

May 2024

Important Dates

The Principal's Message

Greetings Parents, Students and Staff,

It's hard to believe that we are approaching the last 30 days of school. We are having a blast providing fun learning experiences for our students. Last week, our students participated in Military Boot Camp Activities in honor of the Month of the Military Child. Our students expressed that this was the best day ever at PHES. Way to Go to our AWESOME staff and parents who led this incredible event.

During the week of May 6th – 10th, we will celebrate our AMAZING, TALENTED and DEDICATED Teachers for their unwavering support to our students. We are forever grateful for their commitment to teach each child and assist them in reaching their full potential.

On May 8th and 9th, our school staff will participate in Grade Level Articulation Meetings. We will discuss each student individually to share integral information about their academics, behavior, instructional needs etc. While there are no teacher requests, we do welcome parents to share any additional information about their child that will be helpful in placing them in the appropriate learning environment where they will thrive academically, socially and emotionally. All input from parents must be turned into Ms. Reisler, Principal's Secretary at preisler@aacps no later than Monday, May 6th.

In closing, thank you for continued support as we continue to work together at PHES.

Your partner in education,

Selecia Hardy, Principal

Date	Event
May 1st	National Principals' Day Book Fair
May 2nd	PTA's Spring Festival at 5:00 pm; Book Fair
May 3rd	School Lunch Hero Day; Book Fair
May 6th	Parent Grade Level Articulation Input Due
May 6 th – 10 th	Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week
May 8th	Community Conversations at Meade Middle School
May 8 th – 9 th	School-wide Grade Level Articulation
May 13th	5 th Grade Panoramic Picture Day
May 14th	Primary Election Day – No School
May 18th	Meade Cluster Wellness Event @ 10:00 am
May 20th	Student of the Month Breakfast @ 7:40 am
May 22nd	Band Spring Concert at 6:00 pm
May 27th	Memorial Day – No School
May 28th	Chorus Spring Concert at 6:00 pm





MS. JOHNSON'S

Assistant Principal's Corner

MAY 2024

i-Ready EOY Diagnostic

It's hard to believe that we're already preparing for the End of Year i-Ready® Diagnostic. The End of Year Diagnostic is an important benchmark for understanding student growth, which is why it's so important that students try their best. These results allow us to better support students in achieving their goals. The window for the EOY diagnostic opens May 28th, 2024 through June 7th, 2024.

ATTENDANCE

We have about 30 days left of this school year and student attendance still matters!

Please continue to have your child come to school everyday until the last day of school (June 11th, 2024).

MCAP TESTING: MAKE-UP TESTING SESSIONS

Primary MCAP testing for Grades 3-5 has concluded. Thank you to the students and parents who prepared for testing each night and attended all sessions for ELA and Math!

If your student missed a testing session, please know that they will need to complete make-up testing sessions to fully complete MCAP testing. Ms. Johnson and the homeroom teachers are in communication on when make-up testing sessions should occur to not interrupt instruction.

National Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

Hello!

Mindy Kim, Class President

By: Lyla Lee

Each month, I will share a book to celebrate inclusion and diversity.



CONTACT:

CHANTE' JOHNSON

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

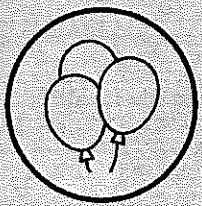
PERSHING HILL ELEMENTARY

CRJOHNSONI@AACPS.ORG

410-222-6519

GRATITUDE

Each month, we will show gratitude to our PHES Community!



**Thank you
Mr. and
Mrs.
Chisholm!**

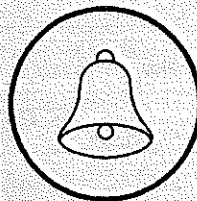
Special thanks for your kindness, support and collaboration. Your visit to PHES reinforced the importance of teamwork in building a strong and solid home and school connection. We appreciate both of you!

Military Boot Camp

Our Month of the Military Child events were made extra special due to our military families who gave time to acknowledge just how special our military connected children are. Whether you came in to lead the Pledge of Allegiance or spent the day at Book Camp we want to thank you, thank you, thank you and thank you again..... Special thanks to Mrs. Benavente, Mrs. Hill, Mrs. McCray, Mrs. Hernandez, Mr. Schmidley, Mr. Valentine, Mrs. McClendon, Mrs. Campbell, Mr. Colon, Mrs. Turner, Mrs. Kaczmarek, Mrs. Mount, Mrs. Young, Mrs. Simmons, Mrs. Onyango, Mrs. Starbeck, Mrs. Leach, Mrs. Yanes, Mrs. Colon and Mrs. Betenbough-Ross

Pledge of Allegiance:

Special thanks to Mr. Menard, Mr. Toth, Mrs. Simmons, Mrs. Zimmerman, Mr. Noble, Mr. Hawkins, Mrs. Reid, Mrs. LaChiusa, Mr. Sterling, Mr. Arrington, Mr. Savala, Mrs. Washington, Mr. McNeil, Mr. Colon, Mr. Hernandez, Mrs. Girard, Mrs. Sargent and Mrs. Alzadon for leading our students in the Pledge of Allegiance during the Month of the Military Child.



Thankful:

Special thanks to The Campbell Family for donating Girl Scout Cookies and surprising our School's Secretaries during Administrative Assistant's Day.

Appreciation is a wonderful thing. It makes what is excellent in others belong to us as well.

-Voltaire

May 2024

Penny Reisler, Principal's Secretary
preisler@aacps.org

Debbie McAlvanah, Secretary
dmcalvanah@aacps.org

Patrice Tucker, Secretary
pctucker@aacps.org

Notes from the Office

Early Dismissal / Change in Dismissal -- All Early Dismissals or Change in Dismissals must be done prior to 2:00 PM

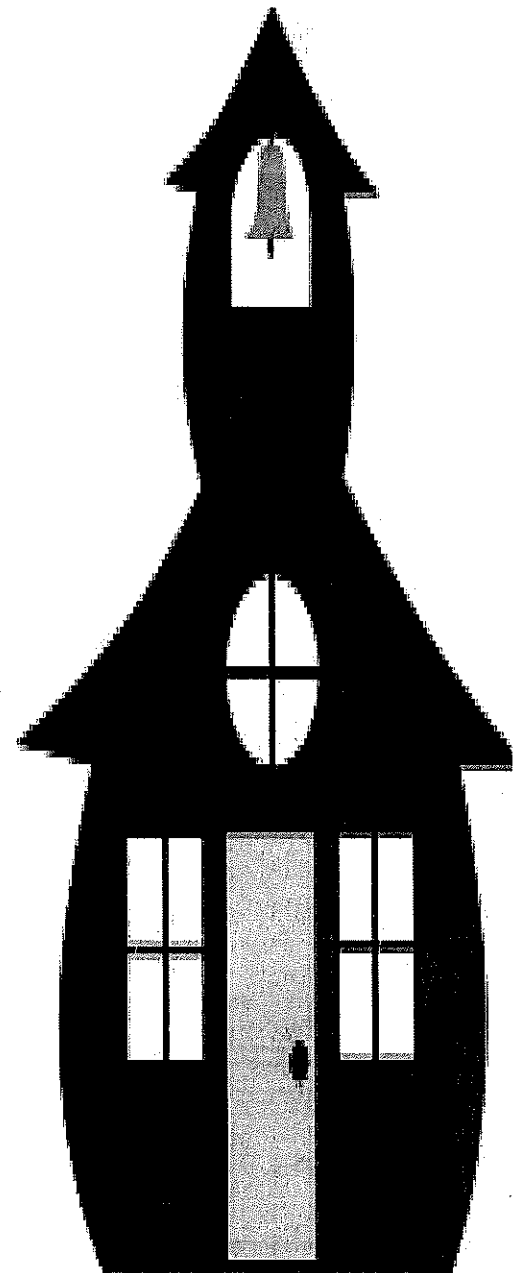
Late Arrival -- Any arrival after school begins at 8:00 AM, is considered tardy. **You must bring your student into office to sign them in.**

Absences -- Absences can either be reported through the Parent Portal Account or a note can be sent in with the student when they return to school. Emails and phone calls are not accepted.

Automated Attendance Calls — When your child is late to school, or absent, you will receive the automated phone call stating that your child is absent. Updating attendance is a manual process done throughout the day and can take up to 24 + hours to be updated.

Are you moving soon? — If you are planning on moving soon, please notify the office via email with when your student's last day will be and where you will be moving to. This will ensure time to make sure an electronic transfer packet is created, as well as making sure items such as chromebooks and media books are returned to the school.

Lost and Found — On May 17 and June 12 any items in Lost and Found will be donated to Meade Attic. You can come daily from 2:45 —3:15 to look for items.



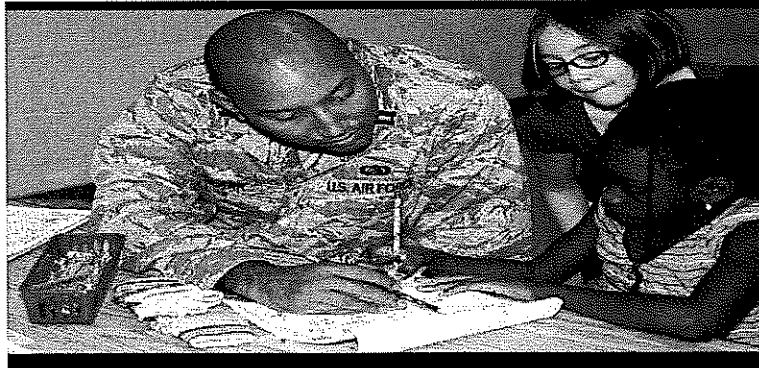
PHES Reading News



PHES May Reading Events

Friday, May 24th Bowie Baysox Game

Congratulations to all students who read four books from Feb. 1st - April 5th and turned in their Bowie Baysox Reading logs! You will receive one free child's ticket and one free adult ticket so that you and a parent can attend the game on 5/24/24. Plan to arrive at the game early as the traffic can be heavy. The game starts at 6:35PM. Plan to stay for the fireworks show which is held immediately after. Go to Baysox.com and click on "Tickets and Promotions". Click on "Individual Game Tickets" and "Buy Tickets for May 24". Use the special offer code **READ9** to buy additional tickets for the game. We hope to see you there!



At Home Writing Grades 1 & 2

1. Show an interest in, and ask questions about the things your child says, draws or tries to write. Encourage your child to write even if it is scribbling.
2. Make sure your child sees you writing. Your child will learn about writing by watching you write. Talk about what you are writing, so your child will understand why writing is important.
3. Give your child opportunities to practice authentic writing by helping them write notes to friends and family members, write lists of things to do or buy, and write about life events.
4. Create a family message board. Write messages to your child and encourage your child to write messages.

Quote of the Month: "All writing is rooted in the ability of a child to know their own thoughts and be able to bring those out and present them in written expression."

Julie Bogart, Bravewriter

Robin Parker, Literacy Teacher

rbparker@aacps.org

Corinne Herrera, Early Intervention Teacher

cherrera@aacps.org

Reading and Writing go Together

As children develop, they learn to speak first. Reading follows and then the ability to write. Writing is a great way to reinforce your child's reading.

Writing is an important skill for people of all ages and an important part communicating in our daily lives. However, it is a difficult skill for children to master. In the early grades, students advance from writing words, to complete sentences, and then to paragraphs in order to share their ideas and stories. In grades three through five, whether writing by hand or on the computer, school assignments and exams require students to write short answers or longer essays to assess what they have learned. Ultimately, in elementary school we are laying the foundations for all our students future written communications!

This month we will focus on writing and how you can help your child become a better writer. Begin by finding a table or desk with a smooth flat surface and a good lighting source. Assemble some lined paper, pencils, pens and markers. Let's get ready to write!

At Home Writing Grades 3 & 5

1. Talk with your children as much as possible about their ideas and impressions, and encourage them to describe people, places and events to you.
2. Encourage your child to keep a journal to write about things that happen at home and at school. This is a great writing practice and an excellent way to vent or share feelings.
3. Help your child with writing by asking questions to help clarify the details of stories and assignments and provide your child with help in organizing their thoughts and ideas. Talk about the objective of the writing.
4. Avoid writing for your child. Don't write a paper for your child that will be turned in as his or her work or rewrite your child's work. Meeting a writing deadline, taking responsibility for the finished product and feeling ownership of a written product is also an important part of the writing process.



COUNSELOR'S

CORNER

May

cmjackson3@aacps.org

Grade 1, 2, & 3

(Pardoe/Scott)

egelvare@aacps.org

Grade 3

(Clements/Taylor), 4, & 5

LESSONS

In May, students will be using the Xello program to learn more about College & Career Exploration. Students will also be receiving a lesson on Internet Safety!

Ms. G will also be hosting middle school lessons to get our 5th Graders ready for their next adventure!

MOMC

Students had a wonderful time during April's Month of the Military Child activities. We hosted a spirit week and held a boot camp!

COFFEE W/ THE COUNSELORS

Our final coffee of the year will be on Wednesday, May 15 at **9:15 a.m.** (Please note the time change!) Our topic is "Summer Strategies" and we will be sharing ideas for maintaining and growing academic skills over the summer and discussing creative ways to fill summer days. Younger siblings are always welcome. We hope to see you there!

REMINDERS

5th Grade parents: If you have questions regarding middle school articulation for your student, please contact Ms. G, egelvare@aacps.org

ANCHORED 4 LIFE

Ms. Gelvar kicked off Anchored 4 Life in March with 7 amazing Team Leaders!

A4L is a peer-to-peer club to connect youth while building transition and resiliency skills.

This year's service project will be dedicated to our wonderful military parents that are currently stationed away from home!

Team Leaders will be collecting donations through May 9th see the next page for more info!

PACKAGES FROM PERSHING!

By Anchored 4 Life

A4L is a peer-to-peer club to connect youth while building transition and resiliency skills!

This year's service project will be dedicated to our wonderful military families that are currently stationed away from home. If you have a loved one who would like a care package sent to their unit on behalf of PHES' A4L please email **egelvare@aacps.org** with their name and address.

We are seeking donations to help build care packages from our PHES Community!

Examples of donations we are looking for:

- Non-perishables (cookies, crackers, nuts, etc.).
- Candy, gum or mints
- Card games & puzzles
- Drink Mixes
- Your favorite care package treat!

Donations can be left in the front office & will be collected through May 9th!

Have more questions? Contact Ms. G at egelvare@aacps.org or the front office: 410-222-6519!

Pershing Hill PTA

End of the year is quickly approaching, and what a busy time it is. Staff Appreciation week will be celebrated May 6th through May 10th. Flyers for student participation have been sent home and can also be referenced on your Facebook page. List of staff favorites can also be found there.

The PTA would also like to recognize some of the businesses within the community that have been generous in donating gift cards, merchandise, and certificates to the PTA to support our students/staff gifts and student/staff events this year: Wegmans, Starbucks, Chick Fil A, Texas Roadhouse, Costco, Food Lion, Sam's Club. PHES PTA appreciates all the support!

Nominations for the 2024-2025 school year executive board were announced at our March General Meeting. You may send additional nominations to the PTA email at pershinghillmdpta@gmail.com Current nominations are as follows: President - Tonya Starbeck, Vice President - Shamicha Yanes, Secretary - Rebekah Green, and Treasurer - Keri Leach. Voting for the 2024 - 2025 executive board will be held at our next meeting. May 7th @ 415pm in the Cafeteria.

Box Tops

You can support Pershing Hill PTA by uploading your grocery receipts to the Box Top app.

Get Active in the PTA

You can sign up to be a member of the PTA by submitting a PTA form, along with \$5 membership dues paid by cash, check, or Zelle (pershinghillmdpta@gmail.com)

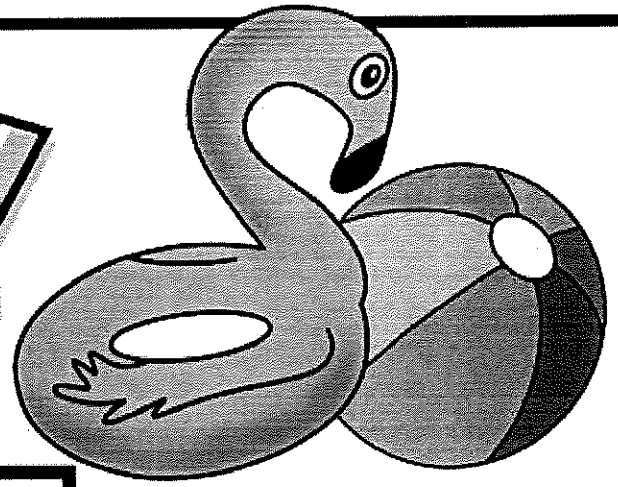
Got questions? Contact us at PershinghillMDPTA@gmail.com



	IMPORTANT DATES
4/29-5/3	Scholastic Bookfair
5/2	Spring Fest
5/7	PTA Meeting at 415pm in Cafeteria

ACC MAY

newsletter



LEARNING FOCUS

ACC2:

Math: Subtraction problems for numbers up to 20.

ELA: Writing complete sentences.

Reading: Answering "wh" questions independently.

ACC3: Reading current events articles and dissecting information.

REMINDERS

ACC1: First graders are going on a field trip to Port Discovery in May. Permission slips coming soon!

ACC3: Fifth graders are going on a field trip in May to DC. Permission slips coming soon!

practice at home

ACC2:
Weekly spelling words go home every Monday!

notes:

Thank you for sharing your student with our ACC Team!

With Grateful Hearts,
Ms. Smith, Mrs. Fournier &
Ms. Haughton

First Grade Team Newsletter

Mrs. Noel nanoel@aacps.org

Mrs. Tibbetts ktibbetts@aacps.org

Ms. Gruss cgruss@aacps.org

Mrs. Graham tjgraham@aacps.org

Ms. O'Connell mvoconnell@aacps.org



Instructional Focus for the Month of May:

Writing: We will continue unit 4: Realistic Fiction Narrative Writing. We will focus on a new setting and adventure for a character from a familiar book. As we do so, we will hone in on creating a problem and a satisfying conclusion for our reader.

Social Studies: We will be learning how to make choices between wants and needs. We will also learn about different goods and services.

Explicit Comprehension: We will continue to practice reading grade-level texts, while focusing on comprehension skills such as identifying the central message, asking and answering questions, connecting events, describing characters, and using text features.

Foundations: We will learn and apply grade-level phonics and word skills when decoding words. FUNdations will focus on closed syllable words, new vowel team sounds, and suffixes (s, ed, ing)

Math: We will be finishing up unit 12. In this unit, students learn about measuring and comparing length, about telling time to the nearest hour and half-hour, and about collecting, organizing, representing and displaying data. Then we will start unit 13, our last unit of the year which will be on equal shares (halves and quarters).

Upcoming Events:

May 6th-10th Teacher Appreciation Week

May 14 No School-Election Day

May 23rd Field Trip

May 27th No school Memorial Day

2nd Grade May

●●●●● NEWSLETTER

REMINDERS

- Please be sure to have your child bring their take home folder home and back to school daily!

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 21st- Zoo Field Trip

2nd Grade Contacts

Ms. DeCrispino-

mdecrispino@aacps.org

Ms. House- chouse@aacps.org

Mrs. Meissgeier-

bmeissgeier@aacps.org

Mrs. Smith- tasmith5@aacps.org

Mrs. Carter- ncarter@aacps.org

Mrs. Hawkins- Khawkins@aacps.org

WHAT WE'RE LEARNING

Math: Data Analysis- Students will learn how to measure and display data.

Reading: Fiction- Understanding the plot and structure of a story, determining the central message

Nonfiction- Understanding nonfiction text features, making connections between historical events, identifying author's main purpose

Writing: Poetry- Students will learn about different types of poetry, such as Diamantes, Haikus, Bio Poems, Acrostics, and Limericks.

Science/Social Studies: We Are Researchers- Students will continue to learn about how to keep our bodies healthy and what makes something healthy.

MAY



Learning Focus

Reading: This month we will be focusing on fictional stories. We will be looking at topics such as point of view, relationships between events, and lesson learned.

Writing: This month we will be focusing on writing fractured fairy tales.

Math: This month, we will be completing our measurement unit. During this unit we will be learning about mass, volume, measurement with a ruler and time. We will be using this information to make pictographs, bar graphs, and line plots.

Science: This month we will continue working on our engineering project of building and testing a parachute to learn about air resistance and drag

Social Studies: This month we will continue our Environmental Action Project.



Contacts

Kayla Clements

Krclements@aacps.org

Loren Pardoe

Lpardoe@aacps.org

Katie Scott

Kescott@aacps.org

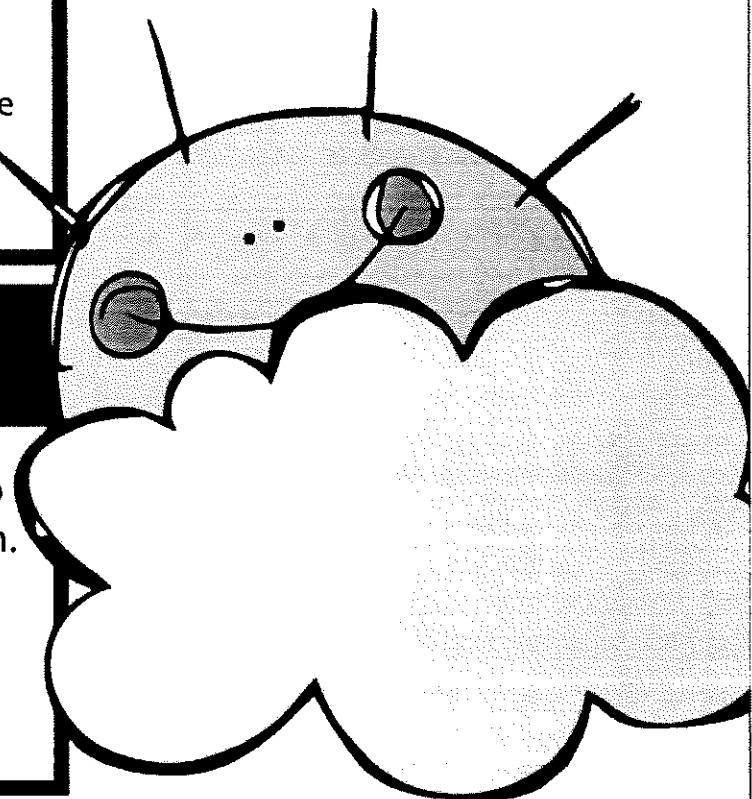
Sophie Taylor

smtaylor4@aacps.org



Reminders

This month we will be taking a field trip to the Maryland Zoo on Friday, May 17th.



Fourth Grade

NEWSLETTER

MAY

Reminders:

May 2nd: Reading MCAP (afternoon)

May 2nd: Spring Fest from 5-7pm (Book Fair will be open)

May 14: No School (Election Day)

May 27th: No School (Memorial Day)

May 28 & 29th: I-Ready Math Diagnostic

May 30 & 31: I-Ready Reading Diagnostic

Power School should be checked frequently to review your students grades. Any unfinished or missing assignments are also noted in Powerschool.

What are we learning?

Reading: Fiction & Nonfiction Focus

We are focusing on the following skills.

- Poetry
- Inferencing
- Main Idea/Theme
- Character Analysis

Writing:

We will be working on creative writing this month, with a focus on creating our own version of *The Three Little Pigs*. We will also be exploring poetry and producing our own poems.

Science:

We will be learning about renewable and nonrenewable sources of energy and their impacts on the environment.

Social Studies:

We are learning about the different battles of the American Revolution and determining the effectiveness of the Articles of Confederation post war.

New Grading Policy per PHES:

Classwork retakes will be allowed if students miss an assignment due to an excused absence or if they score below a 60%. If a student refuses to do an assignment, they will be given a 50% and will not be allowed to retake the assignment.

Assessments/Checkpoints cannot be redone and are added to the gradebook.

Math:

We will be covering the following skills:

- Measurement and Conversions
- Area and Perimeter
- Geometry

Contact Info:

Mrs. Corcoran: alcorcoran@aacps.org

Mr. Wells: rnwells@aacps.org

Mrs. Boaten: nboaten@aacps.org

Mrs. Whittington: jewhittington@aacps.org

5th grade May ●●●●

●●●●● NEWSLETTER

Ms. Crockett & Mrs. Ramirez

tmcccloudcrocket@aacps.org aramirez@aacps.org

Mrs. Edralin & Ms. Nelson

sedralin@aacps.org dnelson2@aacps.org

REMINDERS

- Students need to bring their own headphones & Chromebooks charged everyday!
- Students grades will be updated on Powerschool every week.

**** New Grading Policy per PHES ****

Classwork redos will be allowed if students miss an assignment due to an excused absence or if they score below a 60%. If a student refuses to do an assignment, they will be given a 50% and will not be allowed to redo the assignment. For redos, the new and initial grade will be averaged to create the grade that goes into the gradebook **** Assessments cannot be redone ****

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 1st - D.C. EEE Field Trip

May 1st - Principals Day (Ms. Hardy)

May 1st - Book Fair Week

May 2nd - MATH M.C.A.P.

May 2nd - Spring Fest

May 6th to May 10th - Teacher Appreciation Week

May 14th - No School - Primary Election Day

May 27th - No School (Memorial Day)

All Classes

iReady Reading Homework: 2 Lessons per week

iReady Math Homework: 3 Lessons per week

WHAT WE'RE LEARNING

Math: We will be in the middle Unit 11 Dividing Fractions. This unit builds on earlier work with division and fractions to establish that a fraction describes an indicated division. Students divide fractions, limited to division of a whole number by a unit fraction and a division of a unit fraction by a non-zero whole number. they will explore situations involving equal sharing division and equal grouping division.

Reading: As we continue Theme 4: Creativity in IRA. Students are reading informational to quote accurately to explain what the text says explicitly. Students will also integrate information from several texts to then write about the subject knowledgeably.

Writing: Shaping Texts: From Essay and Narrative to Memoir, students learn that content influences form and make decisions about the genre that best conveys their content. Students will begin to reflect on their year as a 5th grader to write their own memoirs.

Science: In this 4th quarter, the students begin working on a water filtration project. The intended outcome of this project is for students to design, build, test, and revise a water filter that will give them the clearest possible water. This is framed within a storyline where the students will be paid by a water company to produce the largest amount of clear water.

Social Studies: We are currently learning about the challenges of American economic, political, and civic life (1900-present) and what does it mean to be living and learning in the "land of the free?"

The Cultural Arts Corner!

We are so excited to share what is happening in the cultural arts classrooms!

ART with Mrs. Long:

Congratulations to the following students who have artwork on display at the 2024 All County Students art Exhibit. The art exhibit will run from April 24 - May 8, 2024. Three cheers for Pierce W., Sofia A., Kendrick B., Penelope M. Noah B., Miko D., Desmond H., Mia M., Tristan A., Jackson T., Aydan N., Lillian S., Emma V., Sophia C., Annabelle C., Lariah G., Sloane L., Charlotte D., Mia M., Ronin F.

Also, I am looking for art volunteers. If you are interested, please email aglong@aacps.org Thank you!

Contact information:

Mrs. Long - aglong@aacps.org

Ms. Bostwick - abotswick@aacps.org

GENERAL MUSIC with Mrs. Phelix:

Fourth Marking period is here. All classes are continuing to learn new concepts and develop and demonstrate the knowledge we have been working on all year! Your kids are growing musicians! This month I want to highlight our second grade students who are working hard to music literacy as they look more at music on the staff (the lines and spaces) both with solfege, note-to-note movements of the melody, and rhythms.

Contact information:

Mrs. Phelix - kphelix@aacps.org

Mr. Poole - srpoole@aacps.org

PE with Mr. Armstrong:

A large portion of May will be dedicated to the sport of Lacrosse. Topics to be covered will be: ground ball scooping, cradling, throwing, catching, face offs, goal scoring, 3 v 3 (upper grades) and 1 v 1 (lower grades). The last week of may will have us preparing for our field day by covering lessons not yet completed, such as underhand throwing.

Contact information:

Mr. Armstrong - starmstrong@aacps.org

Mr. Beaty - bbeaty@aacps.org

MEDIA with Mrs. Clore (LTS):

We are finishing up poetry with some fun projects this month in grades 3-5 as

well as biography spotlights for grades 1-2. We plan to take some time with Indi (coding bots) as well as exploring some other applications available to us through the district. Keep sending books back weekly with your student as we will be ending check outs around Memorial Day. This ensures we have all books returned and accounted for.

Contact Information:

Mrs. Clore: jclore@aacps.org

Ms. Wineke - swineke@aacps.org

Our Music Program:

Chorus:

WE ARE SINGING AT THE BAYSOX on May 25th! Thanks to all who have already signed up and purchased tickets.

Our SPRING CONCERT is May 28th! Please check your email with updates!

In-School performance at 1:15 pm

Evening Performance at 6:00pm (students report at 5:30 pm)

Students may wear regular school clothes for the in-school performance (no hats/hoods). Concert attire for the evening performance is solid color top with black pants/skirt.

Instrumental:

Spring Concert is Wednesday, May 22.

In-School performance at 8:15 a.m.

Evening Performances:

String Ensembles at 6:00 p.m. (students report at 5:40 p.m.)

Band Ensembles at 7:00 p.m. (students report at 6:45 p.m.)

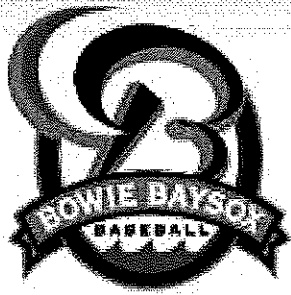
Students may wear regular school clothes for the in-school performance. Concert attire for the evening performance is solid color top with dark/black pants/skirt.

We're looking forward to an excellent concert!

Contact information:

Mrs. Phelix (chorus) - kphelix@aacps.org

Mr. Lindberg (instrumental music) - wlindberg@aacps.org



Make it a baseball-filled weekend! Some of our amazing General's Chorus students will be performing the National Anthem at the Baysox on MAY 25th under the direction of Mrs. Phelix!!! The game starts at 6:35pm, and the singing will take place just before that time! Please come support our amazing students and our choir program with discounted, fundraising

priced tickets (\$9.00)! Purchase tickets here:

<https://fevo-enterprise.com/s/other/Pershinghills?purl=18967c2e0860>.