

BOBCAT BULLETIN

The latest news and updates from Severna Park Elementary School



DECEMBER "MUST-REMEMBERS"

DEC 5 CHICK-FIL-A SPIRIT DAY

DEC 5 2-HR EARLY DISMISSAL

**DEC 25-JAN 1 WINTER BREAK
SCHOOL CLOSED**

JAN 9 PTO MEETING

Dear Severna Park Elementary Families,

We hope that everyone had a relaxing, safe, and enjoyable Thanksgiving break! The Severna Park Tree Lighting has been rescheduled for December 8th. It is a great way to kick off the month if you are able to attend! If you're not able to attend, families will be able to hear the chorus again on January 24th during our Winter Concert!

As it continues to get colder, please remind your student(s) to check the Lost and Found if they are missing any clothing items. The Lost and Found is located in the cafeteria and students are encouraged to check for their belongings during their lunch periods. Any items that are not claimed by the end of the second marking period (January 18), will be donated to a charitable organization. We encourage families to write their student's name somewhere on their clothing such as the inside tag, so we can help return items to their owner.

To ensure that our students are starting their day off on the right foot, please be sure that your student(s) are arriving at school on time. Doors open at 7:45 am and the bell to signal the beginning of instruction rings at 8:00 am. Car riders, please do not release students from cars until the doors open. For families that have students that walk to school, please do your best to have students leave for school and arrive at SPES between 7:45 am-8:00 am, so they are not waiting outside for the bell to ring. Students are not supervised by staff until 7:45 am. Having students arrive at school on time each and every day helps build routines that allow for students to have time to unpack, get settled, and be in class for morning meetings.

A reminder that if your student has a damaged or broken Chromebook, please be sure to send it into school with them so they can be submitted for repair. We want to make sure that all students' devices are functioning properly so they are ready for use throughout the year! If the device does need repair, please be sure to email your student's homeroom teacher with a description of the issue(s).

Sincerely,

Kyle Butler, Principal (kwbutler@aacps.org)



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Estimadas familias de la Escuela Primaria Severna Park,

¡Esperamos que todos hayan tenido un descanso de Acción de Gracias relajante, seguro y agradable! La iluminación del árbol de Severna Park ha sido reprogramada para el 8 de diciembre. ¡Es una excelente manera de comenzar el mes si puedes asistir! Si no puede asistir, las familias podrán volver a escuchar el coro el 24 de enero durante nuestro Concierto de Invierno.

A medida que continúa haciendo más frío, recuerde a su(s) estudiante(s) que revisen el área de objetos perdidos si les falta alguna prenda de vestir. El programa de objetos perdidos se encuentra en la cafetería y se anima a los estudiantes a buscar sus pertenencias durante sus períodos de almuerzo. Cualquier artículo que no se reclame al final del segundo período de calificación (18 de enero) se donará a una organización benéfica. Alentamos a las familias a escribir el nombre de su estudiante en algún lugar de su ropa, como la etiqueta interior, para que podamos ayudar a devolver los artículos a su dueño.

Para asegurarse de que nuestros estudiantes comiencen su día con el pie derecho, asegúrese de que su(s) estudiante(s) llegue(n) a la escuela a tiempo. Las puertas se abren a las 7:45 a.m. y el timbre para señalar el comienzo de la instrucción suena a las 8:00 a.m. Conductores de automóviles, por favor no liberen a los estudiantes de los automóviles hasta que se abran las puertas. Para las familias que tienen estudiantes que caminan a la escuela, haga todo lo posible para que los estudiantes salgan a la escuela y lleguen a SPES entre las 7:45 am y las 8:00 am, para que no esperen afuera a que suene el timbre. Los estudiantes no son supervisados por el personal hasta las 7:45 am. Hacer que los estudiantes lleguen a la escuela a tiempo todos los días ayuda a crear rutinas que permiten que los estudiantes tengan tiempo para desempacar, acomodarse y estar en clase para las reuniones matutinas.

Un recordatorio de que si su estudiante tiene un Chromebook dañado o roto, asegúrese de enviarlo a la escuela con él para que pueda enviarlo para su reparación. ¡Queremos asegurarnos de que todos los dispositivos de los estudiantes funcionen correctamente para que estén listos para usar durante todo el año! Si el dispositivo necesita reparación, asegúrese de enviar un correo electrónico al maestro de su estudiante con una descripción de los problemas.

Sinceramente

Kyle Butler, Director (kwbutler@aacps.org)

¿Necesita ayuda en español? Por favor comuníquese con la Sra. Jacobo al 410-562-1308 o sjacobo@aacps.org. ¡Muchas gracias!



Counselor's Corner

Mrs. Katie McCord



December is an exciting month for kids with lots of holiday activities. ***The character trait for December*** is Cooperation which is highlighted in the "W" – Work Together" in PAWS. We will be emphasizing cooperation this month in morning announcements, community meetings and in connection and reflection daily. Cooperation is a character trait that will be useful in life well beyond the school years. The best teams are mindful that all members should contribute and respect one another's emotions by building trust. It has less to do with who is on a team, and more with how the members interact with one another. Guide your children to be successful cooperators using the following skills: making collective plans, taking turns, sharing, listening to other people's ideas, and actively participating while encouraging other group members to participate.

Congratulations to Rosie Levitt for earning 3rd place for Kindergarten-2nd grade bookmark entries in all of Maryland for the Maryland Judiciary Conflict Resolution Bookmark Contest.

Giving Tree Gift bags for Kids: The Giving Tree will be set up by the PTA by December 4th for you to pick a bag off the tree and fill it with small gift items for an elementary age child in Annapolis. You can also sign up for bags to be sent home with your child via the scan code on the flier. Please see the flier in this bulletin. The deadline for the gift bags to be returned is December 19th.

Collection of Travel Size Toiletry Items for the Homeless: The Human Relations Committee is making a collection until December 15th for travel size. They will be given to Linda's Legacy to distribute to shelters and homeless individuals in Maryland.

December Class Counseling Lessons: K thru 2nd - Cooperation and Xello Career Program, 3rd- 5th – Start Talking Maryland Substance Abuse Lessons. empathy is the ability to understand how someone else is feeling or to und

The PTO will host the ***Holiday Giving Tree*** for small gift bags to be distributed to students in need at Annapolis Elementary School – December 4th-18th .



SPirit DAY
Chick-fil-A Severna Park
Tuesday, December 5, 2023
All Day!

Come by for ...

Breakfast, Lunch, or Dinner

...in support of Severna Park Elementary School! A portion of your purchase will be donated back to the school!

Please remember:

- To let the Chick-fil-A order taker know that your order is for Severna Park Elementary's Spirit Day!
- If you place a mobile order thru the Chick-fil-A app for either pickup or delivery, please write in the note section that your order is for Severna Park Elementary's Spirit Day!

Chick-fil-A Severna Park
511 Ritchie Hwy www.SPCFA.com (410) 647-6232
www.facebook.com/SevernaParkCFA



...Winter is coming!!!

It is up to each school principal or his/her designee to determine when it is appropriate to go outdoors for recess or stay indoors on a daily and even minute by minute basis; there is no central office guideline. At Severna Park ES, we much prefer for students to go outside and have time to run and play.

Generally speaking, we will not go outdoors when it is raining; if it has rained recently, we may allow students to go outside and ask them to stay away from puddles or muddy areas until they are dry. Occasionally, it's not the actual temperature that might keep us from going out, but the 'wind chill' temperature. Sometimes we may let our older students go outside while the younger students might remain indoors. So, students from different grades may have different experiences for recess that day. In any case, your child should always be dressed with the anticipation that they WILL go outside for recess.

Since our weather has been varied so far this fall, students need to have zip-able or Velcro-able coats, hats or a hood, and gloves or mittens. Everyone will participate in the outdoor recess if it is appropriate therefore all students must have a coat since you do not want your child outside without a coat on these cold days. The second issue we have is that there are wide temperature variations inside our building. It's important that our students are dressed for the colder temperatures with layers that they can put on or take off as appropriate.

Severna Park Elementary - Toiletry Drive Collection December 4th- December 15th

During the first two-weeks of December bring in any travel size toiletry items. Boxes will be set up in the front atrium.

The items will be given to the Giving Back, Linda's Legacy group who will distribute them to homeless individuals in shelters and those living on the streets.



**GIVING BACK,
LINDA'S LEGACY**

**P.O. BOX 461
SEVERNA PARK, MD
21146**

**HOMELESSSDRIVE.ORG
INFO@HOMELESSSDRIVE.ORG**

HELP THE HOMELESS TOILETRY DRIVE

Travel Size Items Needed

- Deodorant (Men & Women)
- Hand Santizer
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Shampoo
- Lotion
- Chap Stick
- Facial Tissues (Pocket Packs)
- Combs
- Feminine Hygiene Products
- Hair Ties



Collection

Collection is now through December 18th. Distribution will take place on Saturday, December 23rd during the Giving Back, Linda's Legacy morning deliveries and Sunday, December 24th during the evening shelter/street distributions. All are Welcome! See the website for more information.

HOMELESSSDRIVE.ORG

THE OFFICE OF SCHOOL & FAMILY PARTNERSHIPS PRESENTS



**WELLBEING &
GROWTH**



**NAVIGATING
AACPS
RESOURCES**



**ACADEMICS &
PROGRAMS**

A LIBRARY OF VIDEOS, CLASSES, AND RESOURCES TO ANSWER
YOUR QUESTIONS ON STUDENT WELLBEING & GROWTH,
NAVIGATING AACPS, AND ACADEMICS & PROGRAMS.

AVAILABLE AT [AACPS.ORG/FAMILYACADEMY](https://www.aacps.org/familyacademy)

Visit www.aacps.org/familyacademy
to access our video library.
For more information, visit School
and Family Partnerships at
www.aacps.org/family.



**SCAN
ME!**

SPES PTO and SPES Human
Relations Group Present

Christmas GIVING TREE

DECEMBER 4TH-18TH
SCHOOL ATRIUM

CHOOSE A BAG:

- Select directly from tree in atrium
- Sign up using Google forms



Labeled gift bags will be provided. Please encourage your child to decorate the bag and then return it to school no later than December 19th.

GIFT IDEAS:

small books, stuffed animals, crafts, fidget spinners, cute socks, mittens, or hats. Gifts should fit inside bags provided.

Your generosity will help children at Annapolis Elementary. Please contact Mrs. McCord (kmccord@aacps.org or 410-222-6577) with any questions.





SPES PTO NEWS

December 2023

Happy December, Bobcats!

It's hard to believe this is already our 4th newsletter of the year! As we look back on November, we find many reasons to be thankful for our amazing SPES community. So many people work hard behind the scenes to deliver amazing experiences, like the volunteers who run our after-school clubs, put on events like assemblies and Spirit Nights, and assist with the programs we help support like grounds maintenance and classroom supplies. **A big heartfelt thank you goes out to each and every one of you for the time, dedication, and resources you so kindly give.** Please be sure to check www.spespto.org often to stay connected in December! Before winter break comes up, we want to wish you and yours a warm and safe end to your 2023. We look forward to sharing lots of PTO fun with you in the new year!



PTO in Action

Thank you for supporting our school by visiting **Mod Pizza and Franklin's Toys** in November. Let's do it again for **Noodles & Co. on the 19th!** Also, our Bobcats bested bullying with the **Box Out Bullying** stage production during our Nov 10th **Anti-Bullying Assembly**, and by spreading kindness during our **SPES Kindness Week**. Lots of laughs were shared and important topics discussed; thank you for talking about these themes both at home and in the classroom.



Yearbook Cover Contest

Calling all young artists! Submissions due **Friday, Jan 12th** for the 2023-2024 SPES Yearbook! Please visit www.spespto.org/yearbook_sale for design and submission rules and more! Email spesptoyearbook@gmail.com with any questions.



Got Noodles?

Take a night off cooking on **Dec 19th** by ordering online or in-person at **Noodles and Co. from 4-8pm!** Use code "GIVING25" and 25% of sales will go back to the SPES PTO!

Let's Thank Our Teachers!

The Annual **PTO-Sponsored Staff Cookie Exchange** is back! Help us treat our Teachers & Staff to a plate full of cookies on Dec 20th.

Not a baker? We're also showing our teachers how much they're appreciated by providing a **Gift Card Drawing** on Dec 15th. Learn how you can say THANKS by **Dec 12th** by clicking here: www.spespto.org/teacherappreciation!

See You Next Year!

We are not having a December PTO meeting, but we look forward to seeing you in the new year for the **first PTO meeting of 2024 on Jan 9th at 6:30pm.**

Stay in the Know! View the PTO's calendar at any time at www.spespto.org and scroll to "CALENDAR" for instructions on how to load it into your mobile calendar of choice!

Do You Know Your Room Leads? If you have not already done so, please reply to the communication sent home from your Classroom Leads. Email spelementaryptovolunteer@gmail.com with any questions.



spelementarypto@gmail.com



www.spespto.org



"Severna Park Elementary School PTO"