



Shady Side Elementary School

October 2019 Newsletter



Contact Us At:

Shady Side Elementary
4859 Atwell Road
Shady Side, Maryland 20764

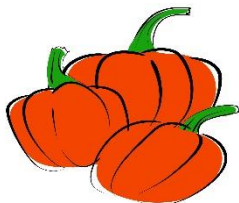
Principal: Mrs. Melissa Brown
Asst. Principal: Mrs. Rebecca Williams

Phone: 410-222-1621/410-867-1981
Fax: 410-867-4921
Health Room: 410-222-2955

Dates to Remember

Upcoming Events

- 10/3 Vision & Hearing Screening
- 10/4 Fall Picture Day
- 10/7 Interims to be sent home
- 10/8 2 hr. early dismissal
- 10/9 Schools Closed – Yom Kippur
- 10/15 & 16 Schools closed for students.
Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 10/18 Vision & Hearing Rescreening
5th gr. Field Trip - AACC
- 10/23 Unity Day – Wear Orange
- 10/28 Pre-K Field Trip - Greenstreet
- 10/31 Fall Festival/Halloween Parade
@ 9:30 a.m.



Principal's Message:

Dear Shady Side Families,

Happy October! Our scholars have settled into the school year nicely, and learning is happening all over our school. Teachers have been working very hard to review student work and tailor instruction to meet their needs. Students are producing great work both in their classrooms and in their cultural arts. Student discourse can be heard across the school, and students are sharing great ideas. A school is a wonderful place to be, and we are proud of all our students have already accomplished.

As we continue into October, students will begin taking their first District Assessments, and teachers will continue to plan for rigor in their classrooms. Many special events will occur this month with Vision & Hearing testing and Fall Pictures this week, our first assemblies and first field trip this month as well.

This month provides our first opportunity for parent conferences this year on October 15th and 16th. Schools are closed for students both days. With the addition of the second day, we can now conference with all parents for fall conferences. Sign-Up Genius information will be sent home soon by your child's teacher. We are hoping to conference with all parents either in person or by phone if you are unable to make it to the school. Please make sure you sign up to discuss your child's start to the 2019-2020 school year!

We look forward to strengthening our partnership to ensure the success of our scholars.

Congratulations October Scholars of the Month!

Lily Drennen, Sophia Morrison, Jacob Reiger, Cruz Tapia, Owen Thomas, Mason Stephens, Dominic LoCastro, Leon Cherry, Nola McCamley, Autumn Mihalick, Sophia Cosgrove, Emma Rathell, Antonio Romano, Olivia Owens, Shawn Malley, Owen Mercer, Zoe Bateman, Luke Fox, Bella Gill, Mason Biller, Zachary Carrubba

Important Reminders

Attendance: When your child is absent, please send a note stating the reason for the absence upon your child's return to school. Absences more than five days require a physician's note. When these procedures are not followed, the absence code must be assumed to be unlawful and will be coded as unexcused.

Just a few reminders about attendance:

If your child **arrives after 9:15 a.m.** they are considered tardy and **must be accompanied by a parent or responsible adult into the office to be signed in.** If coming from the dentist or doctor, please ask for a doctor's note and present it to one of the secretaries as you are signing your child in.

- If your child **leaves before 11:15 a.m.**, they are absent for the day.
- If your child **leaves after 11:15 a.m., but before 1:15 p.m.**, they will receive an Early Dismissal with ½ day absence.
- **After 1:15 p.m.**, Early Dismissals will be given for any student who leaves before **3:45 p.m.**
- This is AACPS and MSDE policy.



Emergency Notification Cards

All students received an emergency notification card the first day of school. It is extremely important to update the card and return it to school with your child ASAP. Please list other contacts on the card in the event you cannot be reached in case of an emergency. It is very important that you keep the school updated with your correct phone numbers and email addresses so you can receive Connect-Ed messages. Also, please let the office know of all address changes.

Please Note: All visitors must have a photo ID to pick up a child.

Cafeteria News

Free/Reduced Lunch: Students who were eligible and received free/reduced lunch last school year **must** submit a new on-line application for approval for the 2019-2020 school year before **October 17, 2019**. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school office 410-222-1621.

*Go to the Anne Arundel County Website (www.aacps.org)

* Click on "Food and Nutrition – School Menus" on bottom left

* Click on "Apply for Free or Reduced-Price Meals"

* Click on "Apply for Free/Reduced Meals Here"

* Begin Application

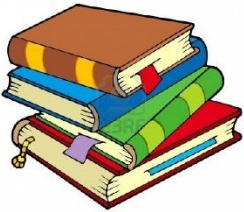
2019-2020 Breakfast/Lunch Prices

Breakfast - \$1.50
Reduced Breakfast - Free
Lunch - \$2.75
Reduced Lunch - Free
Milk - (A LaCarte) \$.55



Literacy News

Mrs. Blundell & Mrs. Whalen



To promote and encourage reading at home the Literacy Team, with support from our generous PTO, is providing each student with a free book to take home on their birthday. The students will choose a Scholastic book from the Birthday Book collection after they receive their pencil and ribbon from the office. Students with summer birthdays will be announced the last few weeks of school.

Fall Festival



The Fall Festival will take place Thursday, October 31st after the parade.

Many volunteers are needed for the Fall Festival. We would like parents to help with decorating and setting up stations on the afternoon of October 30th, assist children at different stations at the Festival, and help with clean up on the afternoon of the 31st. Please contact Kathryn Moore, (kathryn.moore18@gmail.com) our P.T.O. Volunteer Coordinator if you would like to help.

Guidance News

Ms. Blandford



The school year has started on a wonderful note. I have had the pleasure of meeting all of our new students. What a wonderful group. I am thoroughly enjoying my time on lunch duty as I get to know our new Pre-K and Kindergarten students. Our Morning Announcers, Flag Raisers, Safety Patrols, Morning Greeters and Bus Helpers have all been trained. School Ambassadors will be meeting during lunch.

Today the Human Relations Committee met for the first time this year. I am so looking forward to working with the great group of fifth-grade students who have volunteered to be on the committee. At this meeting we discussed the following events:

The following AMAZING staff members will be appreciated during the month of October:

Custodians on October 2nd

Cafeteria Staff-October 14-18

Principal Appreciation Month-October

On **October 14th** we will be collecting food for The Harvest for the Hungry campaign. We will collect donations until November 1st. The class who brings in the most donations will earn a special treat. A separate flyer will come home next week with more specific information.



Arts & Humanities

Hello Shady Side Families,

We are so excited to begin our new year with our Shady Side scholars. Our schedule is as follows: Mrs. Kochanski is teaching our pre-K students, fourth graders, and fifth graders. Mrs. Wolfstone-Smith is teaching our 3rd, 2nd, 1st, and Kindergarten students. Please contact your child's Arts & Humanities teacher with any questions you may have as our year progresses. We always look forward to hearing from you.

Our first unit of exploration focuses on the concept of *Representation*. How artists represent their ideas through the arts (visual, dramatic, musical, and movement) is our foundation for this unit. Additionally, we explore, through creative challenges, how our students can represent their own ideas through various art forms. Our Driving Questions for each grade level are as follows:

- Pre-K - How do we make choices that help us to learn?
- Kindergarten - How can I use my imagination to create a product that represents who I am?
- 1st Grade - How can exploring circles through the arts help us to understand how we are unique as individuals and as a group?
- 2nd Grade - How does my family history make me unique?
- 3rd Grade - How can the design and construction of a mandala represent myself, my team, and the universe?
- 4th Grade - How can I create a rock mandala whose design and color reflect my personality and is a source of inspiration?
- 5th Grade - How can I create a personal logo that represents my interests and aspirations?

We will continue to provide updates on this unit through this Newsletter. We look forward to working with your children and cultivating creativity and critical thinking at Shady Side Elementary!

Warm regards,

Kathy Wolfstone-Smith
kwolfstone-smith@aacps.org

Jennifer Kochanski
jkochanski@aacps.org



Cultural Arts

October 2019



Media- Mrs. Guy

Grades PreK- 2: These students have been learning about book care, parts of a book and how books are arranged in our Everybody section. Students are also focusing on telling the difference between fiction and nonfiction. We will continue to have read-alouds related to what the students are studying in their classes, as well as, fun stories to do with autumn and Halloween. Students love to check out books! Please help your child to remember their books on their media day so they can check out with their class.

Grades 3-5: Upper elementary students will be focusing on identifying fiction and nonfiction, as well as breaking fiction down into genres and classifying nonfiction using the Dewey Decimal Classification System. Knowing these classifications helps students find books for reading enjoyment and class research. Students are also practicing using our OPAC (Online Public Access Catalog), which can be accessed at home through ClassLink.

Band and Strings- Welcome, Mr. Green!

I'm Ben Green, and I'm super excited to be at Shady Side Elementary as an instrumental music teacher. A little about me, I'm a clarinet and saxophone player and I love jazz and funk. My favorite food is BBQ steak, and my favorite movie is Back to the Future. I also enjoy ultimate frisbee and my favorite vacation spot is Yosemite!

If you have any questions, feel free to email me at bmgreen1@aacps.org



P.E.- Ms. Pastrana

All classes in Physical Education are off to a great start! 4th and 5th grade are just finishing their first round of fitness testing and learning how to set appropriate but challenging goals. 3rd grade has now learned the FITT principle which will help them understand how to choose the right exercises and plans to get strong or reach specific goals! 1st and 2nd grade have now learned everything there is to know about different ways to travel and move through a space safely and without bumping into anyone or anything. Pre-K and Kindergarten have been working on PE rules and procedures! Ask your kindergarteners how to do jumping jacks or explosion sit ups!

Moving forward we will be continuing fitness and health knowledge as well as entering our Kicking unit. 5th grade will learn how to apply their previous knowledge to small sided games, while 3rd and 4th are working on mastering the skill. 1st and 2nd will continue practicing and learning how to kick with their feet safely and accurately. Our Pre-k and Kindergarten students are going to be introduced to kicking, mostly focusing on safety.

Please continue to send your students in sneakers on PE days! They will not be able to participate without safe footwear.

Music- Mrs. Witmer

The students in Pre-K through 5th grade have already made some wonderful music at Shady Side this first month back! So far, the students have learned new songs, explored meter and steady beat, and performed on instruments such as hand drums, shakers, rhythm sticks, and musical spoons. 5th Graders completed their first project in our new curriculum: a musical representation of "Earth," and I was so pleased with the level of musicianship and creativity they exhibited! This month, each grade will learn some Halloween and fall-themed songs and chants. We will use this music to further develop our skills and have fun at the same time!

4th and 5th Grade Chorus rehearsals have recently begun: we have such a wonderful, large group of singers this year! I look forward to working with them as we prepare for our Winter Concert on Wednesday, December 11th!

