

MARCH

Dear Millersville Families,

“Luck is what happens when preparation meets opportunity.”

~ Seneca

Our students have been working hard since September and continue to make great leaps in their knowledge. For our third, fourth and fifth grade students, this preparation will be used in the opportunity to show what they have learned and mastered in their educational careers. From now through June the mandatory testing window opens, and our students will be asked to do their best on tests in Mathematics and reading; and for fifth graders also in science.

This can be a stressful time for our young scholars, but as adults there are things we can do to help them. At home, get into a regimen that includes a reasonable bedtime to ensure at least 8 hours of sleep. Make sure your child eats breakfast every morning, so they have energy to pull on when they need it. These two seemingly simple things will make a huge difference. Also using positive talk with your child such as: “You have worked hard, now you just need to do your best to show what you know.” Please avoid statements such as “You are so smart!” when a child hears that and then struggles, it often leads to them giving up and feeling the exact opposite of what was said.

Also, once the testing dates are released, please get your child to school on time, and schedule appointments around the testing times. If your child is honestly sick with a fever, keep them home until they are fever free without medication for 24 hours. We will do our best to get them caught up upon their return.

For ALL your children, take the time to read with them every night. Ask questions and have them create questions. This is the one thing you can do that makes a direct impact on their performance in school. Reading and comprehending what one reads is still a major life skill.

Thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully,

Linda Toth, principal



Our School Wide
Motto

“Tell me and I forget.
Teach me and I
remember. Involve
me and I learn.”

Linda Toth, Principal
ltoth@aacps.org

Amy Worrall, Assistant
Principal
aworrall@aacps.org

Office 410-222-3800

Anne Arundel Website
www.aacps.org



Healthy Habits = Healthy children

Healthy habits that decrease the spread of germs and help keep children and families well:

1. Handwashing is one of the best ways to keep from getting sick
 - Wet hands with running water.
 - Add soap & rub hands together for 20 seconds.
 - Rinse.
 - Dry hands with clean paper towel.
 - If soap & water aren't available, use an alcohol based hand sanitizer.
2. Cover that sneeze and cough - Coughing and sneezing spread germs. Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue or the inside of your elbow to prevent spreading germs to your hands.
3. Get Moving – Exercise helps the body fight off simple illnesses. Include active play in your child's schedule.
4. Sleep – Getting the right amount of sleep will help fight off colds and infections.

5. Healthy Eating – Good nutrition is vital for good health. Provide a variety of foods, including plenty of vegetables, fruits and whole grains at meal and snack times.

6. Keep your Child Home when Sick- Children should stay home until they feel better

When Do I Keep My Child Home From School?

(Although no comprehensive list is possible, the following conditions may be appropriate reasons to keep a student home from school)

- Temperature 100° or greater
- Suspected fracture
- Vomiting, diarrhea Severe pain
- Shortness of breath, wheezing
- Undiagnosed rash
- Abdominal pain Productive cough and fever
- Red, draining eyes Suspected communicable disease
- Chest pain Head injury
- Earache Adverse medication effect
- Nuisance condition not currently treated e.g., ringworm, scabies, head lice

Anne Arundel County Department of Health

School Health Services

HEALTH PROTECTION for FLU and other Viral Infections

General guidance: Take the same precautions that you would during cold and flu season:

- Consider getting your flu shot — it's not too late.
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue or sleeve when sneezing or coughing and **do not use your hands:** https://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/hygiene/etiquette/coughing_sneezing.html
- Wash your hands often with soap and water.
- Stay home if you are not feeling well.
- If you have business travel planned and have concerns, please let your manager know.
- If you have personal travel planned, please follow the [CDC guidance](#).

As we discuss the news and any future developments, it's important to be mindful of how epidemics like this can impact different communities. It's also important that we rely on credible sources of information to make the best decisions and that we avoid false information and those that seek to exploit others or engage in attacks on various communities.

If you want to learn more, here's what we're reading:

- Virginia Department of Health: <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/>
- CDC: [US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) Situation Summary](#)
- CDC: [Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers to Plan and Respond to Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\), February 2020](#)

Please know that AACPS is working closely with our health agencies and will release information as soon as it is possible to do so.

FOTA

Festival of the Arts

**Embracing our Differences,
Changing the World!**

Join us on Saturday, March 21st from 9:00 am-12:00 pm at Old Mill High School for the annual Old Mill cluster event, Festival of the Arts. The purpose of this cluster-wide event is to showcase the talents, both academic and artistic, of the students and teachers in the Old Mill cluster. Each elementary and secondary school will be represented at this wonderful event. Come to see the happenings of each school and remember to stay for the OMHS Steel Drum Band as we continue, "Embracing our Differences, Changing the World".



Information



OSP

Online School Payments

OSP is available at Millersville Elementary School! Pay for school items, fees and activities online using a credit or debit card (Visa or Mastercard).

Go to the AACPS.ORG website and select your student's school from the list.

Click on the OSP Link provided on the Gateway Page.

Create a new user account and then add Student profiles. You must have your student's ID to complete this section.

Also note that the student's name must match exactly to school database (as it appears on report card). If you have any problems, please contact the school office.

<http://osp.osmsinc.com/annearundel>



Health Room Reminder



Please remember to drop off any medication to the nurse's office, and to let them know of any concerns regarding your child's health.

If you are dropping off medication, it must be in the pharmacy issued bottle with the child's name on it.

Please remember that cough drops and aspirin are considered medication and a child should not have it in their possession.



Volunteers!

We love our volunteers here at MES! Information regarding our volunteer program will be coming home shortly! In the meantime, please review the following links to make sure you are prepared for all volunteer opportunities!

Please view the Sexual Harassment/Child Abuse video (left hand side). You will need to print the verification form and send it in to school:

<http://aacpschools.org/family/family/>

Please carefully read the updated information regarding Fingerprint Supported Background Checks and Commercial Background Checks can be found here:

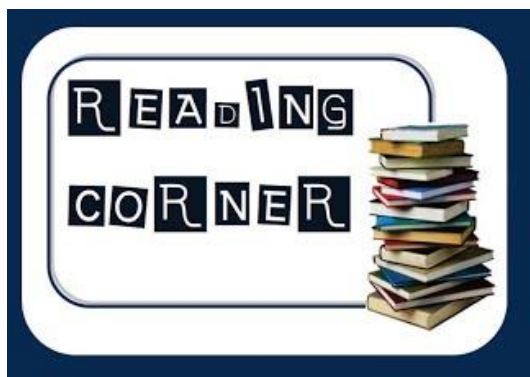
<https://www.aacps.org/Page/1869>

Please contact Mrs. Abell or Mrs. Hudgins with any questions!

Important Dates For March

- 2 PTA Meeting 6 PM
Dr Seuss's Birthday wear red/Black/ White
- 3 Wear your favorite college or career outfit
- 4 Wear Green
- 5 Wear animal print or camouflage
- 6 Wear crazy socks
- 9 Interims
- 10 Parent/teacher conferences
Week of 15th PJ collection for Casey Cares – bring in a new pair of pajamas
- 18 Reading Night 6-7PM
- 20 Jammie Jam dance by PTA 6-8
- 21 Festival of the Arts at OMHS 9AM – 12 PM
- 24 - hour early dismissal





March Reading Newsletter:

Thanks to PTA for supporting One School, One Book! We ended the month with an awesome vocabulary parade! Check out the main hallway bulletin board for the fun projects that were sent to school.

We are looking forward to Reading Night! Save the date for March 18th at 6pm! Guest author, Bernadette Gesser will be there with her book, Bob the Big Bad Bluefish. Harley, a therapy dog will be joining us to read as well!

Another thanks to PTA for funding an author visit with Rachelle Burke! We are excited for this assembly on March 30th where she will talk about the writing process and her books.

Find out more at

www.RachelleBurke.com.

“Not all readers are leaders, but all leaders are readers.” -Harry S. Truman

Why Kids at Hope?

There is an epidemic of HOPELESSNESS. Many young people have lost hope in their future. You see it in depression, drug abuse, anxiety, lack of interest in school, juvenile delinquency and tragically, suicide. When you give up on your future, you make very bad decisions.

The Challenge

Often we wait until the symptoms of hopelessness appear and then we rally to address those symptoms.

It is time we make a concerted effort to address the challenge before the symptoms appear.

The COMMITMENT to Prevent Hopelessness

Every child and youth deserve to be vaccinated against hopelessness. Today's science is offering us answers. We know that young people who sense adults truly BELIEVE in them; CONNECT with them in meaningful ways that are sustainable; and teach all kids the power of mental TIME TRAVEL, a process that teaches goal setting, pathways toward goals, and understand the energy needed to pursue those goals are much more hopeful than youth who don't.

By offering all youth, the three major building blocks needed for HOPE

- BELIEVE
- CONNECT
- TIME TRAVEL

we can protect them from hopelessness.

Something to Consider!

If you have a child just starting their school career, or if you have more than one child, please consider getting fingerprinted for AACPS. As long as you have a child in an AACPS school, the finger printing is good. This negates the need to have background check completed every 2 years.

There is a cost at \$58.25.

You need to make an appointment at the Board of Education to have this completed.

If we can get 25 people interested in being fingerprinted, our security office will come here to Millersville Elementary

School and complete the finger printing on site.

Please contact Mrs. Claytor if you are interested, and she will see if we can create a group and have it done at school.

This will make it easier to chaperone and participate in school events with your child.

