



Shady Side Elementary School January 2020 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

January Upcoming Events

- 6&8 PreK Parent Information Night at Southern Middle 6-7 p.m.
- 20 Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday
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.



Principal's Message: Mrs. Melissa Brown


Happy New Year! We are “roaring” into the 20’s...I can’t believe we are not only in a new year, but in a new decade. What an exciting time to talk with our scholars about both the accomplishments of the past and the hopes for the future. As we work together to prepare our Shady Side Seagulls for their futures, let’s use the start of the new year to refresh and renew our commitment to daily reading, homework support, and an emphasis on the importance of learning. Staff will be working hard to ensure no holiday “slide” occurred with student understanding of concepts and skills as they continue to move them forward with content standards. Before the break, teachers completed F&P testing to determine students’ current instructional levels in reading. They will use this information to continue to tailor instruction for students to meet them where they are and move them forward in their reading journey. You can be a great help at home by encouraging reading (by, with, or to your students) daily, talking about what they read, and asking basic questions such as who are the characters? What is the setting? What is happening in the story? What is the main idea of the article (what is it mostly about)? You can also reach out to your child’s teacher for additional age-appropriate/text appropriate questions. Let your children see you reading in your everyday life as well – both for pleasure and to complete tasks. Many things are happening here at our school in the near future, so please check out the calendar and other information in this newsletter.

Thank you for all of your support in 2019, and we look forward to a wonderful 2020!

Congratulations December Scholar of the Month Students

Abigail Greer, Mia Prochazka, Aubrey Beach, Emily Mitchell, Sadie Pulanco, Lillian MacDonald, Amelia Wright, Hope Gross, Abby Drew, Gia Carrubba, Joshua Larrimore, Carter Walker, Kyleih Stauffer, Alex Dziengeleski, Avery Lanier, Luella Bressler, Vivienne Will, Colton Zdun, Aaron Boggs, Dyllan Ferraro, Sammy Sperling

February Upcoming Events

- 5 - Prekindergarten Application period begins.
- 10 - Progress Report/Report Card distribution for all students.
- 12 - **Professional Development. Two-hour early Dismissal for all students.**
- 14 - Valentine's Day 
- 17 - **President's Day – All Schools & Central Offices closed.**
- 19 - 4th Grade Baltimore Symphony Orchestra Field Trip
Cost: \$14.00
- 21 - 3rd Grade Baltimore Museum of Industry Field Trip
Students Cost: \$32.50 Chaperones Cost: \$21.00

Guidance News

Ms. Blandford



Happy New Year! We have several events coming up in the next few months and I will share them as the dates come closer. Today, the Human Relations Committee met to discuss our Super Dads Day. It will be held on January 23rd from 7:45-8:50 am. It will be very similar to last year with Dads asked to pre-register and check in on the morning of January 23rd beginning at 7:40. The plan for each grade level is below:

Our **Pre-K** Dads will be participating in number sense, numeral writing and winter STEM activities during Math Workshop rotations.

Kindergarten is planning to do collaborative math games and math tubs at that time.

First grade will play math games, engage in structured play games, and read books from their book bins/boxes!

Second grade will have various activities such as Structured Play games and read with Dad.

Third grade students and dads will be rotating classes by doing some math games, writing poetry, and doing an assembly line associated with their upcoming field trip.

Fourth grade will set up activities/games in our classrooms that are related to our content areas, and Dads and students are invited to rotate around the different classrooms to engage in the activities and have some fun!

Fifth grade will do a STEM activity in their homeroom classroom.

Friday, January 10 is our spirit day for the month. Students are encouraged to dress to support their favorite sports team or player.

We are currently planning our next yoga class for all our students. The first class was amazing. We can't wait for students to participate in the second one.

Reading News

Mrs. Blundell and Mrs. Whalen



Read with me Challenge

January is the #AACPSReadWithMe Challenge Month.

Join in the fun and take a picture reading.
Use Twitter to share your pictures and
Reading@ShadySideAACPS#AACPSRead
WithMe.

Schools that participate in the challenge
will enter a weekly drawing to win books
for their Media Center!



Read to Succeed is a free program that allows students to earn a ticket to Six Flags just by reading six hours for fun. **This year parents must register their child and log hours on-line!**

- Each student received a letter/reading log with program information, link to register, and a unique class code to register for the program.
- **Please do not return this log to the teachers.**
- Hours read must be submitted by April 17th to earn your ticket.
- Tickets will be distributed on or about May 1st.



New Bedtime Stories are On-line!

Episode 4: Mrs. Keenan reads "Click, Clack, Moo Cows That Type" by Doreen Cronin. Mrs. Flanders joins in with special sound effects!

Episode 3: Mrs. Brown reads "The Not Very Merry Pout Pout Fish" by Deborah Diesen

Episode 2: Mrs. Shryock & Miss V. read "We Are Invited to a Party!" by Mo Willems.

Watch the stories and vote for your next episode!

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

Arts & Humanities



Kathy Wolfstone-Smith
Kwolfstone-smith@aacps.org

Jennifer Kochanski
jkochanski@aacps.org



Enhancing Elementary Excellence



What's Up In Cultural Arts?

Music- Mrs. Witmer

The third grade will begin recorder study towards the end of January. If your child already has a recorder at home, please write his or her name on the case and send it in. The classroom teachers will collect them until we need them in the music classroom. Students who do not have a recorder may purchase one at the school store for \$4.50. It is important that each child has a recorder, as we have just a few extras in the music room to lend.

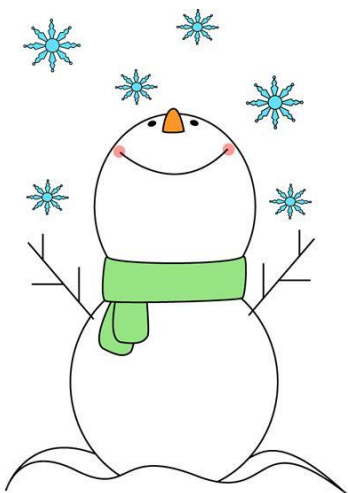
Those 4th and 5th graders who expressed an interest in joining Chorus for the second half of the school year (returning or new students) will receive permission slips this week. If your child would like to join, please sign and return the detachable portion to Mrs. Witmer as soon as possible. I look forward to resuming Chorus this month with some new and returning singers!

Media- Mrs. Guy

Grades K- 2: In the month of January, second grade students will be doing a small research project and learning about gathering information from books and other sources. First grade and kindergartners will learn about the Caldecott Medal and read books that have won this honor.

Grades 3-5: Third through fifth grade students will also explore award-winning books and look at Caldecott (picture book) Award Winners and Newbury (chapter book) Award Winners.

They will also read books that interest them and give reviews of the books. We will continue to integrate topics from the classroom into various research activities in the media center.



P.E. - Mrs. Bacon

We are starting the new year with our tumbling unit! 4th and 5th grade will be reviewing what they learned in past years to create an original routine. PK-3rd grade will be learning and reviewing skills such as balance, weight transfers and rolling. This unit will push your child(ren) to try things they've never tried and use their bodies in ways they aren't used to. After tumbling, we will enter our basketball unit! Our focus will be hand dribbling and passing while working with others.

Please continue to send your child in sneakers. The weather is getting colder and boots are not a safe or appropriate footwear for physical activity.

Art News

Mrs. Downes

All 3-5th grade students will continue using artistic journals.

5th: Students will create a Kaleidoscope design using origami to create radial balance. They will then create a locker Mural to serve as an inspiration booster.

4th: Students will create a series of projects around the theme, "Artist and Audience." They will also create a faux fossil.

3rd: Students will continue working on their team building project, mini house. They will then move into a series of challenge projects to explore color theory in more depth.

2nd: Students will practice their color theory and color mixing skills as they create a secondary colors artwork themed, "Mad Scientist."

1st: Students will continue problem solving challenges. They will also explore the difference between transparent and opaque through the creation of a stained paper project with different painting and staining techniques.

Kindergarten: Students will learn about the rain stick instrument and will create their own version of one. We will explore the types of materials traditionally used in the creation of these instruments, the various decoration styles and the sounds made by a rain stick.

Pre-K: Students will continue exploring color theory by creating Mondrian inspired paintings. They will then begin exploring complex shapes in printing houses.

Collectables for the art room:

- Colorful sewing pins.
- Glitter glue
- Tissues

