

OCTOBER 

BOBCAT Bulletin

SEVERNA PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Eye On it

Oct 7

PTA Meeting

6:30pm via Zoom

Oct 9

Interims to be sent home

Oct 12 & 13

Teacher Parent Conferences

No School for students**Chromebook Login protocol:**User ID: 123456@aacps.org
User Password: YYYYMMDD**Logging in instructions**
[Logging into Chrome](#)**Chromebook Help**
[Chromebook Resources](#)

Parent CONNECTxp

Dear S.P.E.S Families, 

It is officially fall and I feel like the school year is moving quickly! Although virtual learning has presented challenges for everyone, I am proud of our staff and students and all they have overcome in these first few weeks of school. All of our progress is also a direct correlation to your involvement, patience, and flexibility as we navigate these waters together. I am grateful for the incredible involvement and support from the SPES community.

On October 12th and 13th of this month, you will have the opportunity to meet virtually with your child's classroom teacher to discuss your child's progress, the recent i-Ready diagnostics, and any questions you may have at this time. Teachers will be sending a Sign-up Genius to parents for available conference times between 8 and 4 so that you can choose a time that works for you and your family. As a reminder, please make sure you and your children are checking Google Classroom for any missing assignments. If your child misses a day, he or she can also make up the work by accessing the videos and assignments in Google Classroom.

It has always been a fun tradition at SPES to celebrate Halloween and while we are unable to have our parade or redo our Fashion Show from last year, our staff has developed a plan that will be sure to create some smiles for our children! An attached flyer in this newsletter outlines three school-wide activities that we can all look forward to towards the end of the month. Your child's teacher will share these in more detail in the upcoming weeks.

Thank you for your continued support!

Sincerely,

Lorie Barnes



This Month's Counselor's Corner



Hello, I'm Mrs. Katie McCord, SPES School Counselor

SPES' character trait for October is **RESPECT**. During September I have witnessed an abundance of respect from our SPES students during google meetings. As parents, we can model respect by being respectful to our kids first. Sharing and modeling is the best teacher. At times when you witness your child showing disrespect, stay calm, look for the cause, teach problem solving alternatives to disrespect, and positively recognize when they show genuine respect.

Kids Attention to Learning On-line: If your child is experiencing trouble staying attentive during school on-line instruction, you can consider some of the following ideas to help your kids to give their best attention.

1. Consistent schedules and routines (wake up times, mealtimes, school times, walk/recess times, bedtimes), and a consistent location for learning on-line.
2. Help kids know the schedule and break times to mentally prep for paying attention periods.
3. Encourage movement during break times.
4. Encourage drinking water (hydrating).
5. Taking notes or making pictures of what the class is talking about to help them remember and stay with the topic.
6. Mouth stimulation helps focus, so try gum chewing or another chewy type thing.
7. Mindful activities away from the screen during breaks such as deep breathing a few times a day, mindful coloring, observing walks, and anything that brings them into the present moment they are in rather than thinking about what happened or what they need to do.
8. Alternating seating from chair to standing or a wiggle seat or large ball to sit on.
9. Positive Imagery - have them imagine they are sitting still doing their work and then have them practice it. Allow them a positive activity as they get better at giving their best attention. Memory games like concentration, pattern recognition, and Simon can help kids increase their attention.

October Guidance Lesson Topics: Mindful Calming Strategies, Respect, Problem Solving, Bully Prevention, and Social Justice are the lesson topics in October. The counseling lesson topics for the year can be found on my [google web site](#).

Harvest for the Hungry Food Funds Drive: Every Fall the schools in Anne Arundel County hold food drives to benefit families and children in our county by giving the food and funds to the AAC Food Bank. This year we will have a virtual funds drive and the need is greater than ever due to the financial stress Covid-19 is causing to many families in our county. The giving can begin on October 1st and goes through November 25th at www.aacps.org/harvest. We are going to have a focus week from November 9th - November 13th to promote giving and have some fun too! Look for the details in next month's newsletter.

Social Emotional Learning:

All classes have begun the 2nd Step Student Skills for Learning: listening, focusing attention, using self-talk to stay on-task, and being assertive when asking for help with a learning task. The 2nd Step Home Links that the teachers provided describe why these skills are important and include fun activities to do with your child to practice them. We hope you enjoy them! Please tell your child's teacher or reach out to me if you would like more suggestions about supporting skills for learning at home.

We are really impressed with how well students have picked up the PAWS acronym for P-persevere through challenges, A-act responsibly, W-work together, and S-show respect for self and others. Classes have been earning paws and for the first class celebration, they will get their reward when they reach 10 paws. After that, we will increase the paws number to 15 for the class celebration. We are very proud of SPES students persevering through challenges whether they are technical problems or trying to learn something new or in a different way.

SEVERNA PARK ES
6 RIGGS AVENUE
SEVERNA PARK
MD 21146
Tel: 410-222-6577
Fax: 410-222-6522

Follow Us on Twitter
@SPESaacps

And NEW
SPES
Kindergarten
@SPKindergarten

TIMES TO REMEMBER FOR IN-PERSON DAYS

Doors Open: 8:50 am
Attendance: 9:05 am

If a student (s) arrives late, the parent or guardian must bring the student (s) to the office to sign them in and get a late pass.

Students must be in their seat or they will be marked tardy and sent to the office for a late pass.

If a student is leaving early, parent/guardian must come to the office and sign the student out.

Dismissal: 3:30pm

If AACPS announces a 2 hour delay, doors will open at 10:50 am and there will be no Chessie.

If there is a 2 Hour Early Dismissal, students will be dismissed at 1:30 pm.



...Mindset Moment

"Success occurs when opportunity meets preparation."

~Zig Ziglar



ABSENCE NOTES

*y*es, absence notes are still required. Please

make sure all absence notes include:

- Student's Legal Name,
- Homeroom Teacher's Name
- Date and Reason for Absence.

Absence notes must be turned in within **3 days**. You can send an email to the homeroom teacher and LSykes@aacps.org.

Thank You!!

SECURITY CAMERAS

Severna Park 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 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



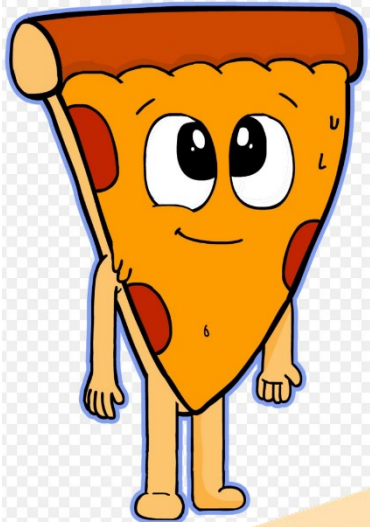
Did you know...

Bay Plates helped pay for your child's outdoor experience?

Your child's outdoor learning experience was funded in part by the Chesapeake Bay Trust, a nonprofit organization that provides grants to schools so that children like yours can learn in their natural world. The Trust is funded by sales of *Maryland's Protect the Chesapeake license plate* which each year allows more than **80,000 Maryland students** to get outside and learn through hands-on experiences. To find out more about the Bay plate, please visit www.bayplate.org. Bay plates **only cost \$20** and you can change to a Bay plate anytime to help support additional field trips for Maryland students.



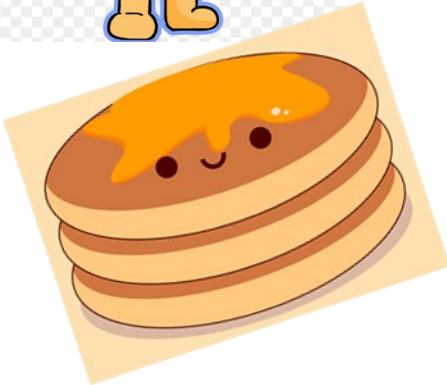
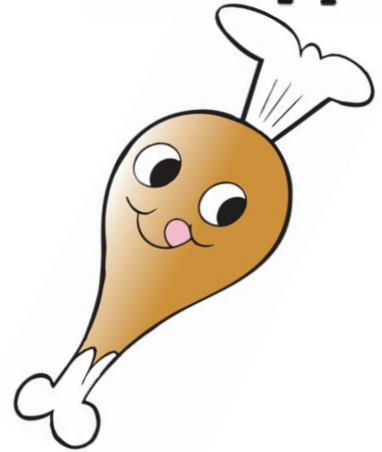
Chesapeake Bay Trust
bayplate.org * cbtrust.org
410-974-2941



NOTE FROM SPES KITCHEN

FREE LUNCH

FOR **ALL** CHILDREN
FROM AGES 2 – 18
FROM ANY SCHOOL



**WHEN: EVERY SCHOOL DAY 12:00 – 12:30 PM
STARTING SEPTEMBER 8 – DECEMBER 31**

WHERE: SPES BACK PARKING LOT KITCHEN DOOR



**FOR PARENT PICKUP CALL 410-222-5900 AND GET ON THE SCHOOL
LUNCH PICKUP LIST**

FOR FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH, FILL OUT THE YEARLY FORM

**THANK YOU,
DEBRA ROSSI
SPES KITCHEN MANAGER**

Link.



your VIC card
to our school today!



TOGETHER IN
EDUCATION®

Connect your Harris Teeter VIC card to our school's Together in Education account.

Online

1. Log in to your Harris Teeter profile at the top of harristeeter.com
2. Click on My Account once logged in
3. In the Together in Education section, type the school name in the School Search toolbar
4. Once the school name generates, click on the school name and then Add a School
(Note: it is easiest to type the school code listed above into the school search bar)

App

1. Go to "My Account" and click "Together in Education"
2. Type in the school name in the search bar

In-store

Ask your cashier to link your VIC card to our school's TIE code.



Dear Parents and School Supporters,

Beginning August 1, 2020, Severna Park Elementary proudly joins Harris Teeter's Together in Education program to help raise funds for our school. Last year we earned over \$400.00 and we hope to beat that amount this year! It's easy and it's FREE. Simply give the cashier **our school code, 4433**, and your VIC card when you check out and your card will be linked for the entire 2020-21 school year. That's it! **All VIC cards are cleared as of June 1, 2020 and current members must be relinked starting August 1, 2020.** You only must link your VIC card once each school year.

Starting on August 1, 2020, Severna Park Elementary will start earning a percentage of every Harris Teeter brand purchased (Harris Teeter, H.T. Traders, Harris Teeter Organics, HT Farmers Market and purchases in the HT Pharmacy) with a linked VIC card credited back to the school's account.

The TIE program proceeds will be used for technology, supplies, equipment, teacher preparation, and student learning materials. This program does not interfere with your VIC savings or cost you any money! Don't forget to link your VIC card to **our account code #4433** next time you are shopping at Harris Teeter.

Thank you for your support!

Severna Park Elementary Staff

2020 Harvest for the Hungry



**GIVE WHERE
YOU LIVE**

October 1st – November 25th

*Together we can unite to fight hunger
in Anne Arundel County!*

#AllMeansAll #WeAreBetterTogether

- ▶ Food insecurity impacts a child's ability to learn
- ▶ Every dollar collected is equivalent to 8 pounds of food
- ▶ COVID-19 increased the number of needy families in our community
- ▶ 1 in 8 families in Anne Arundel County struggle with food insecurity

Your monetary donation will make a difference for families throughout our schools & community.
To donate go to: **www.aacps.org/harvest**

Proceeds benefit the Anne Arundel County Food & Resource Bank

Kids Helping Kids
Virtual Campaign

Severna Park Elementary School Fall Festivities



Spirit Week Oct 26-Oct 30

Monday

Crazy Hair/ Hat wear Day

Tuesday

Equity Day (wear orange)

Wednesday

Wear your pajamas

Thursday

Severna Park Colors
(White & Blue)

Friday

Wear your costume!

Dessert Recipe

Do you have a great idea
for a delicious fall
dessert?

Submit your idea HERE
by October 27th.

The top 4 will be
published in our
November Bobcat
Bulletin

Fall Scavenger Hunt

Classroom teachers will
be sending scavenger
hunts to students.

Students will search for
items throughout the
week of
October 26th-30th.

Teachers will celebrate
with students on
October 30th during
Friends and Fun Time.





October 2020

Dear Parents of Interested Students,

Welcome! Your child has been introduced to an opportunity to participate in Virtual Chessie Club (Grades 1-3) or Virtual Bobcat Book Club (Grades 4 & 5). These are reading incentive programs designed for your child. Students are encouraged to read at a level that is comfortable for independent and critical reading. This is a level that might be below their instructional level. This program is to encourage reading for **pleasure**, to increase comprehension.

How the **Chessie Club** works:

- Child reads a book.
- When the child finishes reading a book, they can answer questions using our Virtual Question Form. [Virtual Chessie](#)
- Students will be able to see their progress on our Virtual Chessie Wall in our Google Classrooms.
- For those students who participate we will have a celebration in May.

How the **Bobcat Book Club** works:

- Child reads a book.
- When the child finishes reading a book, they can answer questions using our Virtual Question Form. [Virtual Bobcat Book Club](#)
- Students will be able to check in on their progress during our meeting time in Media.
- For those students who participate we will have a celebration in May.

We are looking forward to your child participating in this exciting program. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me by email at mcconnelly@aacps.org or by phone at (301) 744-7376.

Thank you for your support and HAPPY READING!

Sincerely,

Melissa Connelly
Library Media Specialist
Severna Park Elementary

AACPS | Taking Care Of Your Chromebook

Students and parents/guardians are responsible for the general care of the device they have been issued. Anne Arundel County Public Schools has issued Chromebooks in order to support access to virtual learning. When a Chromebook becomes damaged, that learning is interrupted,

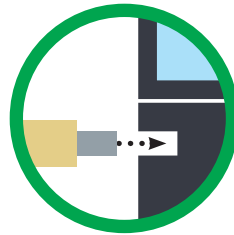
so please take care of your Chromebook as you would take care of your gaming station or cell phone. For resources and help using your Chromebook, please visit AACPS Virtual Learning Information www.aacps.org/virtuallearning.



Protect your password. Do not share your password or account information.



Keep all food and drinks away from your device.



Be careful when inserting and removing cords, cables, and external devices.



Do not place foreign objects into your Chromebook.

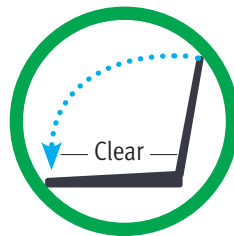
Transporting your Chromebook

Always carry and transport your Chromebook with care.

The screen is delicate and can crack easily. Always be sure the lid is completely closed and secured before moving your Chromebook.



Never move a device by lifting from the screen.



Be certain all objects are out of the way before closing the screen.



Be careful when carrying the device in a case or backpack. Notebooks, books, writing utensils, earbuds, etc. may put too much pressure and weight on the Chromebook screen. Small items may slip between the screen and keyboard.

Screen Care

Your Chromebook screen can easily be damaged! Excessive pressure can break the screen.



Do not lean or place anything on the top of the device that could put pressure on the screen.



Do not store the device with the screen in the open position.



In Case of a Spill

If a liquid spills into the Chromebook, **unplug it immediately**. Do not plug back in until it is thoroughly dry.

If your Chromebook is not working, contact your school or email ChromebookIssues@aacps.org.



Do not poke the screen with anything that will mark or scratch the screen surface. Only use your clean finger.



Do not place anything on the keyboard before closing the lid (e.g. pens, pencils, etc.).



Do not use any liquid to clean the screen—use a soft dry microfiber cloth or anti-static cloth.

AACPS | Cuidando su Chromebook

Los estudiantes y los padres/tutores son responsables del cuidado general del dispositivo que han sido emitidos. Las Escuelas Públicas del Condado de Anne Arundel ha emitido Chromebooks con el fin de apoyar el acceso al aprendizaje virtual. Cuando un Chromebook se daña, ese aprendizaje

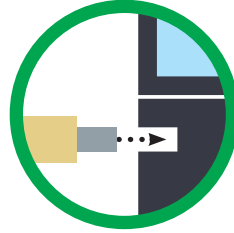
se interrumpe, así que por favor, cuida su Chromebook, al igual que cuidarías a tu estación de juegos o teléfono celular. Para obtener recursos y ayuda para usar su Chromebook, visite AACPS Información de Aprendizaje Virtual www.aacps.org/virtualllearning.



Protege tu contraseña. No compartas tu contraseña o información de cuenta.



Mantengan todos los alimentos y bebidas lejos de su dispositivo.



Tenga cuidado al insertar y quitar el cordón, cables y dispositivos externos.



No le pongas objetos extraños en tu Chromebook.

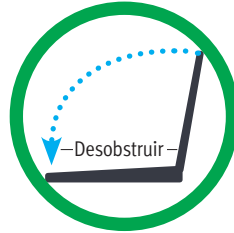
Transporte de tu Chromebook

Lleve y transporte siempre su Chromebook con cuidado.

La pantalla es delicada y se puede agrietar fácilmente. Asegúrese siempre de que la tapa esté completamente cerrada y asegurada antes de mover tu Chromebook.



Nunca mueva un dispositivo levantándolo de la pantalla.



Asegúrese de que todos los objetos estén fuera del camino antes de cerrar la pantalla.



Tenga cuidado al llevar el dispositivo en una funda o mochila. Cuadernos, libros, escritura utensilios, auriculares, etc. pueden poner demasiada presión y peso en la pantalla del Chromebook. Los artículos pequeños pueden deslizarse entre la pantalla y el teclado.

Cuidado de la Pantalla

¡La pantalla de tu Chromebook se puede dañar fácilmente! Una presión excesiva puede romper la pantalla.



En Caso de un Derrame

Si un líquido se derrama en el Chromebook, **desconéctalo inmediatamente**. No vuelva a enchufarlo hasta que esté completamente seco.

Si tu Chromebook no funciona, ponerse en contacto con su escuela o correo electrónico ChromebookIssues@aacps.org.



No incline ni coloque nada en la parte superior del dispositivo que pueda ejercer presión sobre la pantalla.



No almacene el dispositivo con la pantalla en el posición abierta.



No golpee la pantalla con cualquier cosa que marque o rasque la superficie de la pantalla. Sólo usa tu dedo limpio.



No coloques nada en el teclado antes de cerrar la tapa (por ejemplo, plumas, lápices, etc.).



No utilice líquido para limpiar la pantalla: utilice un paño de microfibra suave y seco o tela antiestática.



Hello Parents!

October 2020

We hope this year is off to a good start. A huge shout out to the teachers who are working hard to engage our children through the computer! Although we are not physically in the school building, the PTA is still at work, supporting SPES in every way we can. Our 2020 – 2021 operating budget is significantly smaller this year. Some of the initiatives that we are supporting this year include:

- \$2,400 for “Welcome Back” Amazon gifts cards for SPES teachers
- \$2,000 for Teacher/Staff Appreciation Events
- Principal’s Wishlist:
 - \$2000 for Raz-Kids, an online reading resource for students
 - \$1,200 for Bare Books, where every SPES writes and illustrates their own hardback book
- \$1,200 for the Outdoor Classroom and ground maintenance

A couple of things to note:

- Our first PTA general membership meeting is at **6:30pm on Wednesday, October 7th** via Zoom. Details will be provided prior to the meeting.
- **Board Members Needed!** In order for the PTA to continue to support SPES we need new volunteers to fill key roles. **Our bylaws include strict term limits for board members and if we do not fill these positions the PTA will no longer be able to continue.** It is imperative that we find a first Vice President that is willing to step into the President role next year in order for the PTA to operate next year. Other positions needed are 2nd Vice President – Membership, Communication Liaison, and Secretary. Please email spespta20@gmail.com for more details.
- Please take a moment to update and/or create an account at www.spespta.org. This year we are not requiring you to join the PTA have an account. Once your account is setup you will have access to the online **PTA directory**, and you will begin to receive PTA email blasts. This is a quick and easy way to stay connected to the PTA and SPES.
- Due to our reduced operating budget, as well as our knowledge that the pandemic has placed a financial strain on many families, we are pressing pause on our **Invest in Your Child** Direct Donation Campaign. Depending on how school is taught next semester, we may launch the campaign in Spring 2021. As a result, please make every effort to participate in our other fundraisers.
- Ledo's nights will be the first Wednesday of every month. Please join us at **Ledo Pizza** for a fundraiser to support the SPES PTA. Bring a [Ledo Flyer](#) with you to the restaurant, or enter the code 306-159-855 online. Twenty percent of the proceeds will be donated to the PTA.

Warm Regards,

SPES PTA Board