



Shady Side Elementary School December 2019 Newsletter



Contact Us At:

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Dates to Remember

December Upcoming Events

- 5 Unity Day – Wear Orange
2-hour early dismissal
- 11 Winter Concert – Southern High School
- 12 2nd Grade – Baltimore Aquarium Field Trip
- 17 SSES Chorus will sing at Board of Education
- 19 Kindergarten – Skate Zone Field Trip
- 20 School-wide Holiday Sing-a-long

December 23 - January 1, 2020
Christmas/Winter Break
(Schools are Closed)



Principal's Message: Mrs. Melissa Brown

December greetings, Shady Side families! This time of year finds a flurry of activity both in school and at home. As we gear up for the holiday season, our students will participate in many exciting activities. Please make sure to note dates listed in this newsletter as well as the PTO newsletter.

While the excitement of the season will fill our students, we will still have a strong focus on learning. Students will continue to engage in rigorous instruction, and teachers will continue to use recent assessment results to guide supports based on student performance.

We ask for your help at this time of year to ensure students continue to come to school prepared each day having completed their homework and having had a good night's rest. Please encourage your children to remember the expectations for our Seagull Scholars and ensure they are doing their very best each day.

The faculty and staff of Shady Side Elementary wish everyone in our school family a safe, restful, and wonderful holiday season.



Congratulations November Scholar of the Month Students

Rayce Hostetter, Kayla Anderson, James McCullough, Drew Ferraro, Christina Jones, Jace Gonzales, Bianca Hurley, Sarah Piche, Annabelle Jackson, Shannon Escobar-Fauzi, Madilyn Vandevort, Luke Newhard, Raegan Crutchfield, Sammy Biddle, Jaida Obasi, Anna Marcinik, Lynzey Zeldis, Victoria Quintero, Austyn Monn, Alivia Murphy, Remy Choe, Gavin Wajbel



Happy New Year!



January Upcoming Events

- 1 All Schools & Central Offices closed.**
- 2 Schools open for teachers and students.
- 20 Martin Luther King, Jr. All Schools & Central Offices closed.**
- 28/29 End of second marking period. Two-hour early dismissal.
- 30 Schools closed for students. Teacher Workday**
- 31 Beginning of third marking period.

Guidance News

Ms. Blandford



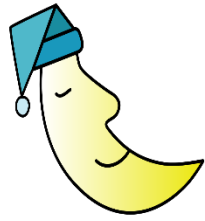
Our Spirit Day for December will be on December 13th. We are inviting students to wear festive holiday shirts or sweaters. In the past, we have seen some very creative, homemade outfits. If you are one that is creative, here's your chance to show us your skills. Our January spirit day is January 17th. It will be sports themed. Students are encouraged to wear items that depict their favorite sports teams.

There will be no Human Relations meeting in December. We will meet again in January to discuss future events. Please mark your calendars for January 23rd. This is our Super Dads Day. Dads will be invited to Shady Side before school. More information will follow as the date gets closer.



Reading News

Mrs. Blundell and Mrs. Whalen



Check out The Shady Side Bedtime Story Website featuring Mrs. Wolfstone-Smith reading *A Snowman Named Just Bob* by Mark Kimball Moulton. Episode 2 is coming soon with a new guest reader. Who will it be, and what book will they choose?

Winter Read-a-thon

December 20th will be Shady Side's **Winter Read-a-Thon**. Students can wear their pajamas, bring something comfy to lie on, and bring a book to read!



<https://sites.google.com/aacps.org/shadysidebedtimestories/home>

Young Authors Contest Winners

Congratulations to the winners of the Shady Side Young Authors Contest. Good luck to our winners as their entries will be sent to the Anne Arundel County Contest!



Short Story

1st place – First-Time Swimming with Dolphins by Jordyn Harmel

2nd Place – Dream by Alyssa Ashley

Poem

1st place – Winter Night by Alexandra Lesicka

2nd place – The Square by Katie Nurmi

Special thanks to ALL the students who submitted their writing!

Everett Braun, Seneca Braun, Brenna Crawford, Zoey Howes, Alana Kannegieser, Aubree Moulden, Addison O'Lare, Olivia Owens, Harper Plude, Mya Robles, Nicolas Walter, and Amelia Wright

Cultural Arts- December 2019

Music- Mrs. Witmer

December is a musical month here at Shady Side! The Winter concert featuring the Strings, Band and Chorus is Wednesday, December 11th at 6:30 p.m. at Southern High School with a school assembly performance at 2:30 p.m. If your student is in one of these ensembles and has not turned in a blue permission slip, please do so as soon as possible. See Mrs. Witmer for extra copies! Students should come to school that day with instruments/music and in concert dress: white top, black/dark blue bottoms.

In addition, the Chorus has been invited to perform at the Board of Education on Tuesday, December 17th as part of their "Sounds of the Season" concert series. If your child is in Chorus and has not turned in a permission slip yet, please do so as soon as possible or see Mrs. Witmer if you need a new copy. We are excited for this special opportunity to share our music with other members of the AACPS community!

Lastly, students in all grade levels will begin working on a holiday song in preparation for our Holiday Sing-a-Long assembly on December 20th. This is always an exciting way to come together as a school and share holiday music with our fellow students and staff members at Shady Side!



P.E.- Mrs. Bacon

Friday (12/6) is the LAST DAY for Kid's Heart Challenge. You can turn in all donations until Wednesday (12/11).

Students in PE for December will be learning and practicing skills used in soccer. 5th graders will be applying all the skills they've mastered to small-sided games. 4th grade will be practicing changing speeds while maintaining control. 3rd grade will be re-learning and practicing kicking and dribbling, while PK-2nd are still being introduced to dribbling, passing, and shooting.

Congratulations to my PE Scholar of the Month, Jaida Osabi! Please continue to send all students in sneakers (or with sneakers). Boots are not a safe choice of footwear.

Band and Strings- Mr. Green

See you at the winter concert! It will be December 11 at 2:30 p.m. at Shady Side and 6:30 p.m. at Southern High School!

Media- Mrs. Guy

Grades K- 2: In the month of December these students will be exploring books discussing various holiday celebrations and traditions across religions and cultures. We will enjoy many holiday classics, as well.

Grades 3-5: We will discuss plagiarism, note-taking and creating a bibliography. Students will also take part of the Hour of Code.



Arts & Humanities

December 2019



Greetings to our Shady Side Families!

The winter brings with it a flurry of activities and moments that will become cherished memories. In Arts & Humanities class, we are exploring how Mindfulness and being "present" will enhance our learning and growing opportunities each day.

- Pre-K: How can sharing ideas help us learn?
- Kindergarten: How does listening or acting out a story help me to enhance my perspective?
- 1st Grade: How does the Revision process done with peers help me to improve my work?
- 2nd Grade: What techniques can I use to help myself feel "centered" and productive?
- 3rd Grade: How can the design and construction of a mandala represent myself, my team, my class, and the universe?
- 4th Grade: How can I create a rock mandala whose design and color reflect my personality and at the same time is a source of inspiration to others?
- 5th Grade: How can I create a personal logo that represents my interests and aspirations?

Warm regards,

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