

# Sunset Elementary School

November 2019



Sunset Elementary is dedicated to meeting the needs of all learners in a safe environment. We strive to give each child the opportunity to inquire and succeed, as open-minded and globally aware life-long learners. We believe that educating the whole child as 21st century learners is the key to the development of caring, innovative, responsible, and reflective citizens who take action in their community and the world.

Office 410-222-6478

[www.aacps.org](http://www.aacps.org)

Fax 410-222-6478

Dr. Toni Carr  
Principal

Mrs. Laura Espinosa  
Assistant Principal

## Administrators' Message

This month we will observe American Education Week from November 11th—November 15th. There are several events planned for this week at our school. Please refer to the calendar in this newsletter for specific activities, dates and times. All parents and guardians are invited to visit Sunset on Tuesday, November 12th between 9:30-11:00 a.m. and 1:00– 3:00 p.m. Please attend the Open House even if you can come for a short time. Our parents and community members are very important to the learning process at Sunset.

Working together we can support our students as they strive to S.H.I.N.E.

- I chose to be Safe at all times.
- I chose to Honor and respect myself and others.
- I chose to be an Inquirer and open-minded.
- I chose to be Nice and have a positive attitude.
- I chose to be Engaged in my learning.

Your support is one of our greatest blessings.

Happy Thanksgiving,

Dr. Carr

Mrs. Espinosa



## Important Dates

PTA Mother/Son Bowling

Sat. Nov. 9

Heros Boy 5K Relay

Sun. Nov. 10

Begin 2nd Marking Pd.

Family Game Night

Mon. Nov. 11

American Education

Open House

9:30-10:30 & 1:30—3:00

Tuesday, Nov. 12

College Day

Thurs., Nov. 14

Career Day

Friday, Nov. 15

Joe Corbi Delivery

4-6p.m. Tues, Nov. 19

Report Cards Go home


Thanksgiving Break

Nov. 27th –29th

School closed

Sunset Elementary is a green school, this first Newsletter will be printed. Download or view the full current and future newsletters at [www.aacps.org](http://www.aacps.org) for important dates and information.

# NOVEMBER 2019

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
				1 Fall Picture Makeups Talent Show 6:00 p.m. Doors open at 5
4	5	6	7 End 1st Marking Period 2 Hr. Early Dismissal	8 End 1st Marking Period 2 Hr. Early Dismissal
11 Begin 2nd Marking Pd. Veteran's Day Family Game Night American Education week begins	12 American Education Open House- parent visit 9:30-11:00 am 1:00-3:00 p.m.	13 Parent Lunch A-L	14 College Day WCL Bingo	15
18 3rd Gr. Science Club	19 Joe Corbi's Delivery 4:00-6:00 p.m.	20 Parent Lunch M-Z Report Cards Go Home	21	22
25 Prin. "A" Honor Roll Breakfast NEHS Lunch Meeting	26	27 School Closed Thanksgiving Holiday	28 School Closed Thanksgiving Holiday	29 School Closed Thanksgiving Holiday

**School Hours**  
**Arrival Time—8:40 a.m.**  
**Late Bell—9:00 a.m.**  
**Dismissal Bell—3:25 p.m.**

Access Sunset's website at:

Logon to [www.aacps.org](http://www.aacps.org)

Go to the top of the screen under School Links and click Elementary Schools and find Sunset Elementary, scroll and click on Sunset Elementary School. This will bring up an informational page on Sunset. Go to the center of the screen and click on School Website, View or print out

## School Hours

- Students will enter the gym at 8:40 a.m.
- Instruction begins promptly at 9:00 a.m.
- Students not in class by 9:00 a.m. will be marked late.
- Dismissal is at 3:25 p.m.



**PLEASE NOTE: NO ADULT SUPERVISION IS AVAILABLE OUTSIDE TO STUDENTS BEFORE 8:40 A.M.**

## Health Room NEW Direct Phone Number 410-266-3776

Sunset Elementary is very excited to have a School Safety Patrol! Congratulations to the following students who are members of the patrol for the 2019-2020 School year.

Cain B.  
Trent C.  
Brody G.  
Shalom I.  
Lenox L.  
Carter M.  
Wyatt O.  
Preston R.  
Mason S.  
Sam S.  
Cooley W.

Carliegh C.  
Michael D.  
Alyssa H.  
Mackenzi K.  
Kaci L.  
Sara M.  
Lilli P.  
Preston R.  
Lindsay S.  
Ricky S.



## *What is American Education Week?*

American Education Week—November 11-15, 2019—will present all Americans with a wonderful opportunity to celebrate public education and honor individuals who are making a difference in ensuring that every child receives a quality education.

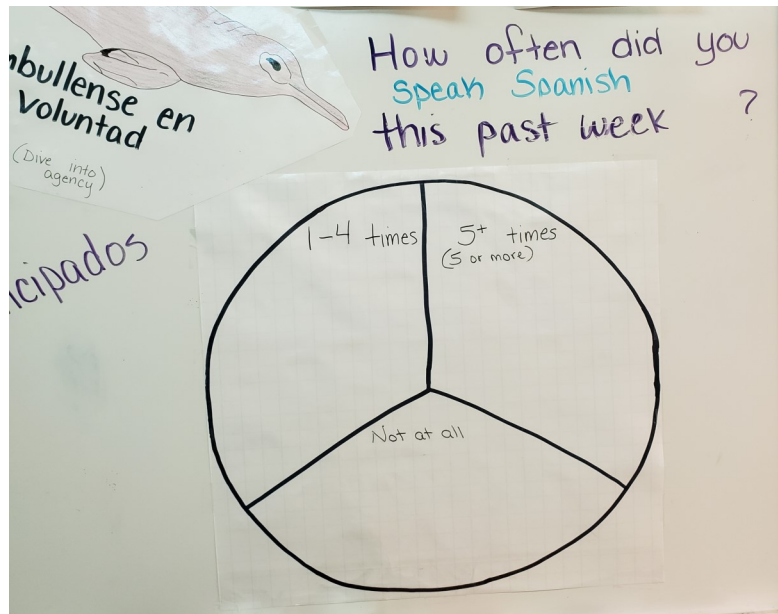
Parents can visit their student's classroom on Tuesday, November 12, 2019 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Due to limited space we are requesting that the visit is limited to adults only. Small children may distract from the learning process.



## Have you paid your child's

### Weekly Reader fee?

The Weekly Reader is part of the school curriculum and school supply list. Checks can be made to Sunset Elementary School and sent to the office.



In World Culture and Language grades 3-5 are increasing their agency about their learning, and 2nd grade will be starting this in the month of November.

Every time students come to World Culture and Language, they start with a self reflection on how much Spanish they use outside of class. Then, if they have used Spanish 5 or more times they are able to share with the class how they have used the language. Maybe it is a greeting, a song or other new vocabulary they have learned. This is encouraging students to continue their learning outside of class.

## MEDICAL CONCERNS & ADMINISTERING MEDICATION: PLEASE READ

- Parents should make the school aware of any medical problems a child might have.
- **Only the health room staff may administer medicine** to students at school, including **cough drops, aspirin or medicated chap stick**.
- A **medical authorization form** is attached in newsletter in case you have a need for it. Please complete this **whenever your child will need to take medication during the school day. This must be signed by a doctor.**
- **Any medication to be given at school must be delivered to the health room by an adult. PLEASE DO NOT HAVE YOUR CHILD BRING ANY MEDICATION TO SCHOOL.**

*Thank you for your cooperation!*



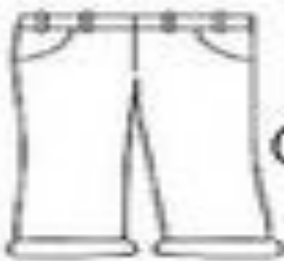
Sometimes we spill things on our clothes, pants get ripped at recess, etc. Even the older kids.

# Change of Clothing

Dear Parents,

Spills and accidents can occur in school. Please send in a complete change of clothing inside the attached bag. Be sure to label the bag with your child's name. Your child's clothes will be stored in the classroom in the event they are needed.

Your child needs:



pants  
(no shorts)



shirt



underpants



socks

Thank you ☺

©2008 Pearson Education, Inc.

# Sunset PYP November happenings

<b>Pre- Kindergarten</b>	
<p>November Unit of Inquiry: How We Organize Ourselves            Central Idea: What is a Community?</p>	
<p>November Unit Highlights: People and places in our Community</p> <p>Looking Ahead to December: World Cultures</p> <p>Cultural Arts Connections:</p>	<p>Ways to Connect at Home: Point out community helpers and places in your community (grocery store, restaurants, church, library)</p> <p>Ask your child: What places do you see in your community? How are people helping their community?</p> <p>Ways to connect with school: Work on a service project together (canned food drive, picking up trash, donating items for a pet shelter, etc.)</p>
<b>Kindergarten</b>	
<p>November Unit of Inquiry: Where We Are In Place and Time            Central Idea: How does where you live impact how you live?</p>	
<p>November Unit Highlights:            Communities , Maps skills            The First Thanksgiving</p> <p>Looking Ahead to December::            Transportation, food and how it travels</p> <p>Cultural Arts Connections: How a community works, <b>Art: Roads and vehicles collage</b></p>	<p>Ways to Connect at Home:            Discuss the community we live in.            What are places in a community?</p> <p>Ask your child: What is a community?</p> <p>Ways to connect with school:            Pictures of different communities            Show different types of maps and how and why we use them</p>



### 1st Grade

November Unit of Inquiry: Where We Are In Place and Time

Central Idea: People and places change over time.

November Unit Highlights:

Map Skills

Past and Present

The First Thanksgiving

Looking Ahead to December::

Culture

Traditions

Holidays Around the World

Cultural Arts Connections: Art: Chinese New Year Dragon Painting

Ways to Connect at Home:

Discuss family Thanksgiving traditions.

Ask your child:

How was the first Thanksgiving celebrated?

Ways to connect with school:

Share examples of maps and discuss how and why you use them.

### 2nd Grade

November Unit of Inquiry: How the World Works

Central Idea: Changes in the earth affect and connect with one another.

November Unit Highlights:

Solids and liquids

Quick and slow change

Landforms

Natural disasters

Looking Ahead to December::

Science Center Field Trip

Cultural Arts Connections:

Art- Solids and liquids with paint

Ways to Connect at Home:

Discuss solids and liquids as you are cooking.

Ask students to describe information learned about landforms and natural disasters.

Ask your child:

To find examples of solids and liquids during dinnertime.

To identify landforms.

Ways to connect with school:

Check out books about landforms and natural disasters at the local library.

Allow children to experiment with the melting process of solids to liquids (with supervision).

### 3rd Grade

November Unit of Inquiry:

Central Idea: **Connections** between **communities** can be **formed** through **traits and cultures**.

November Unit Highlights:

Inherited and acquired traits

Growth and development

Life cycles

Looking Ahead to December::

How are cultures important to communities?

Cultural Arts Connections:

Art: Inspired by Grandma Moses, students will make a drawing of their community.

Ways to Connect at Home:

Discuss traits with your child.

How does growth and development connect to life cycles?

Ask your child:

What are inherited traits?

What are acquired traits?

Ways to connect with school:

Take a drive through several communities.

Look for connections between communities.

### 4th Grade

November Unit of Inquiry: How We Express Ourselves

Central Idea: Expression can take a variety of forms.

November Unit Highlights:

- Written expression (form & perspective)
- Expression through art (form & perspective)
- Nonverbal expression (form & perspective)

Looking Ahead to December: Government changes to meet the needs of its people.

Cultural Arts Connections:

Art: Abstract Expressionism painting

Ways to Connect at Home: Brainstorm ways people express themselves using their written words, their voice, art forms, and non-verbal means.

Ask your child:

- Why do we communicate with each other?
- How does music create feelings?
- What is art?
- How can one express themselves?

Ways to connect with school:

- Guest speakers
- Young Readers' Theatre

### 5th Grade

November Unit of Inquiry: Where We Are in Place and Time

Central Idea: Location develops our understanding of our place in the universe.

November Unit Highlights:

- Apparent size of stars
- Apparent brightness of stars
- Movement of objects in universe

Looking Ahead to December:

- Road to Revolution
- Holidays Around the World

Cultural Arts Connections:

Art: Mixed media space scene

Ways to Connect at Home:

- Have your student keep a journal of the night sky
- Look at/check out books about stars from the local public library.
- Discuss visual perspective and why things that are closer look larger/ why things that are further away look smaller.

Ask your child:

- What patterns do you see?
- What changes can you observe?

Ways to connect with school:

- Visit a planetarium
- Share resources or articles related to our unit



# ATTENDANCE

## in the early grades

Many of our youngest students miss 10 percent of the school year—about 18 days a year or just two days every month. Chronic absenteeism in kindergarten, and even preK, can predict lower test scores, poor attendance and retention in later grades, especially if the problem persists for more than a year. Do you know how many young children are chronically absent in your school or community?

### Who Is Affected

Kindergarten and 1st grade classes often have absenteeism rates as high as those in high school. Many of these absences are excused, but they still add up to lost time in the classroom.

1 in 10 kids in kindergarten and 1st grade are chronically absent. In some schools, it's as high as 1 in 4.<sup>1</sup>



2 in 10 low-income kids miss too much school. They're also more likely to suffer academically.<sup>1</sup>

2.5 in 10 homeless kids are chronically absent.<sup>2</sup>

4 in 10 transient kids miss too much school when families move.<sup>2</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Chang, Hedy; Romero, Marijose. Present, Engaged and Accounted For: The Critical Importance of Addressing Chronic Absence in the Early Grades. National Center for Children in Poverty. NY: NY, September 2008.

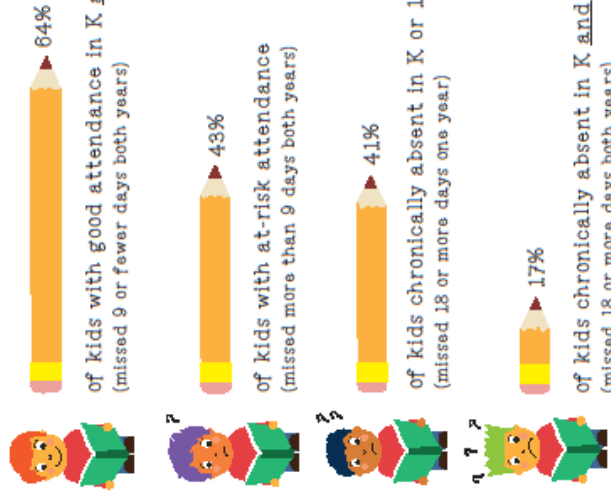
<sup>2</sup> Chronic Absence in Utah. Utah Education Policy Center at the University of Utah, 2012.

### Why It Matters

If children don't show up for school regularly, they miss out on fundamental reading and math skills and the chance to build a habit of good attendance that will carry them into college and careers.

Preliminary data from a California study found that children who were chronically absent in kindergarten and 1st grade were far less likely to read proficiently at the end of 3rd grade.

Who Can Read on Grade Level After 3rd Grade?<sup>3</sup>



<sup>3</sup> Attendance in Early Elementary Grades: Association with Student Characteristics, School Readiness and Third Grade Outcomes. Applied Survey Research. May 2011.

### What We Can Do



#### Engage Families

Many parents and students don't realize how quickly early absences can add up to academic trouble. Community members and teachers can educate families and build a culture of attendance through early outreach, incentives and attention to data.



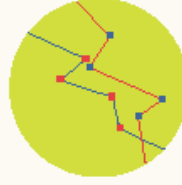
#### Fix Transportation

The lack of a reliable car, or simply missing the school bus, can mean some students don't make it to class. Schools, transit agencies and community partners can organize car pools, supply bus passes or find other ways to get kids to school.



#### Address Health Needs

Health concerns, particularly asthma and dental problems, are among the leading reasons students miss school in the early grades. Schools and medical professionals can work together to give children and families health care and advice.



#### Track the Right Data

Schools too often overlook chronic absence because they track average attendance or unexcused absences, not how many kids miss too many days for any reason. Attendance Works has free data-tracking tools.

These are a few steps that communities and schools can take. How do you think you can help?

# Sunset Elementary School Video Camera System

Our school is equipped with a video camera system. It covers selected interior and exterior public portions of the building and grounds. It is NOT monitored constantly, but it is monitored during emergency situations. During certain events, when the safety or security of students may be in question, authorized personnel from local, state, or federal police or fire emergency units may be given access to view images projected on the camera system. If you have any questions about the system, you should call the Supervisor of School Security at 410-222-5083."



## 2019-2020 School Year New School Meal Prices

Breakfast, All Schools	\$1.50
Lunch, Elementary	\$2.75
Milk 1/2 pint, ALa Carte	\$.55
Reduced-Price Breakfast	\$.30
Reduced-Price Lunch	\$.40

If you have any questions, please contact Jodi Risse, Supervisor of Food and Nutrition Services at 410-222-5900 or [jrisse@aacps.org](mailto:jrisse@aacps.org).

## Field Trip Information

Please be advised that ALL field trips are subject to cancellation AT ANYTIME by the Board of Education, the Superintendent of Schools or the Superintendent's designee when, in their discretion, cancellation is in the best interests of students and staff. In such cases, parents and students have the risk of loss for financial or other commitments they have made. The Board of Education, its employees, and agents will not be responsible for any losses arising out of cancellations.



## Lunch and Recess Schedule

Grade	Recess	Lunch
K		11:40-12:10
1	1:10-1:30	11:00-11:30
2	11:00-11:20	11:20-11:50
3	12:45-1:10	12:15-12:45
4	11:40-12:00	12:00-12:30
5	12:20-12:40	12:40-1:10

## No Breakfast/Lunch Money

Food Service will provide the following for students who do not have breakfast or lunch money....

**Breakfast**-Jelly Sandwich, (1) fruit serving and a cup of water.

**Lunch**-Jelly or Cheese Sandwich, (1) fruit or vegetable serving and a cup of water.



Are you receiving emails from our school, important reminders, newsletter, etc. Do we have your email address?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Student: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to your child's teacher to forward to the office. Thank you!

**SUNSET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**ABSENTEE FORM**

My son/daughter, \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal first and last name  
was absent from school on \_\_\_\_\_ for the  
Month/day/year

following reason (s): (Check reason(s) below)

- Illness of child     Doctor or dentist appointment  
 Death in immediate family     Court summons  
 Other (Explain): \_\_\_\_\_

TEACHER: \_\_\_\_\_

**SUNSET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**ABSENTEE FORM**

My son/daughter, \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal first and last name  
was absent from school on \_\_\_\_\_ for the  
Month/day/year

following reason (s): (Check reason(s) below)

- Illness of child     Doctor or dentist appointment  
 Death in immediate family     Court summons  
 Other (Explain): \_\_\_\_\_

TEACHER: \_\_\_\_\_

**SUNSET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**ABSENTEE FORM**

My son/daughter, \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal first and last name  
was absent from school on \_\_\_\_\_ for the  
Month/day/year

following reason (s): (Check reason(s) below)

- Illness of child     Doctor or dentist appointment  
 Death in immediate family     Court summons  
 Other (Explain): \_\_\_\_\_

TEACHER: \_\_\_\_\_

**SUNSET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**ABSENTEE FORM**

My son/daughter, \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal first and last name  
was absent from school on \_\_\_\_\_ for the  
Month/day/year

following reason (s): (Check reason(s) below)

- Illness of child     Doctor or dentist appointment  
 Death in immediate family     Court summons  
 Other (Explain): \_\_\_\_\_

TEACHER: \_\_\_\_\_

**SUNSET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**ABSENTEE FORM**

My son/daughter, \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal first and last name  
was absent from school on \_\_\_\_\_ for the  
Month/day/year

following reason (s): (Check reason(s) below)

- Illness of child     Doctor or dentist appointment  
 Death in immediate family     Court summons  
 Other (Explain): \_\_\_\_\_

TEACHER: \_\_\_\_\_

**SUNSET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**ABSENTEE FORM**

My son/daughter, \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal first and last name  
was absent from school on \_\_\_\_\_ for the  
Month/day/year

following reason (s): (Check reason(s) below)

- Illness of child     Doctor or dentist appointment  
 Death in immediate family     Court summons  
 Other (Explain): \_\_\_\_\_

TEACHER: \_\_\_\_\_