



Four Seasons Newsletter

October 2023

Regina Passwaters, Principal

MAKE MAGIC HAPPEN! MAKE MAGIC HAPPEN! MAKE MAGIC HAPPEN! MAKE MAGIC HAPPEN!



Calendar October:



- | | | |
|-------|-----|--|
| 16-20 | | Harvest for the Hungry Food Collection |
| 16-20 | | Book Fair |
| 17 | Tu | 2-hour early dismissal; no PM ECSE classes |
| 17 | Tu | Book Fair Milk and Cookies Night—5:00-7:30 pm |
| 21 | Sat | Family Involvement Conference at Crofton High School—8:00 am-1:00 pm |
| 26 | Th | Kindergarten field trip to the zoo |
| 30 | M | 2-hour early dismissal; no PM ECSE classes |
| 31 | Tu | Sharktober Fest—wear pajamas or costume |
| 31 | Tu | 2-hour early dismissal; no PM ECSE classes |

Looking ahead to November:

- | | | |
|-------|----|--|
| 1 | W | No school (elementary and middle schools only) |
| 8 | W | Vision and hearing screening |
| 16 | Th | Picture Re-Takes |
| 20&21 | | Parent/Teacher Conferences
No school for students |
| 22-24 | | No school—Thanksgiving |

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

Please remember to bring your ID when picking up students, visiting, volunteering/chaperoning, and when attending any Parent/Teacher conference.

FOUR SEASONS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

OUR MISSION

Fostering a life long love of learning in a
Safe and orderly environment with
Excellent teachers facilitating
Students' active learning.



Principal's Message

The school year is underway! Thank you for your patience with arrival and dismissal. Please do not drop off students in the car loop unless you are at the sidewalk with a staff member. We have had students crossing through parked cars, especially by the Kindergarten wing. We are trying to keep everyone safe, so please drive slowly. Additionally, a staff member is on the blacktop at 7:45 for students who arrive early. No one is on duty prior to 7:45 a.m.

We are looking for temporary support assistants and lunch/recess monitors. If you are interested, please contact Mrs. Taylor at lwTaylor@aacps.org. This can be certain days of the week or every day!

Sharktober Fest: Students will be allowed to wear pajamas or their costume on October 31st. Costumes must be "friendly" - no blood, guts, gore, violence, or weapon-like props. The room parent or teacher will be sending an email for healthy snack donations for the class FALL celebration. Only the room parent will be granted access to enter the building for the classroom celebration. October 31st is an early dismissal day!



Now Hiring Crossing Guards!

Anne Arundel County is hiring crossing guards for our school. Pay is \$20 per hour. Please contact Jim Whalen, Anne Arundel County recruiter, for details:

Email: p94204@aacounty.org

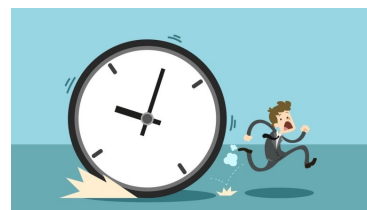
Phone: 410-222-1995



Just a reminder that Pre-K dismisses at 2:15 and all other students dismiss at 2:25. Please be on time to pick up your student(s).

Also, we ask that you arrive no later than 2:00 p.m. when picking your student up early.

Students cannot be called to the office if parents are running late for an early dismissal. A parent's ID must be checked before a student can be called from class. Thanks.



Family Academy

Family Academy is a library of videos, classes, and resources to answer your questions on:

[Wellbeing & Growth](#),
[Academics & Programs](#), and
[Navigating AACPS](#)

Family Academy website:
<https://www.aacps.org/familyacademy>



Click here to view the October

[School Meals Menu](#)



Please note that due to supply shortages, substitutions to the menu may occur.

No Dogs Allowed on School Property



Just a friendly reminder that dogs are not permitted on school property. Thanks for your cooperation.



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Unexcused Absences

BOE Regulation JB-RA Compulsory Attendance

8. Students with **UNLAWFUL absences** may request missed assignments but may not receive credit for this work.

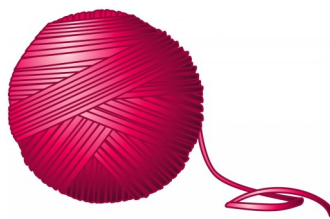
10. A student with **LAWFUL absences** shall be allowed a reasonable number of days that equals at least as many days that the student was absent, to make up the work. The reason for the absence shall be considered when determining the number of days granted to complete the work. A student with **LAWFUL absences** near or at the end of a grading period may receive a temporary "I" Incomplete and be allowed a reasonable number of days that equals at least as many days that the student was absent, to make up work.

Donations Requested

Hello Four Seasons Families! We are excited to begin Enhancing Elementary Excellence (EEE) with your children. Throughout the year, we will be looking for donations to help support our program. If you are able to donate any of the following household items, please send them with your child to drop off in the EEE classroom. Thanks in advance!

~Ms. Harris and Mrs. Coe

- small shoeboxes
- paper towel rolls
- plastic bottle caps
- fabric scraps
- yarn/string
- spare buttons
- netting (like from an avocado bag)
- gift wrap scraps
- plastic tongs/plastic tweezers
- seashells
- chopsticks
- beads



EEE Amazon
Wish List:





Dear Parents and Families:

We're excited to invite you to our upcoming Scholastic Book Fair. This event is an opportunity for students of all ages to build their home libraries and further their love of reading. As always, all purchases benefit our school. The Fair will take place from **OCTOBER 16 - 20 in the LIBRARY**. Students will have the opportunity to preview the book fair on Monday or Tuesday, and then classes will return later in the week for students to purchase books. Additionally, the PTA will host a Milk & Cookies event on Tuesday, October 17 in the evening, where the Book Fair will be open for families.

Our Book Fair offers **eWallet**, a safe and secure alternative to cash. Simply create a free account to add funds and/or invite family and friends to contribute so your child can select their own books. Any unused funds can be spent at The Scholastic Store Online or to fund a future eWallet.

If you can't make it to the Fair, then **shop at our school's Online Book Fair**. All orders ship directly to your home, and shipping is free for book orders over \$25. Your online orders will also benefit our school. Visit our Book Fair homepage to learn more and get started with eWallet and online shopping:

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bf/FSES>

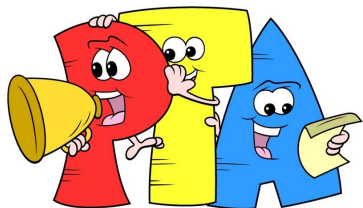
We're excited to celebrate our love of books together at the Book Fair. We look forward to seeing your child there!

Happy reading,

Mrs. Shelby

Mrs. Shelby
Library Media Specialist





FOUR SEASONS PTA

School is off to an exciting start, and the PTA is planning several fun events scheduled for this fall!

Upcoming Fall Events:

- 10/13 - SkateZone Skate Night 5:00-7:00 p.m.
- 10/16 - 10/20 - Book Fair & Spirit Week
- 10/17 - Book Fair Milk and Cookies Event 5:00-7:30 p.m.
- 10/20 - Family Fun Fall Fest 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. (volunteers needed!)
- 10/27 - Monster Mash Dance 5:30-7:30 p.m. (volunteers needed!)
- 10/27 - Feed the Teachers (volunteers needed!)
- 11/8 - Vision and Hearing (volunteers needed!)
- 11/10 - Military Appreciation Night 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Join us for our PTA Meetings held bi-monthly at 6 p.m.!

November 14th, 2023

January 9th, 2024

March 12th, 2024

May 21st, 2024

Please recall: there are many ways to get in touch with us this school year!

Email us: pta.fourseasons@gmail.com

Follow us on Facebook: facebook.com/FourSeasonsElementaryPTA

Visit our website: fourseasonspta.org

Stay in the know by becoming a PTA Member! \$10 dues and form can be completed at the following link, or by scanning the QR code below:

fourseasons-pta.memberhub.com/store/items/710720





Help Your Child Succeed in School: Build the Habit of Good Attendance Early

DID YOU KNOW?

- Starting in preschool and kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10%, or about 2 days each month over the course of a school year, can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just 1 or 2 days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Absences and tardiness can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Eventually good attendance will be a skill that will help them succeed in high school and college.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Keep your child healthy and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Introduce your children to their teachers and classmates before school starts.
- Develop backup plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor or another parent.
- Try to schedule non-Covid-19 related medical appointments and extended trips when school isn't in session.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors and other parents for advice on how to make your child feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- If you are concerned that your child may have Covid-19, call your school for advice.
- If your child must stay home due to illness or quarantine, ask the teacher for resources and ideas to continue learning at home.

Revised October 2021

When Do Absences Become a Problem?



CHRONIC ABSENCE
18 or more days

WARNING SIGNS
10 to 17 days

SATISFACTORY
9 or fewer absences

Note: These numbers assume a 180-day school year.

Visit Attendance Works at www.attendanceworks.org for free downloadable resources and tools!

Notes from the Nurse...

Please remember: if your child needs medication during school hours, we will need the proper medication forms filled out by both the parent and the doctor. These forms are available online and in the health room. NO medications can be given by the health room without these forms. If you have any questions, please call or email us.

Just a reminder to all parents and caregivers - if your child has a fever, he or she needs to stay home until they are fever free for 24 hours without medication, then they may return to school. If they are sent home due to a fever, they must stay home the following day. If they receive no medication and the fever is gone, they can return after a full day at home. If you have any questions, please call the health room staff.

Sick students in the health room should be picked up within 30 minutes. If you cannot pick up your student within that time frame, please have a backup plan. Your backup plan can be a grandparent, aunt, uncle, neighbor, or anyone else you deem responsible to take care of your child. Unfortunately, there are times we are very busy and need the bed that a sick child is sleeping on while waiting to be picked up. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

If your child gets any other vaccines, please send their vaccination record in so that their health records are up-to-date.

If your child tests positive for Covid, flu, strep throat, etc., please inform the health room.

Please make sure your student has a change of clothes in their locker for the proper season. Even older students need a change of clothing in case they spill a drink or get mud on their clothes.

Thank you!

Our email addresses:

Ms. Michelle - health assistant - health3272@aacps.org

Ms. Sherry - RN - nurse3272@aacps.org



HARVEST FOR THE HUNGRY

OCT 16TH - OCT 20TH

STUDENTS ARE INVITED TO BRING IN NON-PERISHABLE, CANNED FOOD ITEMS TO DONATE TO THE ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY FOOD BANK. WE WILL BE HOSTING A FRIENDLY COMPETITION TO SEE WHICH GRADE LEVEL WILL BRING IN THE MOST ITEMS!

OUR GOAL IS TO COLLECT 1,800 ITEMS!

NEEDED FOODS: (PLEASE NO GLASS)

- FRUIT AND JUICES
- MEAT/HAM/CHICKEN
- STEWS AND SOUPS
- TUNA/SALMON/SARDINES
- VEGETABLES
- BEANS
- EVAPORATED/POWDERED MILK
- INFANT FORMULA
- MACARONI AND CHEESE
- MULTIGRAIN CRACKERS/RICE CAKES
- NUTS AND SEEDS
- OATMEAL
- WHOLE GRAIN CEREALS/PASTA
- SAUCES/SALAD DRESSINGS



TO MAKE MONETARY DONATIONS,
PLEASE USE THE QR CODE OR GO TO
WWW.AACPS.ORG/HARVEST



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



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New Attendance Procedure

This year, AACPS has a new attendance procedure for absences, late arrivals, and early dismissals, using ParentPortal.

1. Open a web browser on your computer and go to www.aacps.org.
2. Click the "Student/Parent Portal" quick link icon at the top of the page.
3. Click the "PowerSchool Student and Parent Sign-In" icon on the right. You will be directed to the sign-in page.
4. Enter the ParentPortal username and password you created.

To Complete the Form:

1. Click the student name across the top.
 2. Click "Forms" on the left menu bar.
 3. Click AACPS-Absence or Early Dismissal Form to open the form.
(Note: To change the text to Spanish, use the dropdown in the upper right corner.)
 4. Read and complete the form as directed on screen. Any field marked with an asterisk (*) must be completed.
 5. Click "Submit."
- Your submission will be reviewed by the main office.



Federal Impact Program Survey

Parents who are active military or who live or work on Federal Property in Maryland are asked to complete this year's Federal Impact Aid Survey when it becomes available on September 29, 2023.

You will be asked to verify your home address and identify if it is located on federal property. You will also complete sections identifying if a family member is in the military or works on federally owned property in Maryland. The survey should only take a couple of minutes to complete and, be assured, all data collected is kept completely confidential.

Why Complete This Survey

Anne Arundel County Public Schools, like many local school districts across the United States, includes within our boundaries parcels of land that are owned by the federal government or that have been removed from the local tax rolls by the federal government. Federal property is exempt from local property taxes. By submitting an application to the Department of Education each January, AACPS receives approximately \$2 million to assist in educating all our students.



Anne Arundel County Public Schools School & Family Partnerships Office, invite you to attend a...

Family Involvement Conference

Saturday, October 21, 2023

8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Crofton High School

2291 Davidsonville Rd, Gambrills, MD 21054

www.aacps.org/familyconference



Belong
Grow
Succeed

Some of the Workshops you can choose from...

Building a Strong Community through Service

Join our workshop and discover how engaging in service can positively impact your child's development, strengthen family bonds, and contribute to a thriving, interconnected community.

From Playgrounds to Paychecks: Preparing students for Career Readiness

Join us as we explore the role parents play in shaping their children's career aspirations and ensuring they are well-prepared for the challenges of the job market.

Level up Their Learning: Skills for Success

Planning, organizing, prioritizing, and time management do not come easily for many of us. This session will explain how executive functions affect school achievement and how to help students at home who find these skills challenging.

Put That Down and Look at Me — Whose Faces are Screens Replacing?

Review facts about the impact of technology addiction on human behavior and discuss the value of establishing boundaries around the use of technology.

Strategies for the ADHD Brain

Discuss the unique qualities of the ADHD brain and walk away with specific tools that can be used with children to promote positive interactions and success.

Stress Busters through the Ages and Stages: How to Help Kids Cope with Worries and Concerns

This workshop will provide strategies on how to help their children cope with worries and concerns using simple, effective strategies.

Where did my Dough Go? Money Management for Teens

With part-time work, allowance, gifts, and more teens often struggle with managing money. Learn how to help your teen spend and save appropriately, both with traditional banking and virtual tools.

Why Do They Act that Way?

Gain insights from David Walsh's book, *Why Do They Act that Way: A Survival Guide to the Adolescent Brain for You and Your Teen* and learn strategies to help children gain impulse control and behavior management skills.

Why Empathy?

Explore practical strategies to teach empathy to children.

To Register



SCAN ME

Conference is Free! | Breakfast & Lunch will be provided.

To register online (preferred method) go to www.aacps.org/familyconference.

You can also register for the conference by returning this form to the School & Family Partnerships Office,

AACPS, 2644 Riva Rd, Annapolis, MD 21401

Name _____
(First, Middle Initial, Last)

Would you like an interpreter? _____

Street Address _____
City State Zip

Language _____

E-mail Address _____

Phone _____

Limited Childcare will be available on a first come, first served basis. Pre-registration is required (ages 3-12 only).

Children under the age of 16 may not accompany parents into conference sessions. To register for childcare call 410-224-8192 (between 7:30-3:00)

Conferencia de Participación Familiar

Sábado 21 de octubre, 2023

8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Crofton High School

2291 Davidsonville Rd, Gambrills, MD 21054

www.aacps.org/familyconference



Pertenecer
Crecer
Triunfar

Algunos de los talleres que usted puede elegir son...

Construyendo una comunidad fuerte a través del servicio

Únase a nuestro taller y descubra cómo mediante la participación en el servicio puede impactar positivamente el desarrollo de los niños, fortalecer los vínculos familiares y contribuir a una comunidad próspera e interconectada.

Desde el patio de recreo a los cheques de pago: Preparar a los estudiantes para su carrera profesional

Únase a nosotros mientras exploramos el rol que desempeñan los padres a la hora de dar forma a las aspiraciones profesionales de sus hijos y garantizar que estén bien preparados para los desafíos del mercado laboral.

Elevar su nivel de aprendizaje: Habilidades para el éxito

Planificar, organizar, priorizar y administrar el tiempo no es fácil para muchos de nosotros. Esta sesión explicará cómo las funciones ejecutivas afectan el rendimiento escolar y cómo ayudar a los estudiantes que encuentran desafiantes estas habilidades.

Baja eso y Mirame— ¿De quién son los rostros que sustituyen las pantallas?

Revisar los datos sobre el impacto de la adicción a la tecnología en el comportamiento humano y discutir el valor de establecer límites sobre el uso de la tecnología.

Estrategias para el cerebro con ADHD

Analice las cualidades únicas del cerebro con ADHD y obtenga herramientas específicas que se pueden utilizar con los niños para promover interacciones positivas y con éxito.

Eliminar el estrés a través de las edades y etapas: Cómo ayudar a los niños a sobrellevar sus preocupaciones e inquietudes

Este taller proporcionará estrategias sobre cómo ayudar a sus hijos a enfrentar sus preocupaciones e inquietudes utilizando estrategias simples y efectivas.

¿A dónde se fue mi dinero? Administración de dinero para adolescentes

Con un trabajo a tiempo parcial, subsidios, regalos y más, los adolescentes a menudo tienen dificultades para administrar el dinero.

¿Por qué actúan de esa manera?

Obtenga información del libro de David Walsh, ¿Por qué actúan de esa manera?: una guía de supervivencia para el cerebro adolescente para usted y su adolescente y aprenda estrategias para ayudarlos a adquirir habilidades de control de impulsos y manejo del comportamiento.

¿Por qué la empatía?

Explore estrategias prácticas para enseñar empatía a los niños.

Para registrarse



SCAN ME

¡La conferencia es gratuita! | Se proporcionará desayuno continental y almuerzo

Para inscribirse en línea (método preferido), visite www.aacps.org/familyconference.

También puede inscribirse a la conferencia enviando este formulario a la oficina School & Family Partnerships,
AACPS, 2644 Riva Rd, Annapolis, MD 21401

Nombre _____
(Nombre, Inicial, Apellido)

¿Te gustaría un intérprete? _____

Dirección _____
Ciudad Estado Código postal

Lenguaje _____

Correo electrónico _____

Teléfono _____

Hubrá cuidado infantil limitado disponible por orden de llegada. Se requiere inscripción previa (solo edades de 3 a 12 años). Los niños menores de 16 años no podrán acompañar a sus padres a las sesiones de la conferencia. Para inscribirse para el cuidado infantil llame al 410-224-8192 entre 7:30 a 3:00 PM.

Four Seasons Fundraising



COAL  **FIRE**

(410) 721-2625 | 1402 S Main Chapel Way
LOCATED IN WAUGH CHAPEL TOWNE CENTRE
www.coalfireonline.com

Bring in this flyer *or* present via smartphone

Wednesday, October 25, 2023

11:30 AM- 9:00 PM

**& 20% of all generated dine in, carry out
and catering sales will go directly to:**

Four Seasons Elementary School

Important Information for Fifth Grade Students-

Magnet Middle School Information Sessions

Below is the schedule for **information sessions** regarding the three **Magnet Middle School** programs available for 5th graders who attend Four Seasons Elementary School. Students who are interested in a Magnet Middle School for 6th grade are encouraged to attend (virtual or in-person) a session and apply for the program.

Online application process opens at
noon on **October 9th, 2023** and closes at noon on **November 13th, 2023**

The **Magnet Middle School** programs include:

- **Apex Arts**; formerly known as Performing Visual Arts (PVA)
- **IB**=International Baccalaureate
- **STEM**=Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math

For more information about the **Magnet Middle School Programs** and application process, please visit their website: [Magnet Programs](#) OR
Contact our school counselor, Lori Stuart at ldstuart@aacps.org or 410 222-6501

<u>Magnet Program</u>	<u>School/ Contact Info</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Link to Virtual Meeting OR Location</u> -only need to attend one session
Apex Arts	Brooklyn Park MS Mr. Matt Beall 410 507-4854 mcbcall@aacps.org	Session 1: Wednesday October 18, 2023	6:00-7:00 PM	Virtual Session http://meet.google.com/wfc-dmvj-xwn
		Session 2: Thursday October 26, 2023	6:00-7:30 PM	In person at Brooklyn Park Middle School
IB MYP	MacArthur MS Ms. Donna McCallister 410 674-0032 dmccallister@aacps.org	Session 1: Thursday October 12, 2023	6:00-7:00 PM	In person- at the Severn Library, 2624 Annapolis Road
		Session 2: Tuesday October 24, 2023	6:00-7:00 PM	Virtual Session https://meet.google.com/xum-ooed-cpu
STEM	Lindale MS Ms. Leah Noreiga 410 691-4344 lnoreiga@aacps.org	Session 1: Wednesday November 1, 2023	12:00-1:00 PM	Virtual Session https://meet.google.com/gon-ytej-vca
		Session 2: Wednesday November 8, 2023	6:00-7:30 PM	In person at Lindale Middle School



Four Seasons now offers an additional, convenient way to pay for school items electronically. It's called On-line School Payments (OSP) and will allow families to pay by credit card for things such as field trips, lost media books, and Chromebook repairs. We also have options to allow you to donate to support special activities for students or to donate to allow the principal to "treat" our staff. Please note that there is a small service charge for using the OSP system. Cash and checks made payable to Four Seasons Elementary are always accepted for student fees with no service fee. If you have any questions regarding the OSP system, please contact Erika Allen at eaillen@aacps.org or 410-222-6501. To access OSP, please click on this link: [Four Seasons OSP](#)

Notice: Four Seasons Elementary School 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.

The Anne Arundel County Public School System does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex age, national origin, religion, disability, or socioeconomic status in matters affecting employment or in providing access to programs. Questions regarding non-discrimination should be directed to the Office of Investigations, Anne Arundel County Public Schools, 2644 Riva Road, Annapolis, Maryland 21401; telephone: 410-222-5286; TDD 410-222-5500.

BOX TOPS MAKES IT EASY.

All you need is your phone! Download the Box Tops app, shop as you normally would, then use the app to scan your store receipt within 14 days of purchase. The app will identify Box Tops products on your receipt and automatically credit your school's earnings online.

There are very few clip boxtops on boxes, but if you find a boxtop with a red dotted line around it, clip it and bring it in to Four Seasons. Go to boxtops4education.com for more information.



Thank you to everyone who participates in this program.



Stay Connected:



Anne Arundel County Public Schools:
<https://www.facebook.com/aacps>.

Four Seasons Elementary PTA:
<https://www.facebook.com/FourSeasonsElementaryPTA>



Four Seasons Elementary:
<https://twitter.com/4seasonsESaacs?s=20>