



# SHADY SIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## OCTOBER 2020 NEWSLETTER



### Contact Us At:

Shady Side Elementary  
4859 Atwell Road  
Shady Side, Maryland 20764

**Principal:** Mrs. Melissa L. Brown  
**Asst. Principal:** Mrs. Rebecca Ahrons

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

## Dates to Remember

### October Upcoming Events

- 9 Interims available to parents.
- 12 **Schools closed for students.**  
Parent/Teacher conferences for students.
- 13 **Schools closed for students.**  
Parent/Teacher conferences for Students.
- 16 School Spirit Day – Crazy Socks



### **Principal's Message:** Mrs. Melissa Brown

Happy October, Happy Fall!

Our Shady Side Scholars have completed their first month of virtual learning for the 2020-2021 school year. As I visit classrooms, it is great to see so many faces as well as a high level of active engagement. Teachers and staff have been working very hard to be prepared for students each day, and I am amazed at how excited and active students have been so far. The curriculum is focusing on key standards that students will need to be prepared for the next grade, expectations for performance are at a high level, and grading has returned to our normal policy. This month, teachers will generate interims which can be accessed through Parent Portal on October 9th. We ask that families continue to work in partnership with us to support students: check Parent Portal and your child's Google Classroom regularly; establish a plan for completing homework and independent practice through iReady when we begin and through First in Math in grades 1-5; support and encourage daily reading for pleasure either by or to your students; communicate and connect with your child's teacher as needed; and emphasize for your child the importance of school.

We are on a unique journey together, that is for sure, and our journey will certainly encounter bumps in the road. However, working together, we can create a positive, successful learning experience for our students. Happy learning!



## Guidance News

*Ms. Blandford*

Happy Fall Everyone,



It has been so wonderful being back in the classroom and seeing my student's beautiful faces. March 13<sup>th</sup> was the last day I saw most of them and I have truly missed working with them.

Guidance lessons are going to look a little different in the virtual learning world this year. Currently, I will be visiting classes once a month. In September we spent the time reconnecting and ensuring that the students understood my role as the school counselor and how to access my services. In October, we will be talking about mindfulness, stress, and stress reduction strategies. In November, our lesson will focus on social justice. Beginning next week, I will be posting follow up activities to these lessons on my google classroom page. The activities are optional but would be a great way for you to follow up on our lessons. The access code for my google classroom is xhfysm7.

Anne Arundel County Public Schools will again be participating in the Kids Helping Kids Harvest for the Hungry Food Campaign. This year the program will encourage students to ask for donations and raise money for their hungry peers. By participating, this will teach our children a valuable lesson about hunger, encouraging them to give, and shows them that they can make a difference not only in their community, but within our county. For every dollar raised, eight pounds of food can be purchased. To donate go to [www.aacps.org/harvest](http://www.aacps.org/harvest). Proceeds directly benefit the Anne Arundel County Food Bank.

I'm excited to announce that we were given the red light to begin planning our fifth-grade dance program for the 20/21 school year. For the past few years, Mrs. Weckel and I have co-directed the dance team. This year I will be going it alone. I'm both excited and nervous, but I am confident it will be a great experience for your child if he/she chooses to participate. Within the next week or so, specific information will be given to fifth-grade students. Please note that the virtual class will begin on October 26<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm. The class only allows for twenty students so if your child wants to participate, please ensure they complete the application at their earliest convenience and no later than by the due date.

Please know that I am here to support your child academically, socially, and emotionally. I can be reached via email at [lblandford@aacps.org](mailto:lblandford@aacps.org) or through Google Voice at 301-539-9519.



### Congratulations September Scholar of the Month

Ivan Mendez, Melody Poling, Scott Kopitskie, Nixon Lowe, Maddox Shields, Lily Drennan, Jacob Reiger, Jacob Rattie, Terrence Harrison, Kamdyn Hopkinson, Parker Joseph, Abbi Owens, Justin Lane, Amelia Wright, Alana Kannegieser, Mya Litz, Madelyn Schreffler, Alana Sampson, Autumn Teitelbaum, Hunter Purner, Lia Zinn, Joseph Seibel, Andrew Seibel, Bently Fowler, Charlie Lanham, Emma Tang, Ella Watkins and Harri Grossman

2020  
**H**arvest



**GIVE WHERE  
YOU LIVE**

for the  
**H**ungry

**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](http://www.aacps.org/harvest)

*Proceeds benefit the Anne Arundel County Food & Resource Bank*

**Kids Helping Kids**  
Virtual Campaign



## Triple E Arts & Humanities



Enhancing Elementary Excellence

Happy October!

Mrs. W-S and Mrs. Kochanski are so excited to be back with Shady Side Scholars! Students are navigating the technology well, actively engaged in sharing and inspiring each other, and thinking deeply about art and our world.

For the next month or so, Mrs. W's primary students will be using Google Earth to explore interesting places all over the world. Art and literature that support our explorations will continue to enhance the lessons. Intermediate students will be working with a choice board, where students will have voice and choice in the engaging activities they select to explore. This month, intermediate students will be focusing on how artists communicate big ideas through their art.

Mrs. Kochanski's primary students will begin a unit on soundscapes, all the different sounds that help create a sense of a place. They will listen to the sounds around them and explore sounds from around the world.

Feel free to reach out to us if you need additional support for our learning adventures.

Mrs. W-S  
[kwolfstone-smith@aacps.org](mailto:kwolfstone-smith@aacps.org)

Mrs. Kochanski  
[jkochanski@aacps.org](mailto:jkochanski@aacps.org)





# Literacy News

Mrs. Blundell & Mrs. Whalen



## Scholastic Digital

We are thrilled to let you know that this year, to support your child's reading, our school will be using Scholastic Literacy Pro. Literacy Pro is a web-based program that allows your child to read eBooks online as well as to track any books they're reading—both in Literacy Pro and on their own. With Literacy Pro, your child will be able to:

- Choose books based on their interests
- Explore more than 2,300 eBooks and connect to thousands of paperback titles
- Set and monitor their reading goals throughout the year
- Deepen comprehension of the books they complete
- Rate and review the books they read

Your child can sign into Literacy Pro through the Scholastic Digital Manager app in Class Link.



Access to Scholastic Books through Class Link

## Read with a Vet



Veterans Day is Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>. If you are a vet and interested in being a guest reader in your child's Google Meet please contact the Literacy Committee at [kblundell@aacps.org](mailto:kblundell@aacps.org). The guidelines for volunteering in a virtual classroom require some coordination so please let us know by Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>. Thanks!



## Young Author's Contest

**Who: Students in Grades 1-5**

**What: Write a poem or short story!**

Entries must be original work.

Short story entry must range between 100-400 words (gr. 1-2) and 300-800 words (gr. 3-5).

Poem entry will consist of a single poem, any style, and must range between 25-150 words (all grade levels).

Entries must not include graphics.

Each entry must include a completed cover sheet signed by the student author's parent (You can take a photo of the signed cover sheet and attach it with your entry).

Entries must be typed and submitted electronically

All entries must use no smaller than 12 point font in Times New Roman.

**Entries are due to the Literacy Committee**

**[kblundell@aacps.org](mailto:kblundell@aacps.org) for judging by**

**Wednesday, November 4<sup>th</sup>.**

*The 1<sup>st</sup> place winners for Short Story and Poem will be sent to the Anne Arundel County Young Author's Contest.*

# CULTURAL ARTS

## OCTOBER 2020

### **Media- Mrs. Guy**

Welcome to the Virtual Library!

This year in Media we are joined by Mrs. Walsh who will teach PreK, K- Auth, 3<sup>rd</sup>- Tuttle and 5<sup>th</sup>- Howell.

Students have spent the beginning of the year learning how to access our online eBooks and resources. They love giving me suggestions for new books!

They 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! Remember books are available for check out at any time of day on MackinVia (accessed on ClassLink).

### **P.E.- Mrs. Bacon**

Hello students and families! I am so happy to be back online with all of you during PE. We have been learning all about how to stay safe while moving at home or daycare. It is going to be very important that your child(ren) have an open space to use for PE class. We will be up and moving every single class. I understand that some people have smaller spaces than others and that's okay! We will make it work! For the month of October, we will be focusing on using our space safely and learning expectations for PE class. All grades will be learning about mindfulness, balance, and flexibility. During this time, it is going to be important to get your student(s) up and moving when they are done their schoolwork. Encourage outdoor play when possible and continue to talk about health and wellness with your family! This year we have a part-time PE teacher, Ms. Cunningham! She will be teaching Mr. Tuttle's class, Mrs. Langford-Howell's class, and Ms. Taylor's class. If your child is in any of these classes, the above units mentioned may vary slightly.

### **Art- Ms. Shryock**

Hi Shady Side Artists and Families! We have started our year off creatively with getting started with art during eLearning. Ms. Shryock and Ms. Caple are thrilled to be making art with you all daily and excited to see you grow artistically this year. If you are interested in participating in Artsonia (an online website to see your student's artwork on goodies like magnets, bags, mugs, etc.) please fill out this google form to be included <https://forms.gle/S1K6vsBZMmCoN37n7>.

Please store your art in a safe place and check your Weekly Work Menu weekly to see what materials you will need for class.

### **Band and Strings - Dr. Orr**

Welcome! Instrumental music starts October 5, 2020. More information, including the registration forms, sample lessons and informative videos, is available on Dr. Orr's Demo Google Classroom. The classroom code is DZFPLFS. If you have any questions, please call or text Dr. Orr at 302-404-4454 or email her at [korr@aacps.org](mailto:korr@aacps.org).

### **Music- Mrs. Witmer**

We are off to a great start with Music at Shady Side! This year, we are joined by Mrs. O'Neal, who will teach Pre-K, 3-Tuttle and 4-Paolitto. Students in Pre-K through 3rd Grade have worked on rhythmic skills such as steady beat and echoing or reading rhythms. The 4th Graders have explored their musical preferences through listening and reflecting. 5th Grade has begun their first project of the year, a "Musical Autobiography." Although we will not have homework assignments in Music, any graded classwork (denoted by a star) that has not been turned in during the allotted class time will need to be completed. Please help your child check their "To Do List" to see if they have any missing assignments. Chorus begins this week, with 4th Graders meeting Mondays at 11:15 and 5th Graders meeting Fridays at 11:15. Though music performance must look different virtually, I look forward to working with this group of singers! I have enjoyed sharing music with the students this past month and look forward too many more fun musical experiences!

