information shared.

Just a few reminders:

- Please go online and complete your emergency cards. It is important we have a way to contact you in case of emergency. Anytime there is a change, please let the office know. Please note that the person listed as a first contact will receive the connect-ed messages from the school and county.
- Our Family handbook is on the website. Many of our policies and procedures are there for your review.
- Please always have your photo id with you when you come to school, especially to pick up or drop off your child, including others who may pick up your child. It is for the safety and security of all of our students and staff.
- Please do not drop off/pick up students by parking in the bus loop.
- If dropping off in the Kiss & Goodbye lane wait for staff to assist your child so they are not unattended in the parking lot.

Lastly, thank you for your patience with dismissal, especially those with children who ride buses and were or are still experiencing delays.

Respectfully, Denise Faidley, Principal

### **Mission**

Ferndale Early Education Center offers an early learning environment to create a strong academic, social, and emotional foundation. Through partnerships with students, families and the community, Ferndale Early Education Center empowers students to be successful individuals in today's diverse society.

## **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

**October is:** German American, Filipino and Italian-American and National Principals' Month

### **October 2**

Custodian Appreciation Day

### **October 9<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>**

National School Lunch Week

### **October 12**

Student of the Month Lunch!

### **October 17**

Two-hour early dismissal, No PM-ECSE

Project Unity Day (Please support by having your child wear orange)

### **October 19**

PBIS Quarterly celebration- Extra recess

### **October 24**

Fall Picture Day

### **October 24**

ABC Family Bingo Night 5-6 (wear your costume)

Fall Pictures

### **October 26 & 27**

#### **B&O Museum Trip**

26-Mrs. Murphy's and Mrs. White's Classes

27-Mrs. Christopher's, Mrs. Cockrell and Ms. Woznick's Classes

### **October 30**

Two-hour early dismissal, No PM- ECSE

### **October 31**

Two-hour early dismissal, No PM- ECSE

PBIS- Costume Day and Parade, Wear your Costume



**Every Friday is Team spirit day. Wear our school colors- Red, White, and Blue**

## **Looking ahead Dates to Remember: November**

### **November 1**

Schools Closed (Elementary and Middle Only)

### **November 9**

Student of the Month Lunch



## **REMINDER**



### **ONE-WAY-STREET**

Packard Avenue is a **One-Way-Street**.

Please make a right turn when coming out of the parking lot. In the event the parking lot is full, parents need to park on the following streets:

- **Packard Avenue**
- **Hollins Ferry Road**
- **Broadview Blvd. or Ferndale Road when picking up their children.**

### **Important Visitor Information**

For the safety and security of our students and staff, we ask that **ALL** visitors, to bring their picture ID and for any reason, call the school office to make an appointment, before entering the main office. If you are not feeling well, please do not come to the school. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding with these procedures.

### **CAMERAS**

Ferndale Early Education Center is equipped with a video camera system. It covers selected interior and exterior public portions of the building and grounds. It is NOT monitored constantly, but it is monitored during emergency situations. During certain events, when the safety or security of students may be in question, authorized personnel from local, state, or federal police or fire emergency units may be given access to view images projected on the camera system. If you have any questions about the system, you should call the Supervisor of School Security at 410-222-5083.

### **SECURITY DRILL**



**Each month the staff and students practice various security drills. In September, our school initiated an announced fire drill. We were able to evacuate the building in a safe and timely manner. Students followed their teachers' directions. Bus riders also participated in a Rear door evacuation. The staff and students did a marvelous job!**

## **A message from your School Counselor**

### **Welcome students and families!**



~ During the month of October, we will be taking up a collection of boxed and canned goods to donate to the Harvest for the Hungry campaign. This is not mandatory, and your child will be bringing home a flier with more information.

~ A friendly reminder that the beginning of the school year can be a hard adjustment for anyone, especially when you are in preschool and school is a new experience for you. It is normal to have push back from your child about coming to school. Like most things with children **CONSISTENCY IS KEY!!!** If they are healthy the best thing for them is to come to school regularly so they can learn the routines and rules.

~ In counseling lessons over the next couple of months your child will be learning how to identify their emotions and regulate them so that they can have a successful school experience.

\*If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to email me:

[ckgreene@aacps.org](mailto:ckgreene@aacps.org)\*

Thank you,  
Cory Greene  
School Counselor

## **Greetings from the Ferndale Early Education Center Library!**

We are happy to announce that book checkout will start soon for our students during media classes. Each week on your child's library day, they will choose a book to bring home from our picture book collection. You may read and enjoy the book with your child for one week. Then return the book by placing it in the media book bag (clear, colored bag with handles) and return it the following week. This will allow your child to be able to check out a new book. We will continue to talk with the students about taking good care of their books. Please assist your child in finding a consistent, safe, dry location to keep books while they are in your home. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at [schilton@aacps.org](mailto:schilton@aacps.org) or 301-684-8473 (my Google Voice number). Thank you, Ms. Chilton

**Susan Chilton**  
Library Media Specialist  
Ferndale Early Education Center- Mon/Wed

## **October 2023** **Brain Tip of the Month**

Today, research confirms that the proper use of music in learning environments can improve memory, attentiveness, concentration, and cognition while calming stress and activating spatial and analytical brain function. Classical style music can help students to learn new vocabulary, improve memorization of words and deep concentration, enhance creative writing, problem solving, and goal setting.

## News from the Health Room

**Illness: How do I know when to keep my child home from school because of illness**



Parents should keep their child home from school because of a serious illness, injury or a condition that can be passed on to other children. Although no comprehensive list is possible, the following conditions may be considered appropriate reasons to keep a student home from school:

### Examples of serious illness or injury:

- Temperature 100 °F or greater.  
Children with a fever (> 100 °F) must stay home until they are fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication.
- Abdominal pain
- Earache
- Head injury
- Adverse medication effect
- Suspected fracture
- Chest pain
- Severe pain
- Severe shortness of breath or wheezing
- Cough for unknown reasons
- Vomiting or Diarrhea
- Red, Draining Eyes
- Undiagnosed Rash

*~Ferndale EEC Health Room*

## **Positive Behavior** **Intervention and Support** **(PBIS)**

Ferndale Early Education Center has implemented a school-wide discipline program that will promote positive and respectful behavior throughout our school. Our program includes rewards and incentives to praise positive behaviors along with consequences for misbehaviors. Our goal is to create an environment that will encourage a positive learning experience for every student.

**As Dinky always says: I will act responsibly, be safe, and care for myself others and the world around me!**



## **News from the Cafeteria**

Hello and welcome to Ferndale!

I am very excited to see all the new and or returning students! A good and healthy breakfast is served for free each and every day. It includes:

- Food items (such as cereal, or yogurt or benefit bars, juice. Milk and fruit cups are available if they choose.
- Lunch meals come either in a hot entree form or a cold grab and go. It all includes fruits/veggies off the salad bar line and a milk.

Cost of lunch: \$2.75 Milk sold ala carte .55 cents.

I am looking forward to meeting my new friends as they come this school year.



*Nancy Tyler, Cafeteria Manager*

## **PBIS Committee**



**Dinky says, “Save the date!”**

We invite all students and staff to participate in

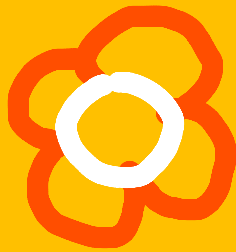
**October’s School Spirit Day!**

**Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>**  
is

**“Costume Day!”**



**Mark your calendar and wear your costumes and enjoy a parade!**  
**Costumes must be school appropriate with toy weapons.**



## **Reading Readiness Tips!**

**Read together every day!**

Make this a warm and loving time when the two of you can  
cuddle close.

**Give everything a name**

Build your child’s vocabulary by talking about interesting words  
and objects.

**Say how much you enjoy reading!**

Tell your child how much you enjoy reading with him or her.  
Talk about “story time” as the favorite part of your day.



## *Counselor's Corner*

### *Student of the Month Program*

Every month a student is chosen by each classroom teacher as the "Student of the Month." These are students who act as role models for other students, always displaying positive school behavior! Each month the bulletin board will feature the "Students of the Month."

### *Congratulations*

to the following students who were "Students of the Month" for the month of:

### *September 2023*

Martir C. & Harriet D.

**Mrs. Escobedo's class**

Mason K. & Tywan M.

**Mrs. Bullard's class**

Lyric J. & Martin M.

**Mrs. Christopher's class**

Theo W & Nadi B.

**Mrs. Cockrell's class**

Reagan D & Everly V.

**Mrs. Myles' class**

Alina B & Lennox H.

**Mrs. Murphy's class**

Abby K. & Kalil C.

**Mrs. White's class**

Jayda H. & Matthias G.

**Ms. Woznick's class**



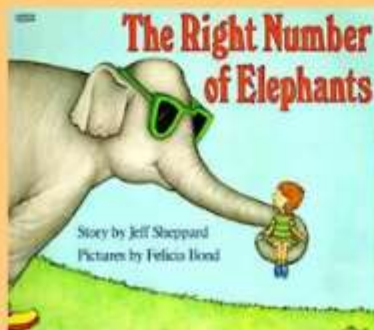
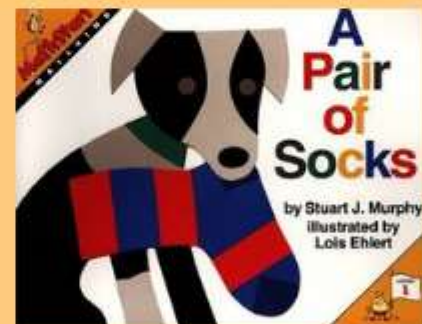
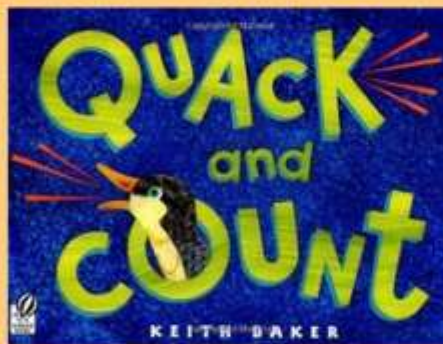
*Please remind your child that any student can be the "Student of the Month."  
Please encourage them to work towards positive school behavior  
every day!*



# MATH MOMENTS

QUICK TIPS ON HOW TO INFUSE MATH AT HOME!

READ CHILDREN'S RHYMES AND  
STORIES WITH WOVEN MATH  
CONCEPTS.





## Attendance Policies and Procedures

### Truant Student:

A child enrolled in school who is *unlawfully* absent from school:

8 days in a quarter, 15 days in a semester, or 20 days in the school year

- [JB-RA Compulsory Attendance](#)

### Lawful/Excused Causes of Absences:

- |                     |                                                   |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| ❖ Death in family   | ❖ State of Emergency/Hazardous weather conditions |
| ❖ Illness/Injury    | ❖ Work approved or sponsored by the school        |
| ❖ Religious Holiday | ❖ Lack of Authorized School Transportation        |
| ❖ Court Appearance  | ❖ Visit with Parent on Active Duty                |
| ❖ Suspension        |                                                   |

**\*Note: Travel to see family and vacations are not considered lawful/excused absences, unless it is to visit with a military parent/guardian before, during active duty.**

### Chronically Absent Student:

A child enrolled in school who is absent 10% or more of the school year, regardless of reason (including lawful and unlawful absences).

### Parent Reminders:

-Our attendance committee will meet monthly to discuss **all** students who are *chronically absent* from school (missed 10% or more of the year at the date of our meeting). For example, this would include all students who have missed 2.5 or more days of school by Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024. This is about 1-2 days per month and is equivalent to 18 days by the *end* of the school year. A committee member may contact you about your student's absences to get more information and see how we can help remove any barriers to good school attendance.

-Our motto in the North County Feeder system is to "Strive for 9." This means missing on average 1 or less days each month of school. You can click [HERE](#) to download a calendar to keep track of your student's absences.

-If your student needs to be absent for a lawful reason in accordance to our [county policy](#) and/or under a physician's direction, please provide a written note within **3 days** of their return to school. The note *should include* the student's name, the dates they were out, the reason they were out, and contact information for the parent/guardian. Alternatively, you can submit your attendance note through our Google Link. This can be found in English and Spanish on our website. Click [HERE](#).

-For more information on attendance in prekindergarten click [HERE](#).

-Students who are out of school in excess of 5 consecutive days of school require a physician's note to excuse the absences, per county policy. Please have your doctor's office include all the days they should be excused from school, not just the date they were seen in the office.

Ferndale Early Education Center

presents

Costume Alphabet Bingo!

Tuesday, October 24, 2023

5 p.m.\* - 6 p.m.

In the Cafeteria

(\*Doors open at 4:45 p.m.)



Please join us for a fun event dressed in your best costume!

We will play Alphabet Bingo (prizes for winning BINGO cards) and all students will receive a free book!

Please RSVP by October 20, 2023. Thank you!

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Yes, we will attend Family BINGO on Tuesday, October 24!

Student's name \_\_\_\_\_ Number attending \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

# Star Attendance

## September, 2023

*Strive for 9 Attendance*

or 90% attended for the month!

We would like to recognize each month those students who are meeting or exceeding this goal!

*Congratulations!*

*To the following students*

### **Mrs. Christopher's Class**

Olivia A.	Maximilliano L.
Ayombani A.	Eli M.
Gemma F.	Martin M.
Aylin G.	Skylar M.
John G.	Jeshri P.
Ryan G.	Kane R.
Elliott H.	Joseph S.
Lyric J.	Eda T.
Priansa K.	

### **Mrs. Cockrell's Class**

Paris B.	Nadia B.
Brooklyn B.	Darickson E.
Lyam F.	Kamden H.
Camon J.	Mellany M.
Ezekiel S.	Jameson T.

### **Mrs. Escobedo's Class**

Iker A.	Evelyn H.
Korey B.	Ian M.
Martir C.	Aveyon J.
Harriet D.	Blake P.
Jude H.	Brooklyn Y.

### **Ms. Woznick's Class**

Ariyah E.	Phoenix F.
Matthias G.	Thiago G.
Jayda H.	Erik K.
Eric Mc	Celfido M.
Yosseli O.	Isaac P.
Ava P.	Aerlyna T.
Lina O.	

### **Mrs. Bullard's Class**

Adriel C.	Zainulabideen M.
Henrietta D.	Elijah S.
Rylan J.	Everest S.
Denzel L.	

### **Mrs. Murphy's Class**

Alina B.	Kail'li C.
Amia C.	Levi D.
Ethan F.	Mila F.
Husnain G.	Erick G.
Serenity G.	Brayden H.
Brycine H.	Karia H.
Lennox H.	Alijah L.
Emilio M.	Antonio S.
Ruth V.	Sebastian W.

### **Mrs. Myles' Class**

Haris. A.	Jay'Mari B.
Zoie B.	Yahya B.
Ellieanna B.	Paxton B.
Naomi B.	Louis B.
Reagan D.	Aaron G.
Krislyn H.	Amir H.
Samuel N.	Ewan O.
Everly V.	Oscar V.

### **Mrs. White's Class**

Nathaniel A.	Alaska B.
Eve B.	Nova B.
Charlotte C.	Angel C.
Khalil C.	Maeva D.
Halima K.	Abby K.
McKinley L.	Almir M.
Caysen O.	Vidita S.
Paisley S.	Landon S.
Roman W.	

## Music

Hello. I am Heather Kurdziel the general music teacher. This is my 16<sup>th</sup> year teaching in AACPS 15 of which have included Ferndale. I have 3 children of my own, 6th, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 1st, and also live with my husband, our dog and our cat. I love crafting in my free time including making custom order cakes. This year in music PK students will have the opportunity to explore a wide variety of instruments, mostly percussion, as well as begin learning the fundamentals of music including, beat, rhythm, form, and more. I am looking forward to working with all of the students this year and helping them to develop and love and respect for music.

**Heather Kurdziel**

**West Meade Early Education Center**

**Ferndale Early Education Center**

General Music Teacher

*Cultivating Lifelong Learners, Creators, and Consumers of Music*

## Physical Education

My name is Amy Campbell and I am the full time Physical Education teacher here at Ferndale Early Education Center. I grew up locally and hold this area near and dear to my heart. I'm happy to be back at Ferndale for my second year in this role! I'm also the part time Physical Education teacher at Waugh Chapel Elementary and Belvedere Elementary. Physical Education provides students with the necessary skills, knowledge, and experiences to achieve optimal health and wellness throughout their lifetime. In PreK we provide learning experiences for students to discover how their bodies move while developing basic skills and object manipulation. We have a lot of fun developing fitness and enjoying physical activity!

**Amy Campbell**

[accampbell@aacps.org](mailto:accampbell@aacps.org)

Google Voice 301.541.3618

## Art Class

My name is Dana Siperko and I have a masters in art education from MICA. It is my second year with Ferndale and AACPS as their full-time art educator. I am also the part time art educator over at Hilltop elementary. In Art class students explore creating with art materials while working on direction following and fine motor skills. Students will have the opportunity to try many different art materials and grow their skill set throughout the year. Movement and literacy are built into each class to meet young learners needs.

**Dana Siperko**

Masters of Art Education

Hilltop ES / Ferndale EEC

Google Voice 301-683-8678