

The PEN

Pasadena Elementary News, December 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Wear PES colors or shirt	2
3	4 PTA Holiday Gram fundraiser	5 AACPS Mandatory Equity Professional Development – 2 hour early dismissal Wear orange	6 PTA School Store Wellness Wednesday: Wear favorite workout gear Dance Company	7 Terrapin Club	8	9 CHS Theater Doors open 5:00pm Tickets required
10	11	12 PTA Restaurant Event - Texas Roadhouse Game Club	13 PTA School Store Dance Company PTA Meeting 6:00 pm	14	15 Wear PES colors or shirt	16
17	18 Winter Spirit Week: Family photo day - Wear fancy clothes Winter Concert 5:30pm	19 Winter Spirit Week: 'Twas the Night Tuesday...Wear your favorite holiday pajamas. Game Club	20 PTA School Store Winter Spirit Week: Winter Wonderland Wednesday - Wear white or dress like a snowman.	21 Winter Spirit Week: Tinsel Toes Thursday - Wear holiday socks. Terrapin Club	22 Winter Spirit Week: Holiday favorites Friday - Wear your favorite holiday clothing or accessories.	23
24	25 Christmas Winter Vacation – no school	26 Winter Vacation – no school	27 Winter Vacation – no school	28 Winter Vacation – no school	29 Winter Vacation – no school	30
31 New Year's Eve	Jan 1 Winter Vacation – no school Happy New Year!	2 School re-opens for staff and students Spirit day: Jog into the new year – wear exercise clothes	3	4 Terrapin Club	5	6

Mitten Tree



Mitten Tree

Give the Gift of Warmth! We will be collecting NEW hats, gloves, mittens, scarves, socks and blankets to donate to a local community organization. Please send in your items between November 27 - December 15. Thank you for your support.

**Dec. 18
A Merry
Monday
Family
Photo**



**Wear Fancy
Clothes**

**Dec. 19
Twas the
Night
Tuesday**



**Wear Your
Pajamas**

**Dec. 20
Winter
Wonderland
Wednesday**



**Dress in
White or
like a
Snowman**

**Dec. 21
Tinsel
Toes
Thursday**



**Wear
Crazy
Socks**

**Dec. 22
Holiday
Favorites
Friday**



**Wear
Favorite
Holiday
clothing or
accessory**

Message from the Principal

Dear Pasadena Elementary Families,

I hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday with family and friends. Thank you for attending our American Education Week events to participate with your student. We hope that you were able to gain insight into the classroom for a hands-on experience of what the day is like for your child across settings. Thank you for joining us for parent teacher conferences to continue our home-school communication. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have questions.



Congratulations to our PTA and families that supported the annual fundraising event. This year PTA hosted a Race for Education. Thank you to the volunteers who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to coordinate and keep track of class progress, and volunteered the day of the event.

Congratulations to these classes for topping the donation chart: Dean, Bond, and Hasan.

Congratulations to Adalynn as donations submitted secured her opportunity to be principal of the morning!

The winter holidays are quickly approaching. We have several activities coming up (see calendar). We continue to collect hats, gloves/mittens, scarves, and fleece blankets for the Mitten Tree. We hope you can join us for the Winter Concert on December 18 at 6:00pm. Performers need to arrive according to direction sent home by the music teachers. We have a winter spirit week (details below).

As the winter holidays approach, please dress your student in layers of clothing for the fluctuating temperatures and daily outdoor recess (weather permitting). Students will continue to go outside for recess whenever the weather will allow. Be sure to monitor inclement weather on the AACPS homepage, and ensure your contact information is updated at the school. In the event of a school closing, this will help you to receive the information quickly.

For safety reasons, a valid state identification is required when attending a school sponsored event during school hours, and/or signing your student out prior to the end of the school day. Students may not be called out of class, nor allowed to leave the property, without proper identification provided to the Main Office. Please display the hanging tag in the car rider line to help expedite dismissal.

I hope you have a joyful and memorable holiday season with family and friends. Enjoy the twinkling lights, festive music, and have a Happy New Year!

Happy Holidays,
Jennifer Quirino, Principal
jquirino@aacps.org

PTA Info

The next meeting is Wednesday, December 13 at 6:00pm. The PTA school store will be open on Wednesdays from 7:40-8:00am.

Additional dates:

12/8 - Holiday Gram sale continues through

12/12 - Texas Roadhouse Restaurant Night

12/13 - PTA Meeting 6pm in person and online

Gift Card Collection for Staff Punch a Cup through 12/15 flyer attached

Book Swap through 12/20 flyer attached

Holiday Grams

Order a Holiday Gram for your Panther, a friend or teacher. There is no limit to how many you can purchase.

\$3 each

Orders can be made online or cash orders can be sent into to PES Attn: PTA All orders close on **Friday 12/8/23**

Grams will be delivered by 12/20 Scan here to order online



↓

To: _____

From: _____


Teacher: _____

Grade: _____



PTA Info

The next meeting is Wednesday, December 13 at 6:00pm. The PTA school store will be open on Wednesdays from 7:40-8:00am. The Holiday Gram sale continues through December 8.



(410)-439-0233
1465 Mountain Rd | Pasadena, MD

FUNDRAISING

DINE-IN OR TO-GO

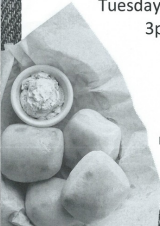
»» **Support** ««

Pasadena Elementary School

Tuesday, December 12th
3pm – 10pm

10% DONATION NIGHT

Support Pasadena Elementary by presenting this flyer to the Pasadena, MD Location and Texas Roadhouse will donate 10% of your total food purchases to Pasadena Elementary!



Texas Roadhouse Restaurant Night

PTA is hosting a restaurant night on 12/12 at Texas Roadhouse. Please take the flyer and mention PES.



PES PTA IS HOSTING A PANTHER

BOOK SWAP

NOW UNTIL 12/20

WE ARE LOOKING FOR DONATIONS OF BOOKS FOR OUR PANTHER STAFF. THE BOOKS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR ALL STAFF MEMBERS TO TAKE HOME AND ENJOY OVER WINTER BREAK. PLEASE SEND IN ANY BOOKS YOU BELIEVE THE STAFF WILL ENJOY BY 12/20.

EMAIL PRESIDENT@PESPTA.ORG WITH QUESTIONS.

Book Swap

PTA is collecting gently used books for school staff. Have a book (or books) you wish to donate? Send to school and the book(s) will be placed in the faculty lounge for staff to read.

Holiday Punch a Cup

We are hosting our Holiday Punch a Cup for the Staff on 12/22/23. Each staff member gets to choose a random cup which will be filled with a \$10 gift card from a random retailer donated by our wonderful Panther families. Please send in donations of \$10 gift card(s) by 12/16.

If you prefer to donate cash versus buying a gift card, here is where you donate!



Please email any questions to
vicepresident@pespta.org

Counselor's Corner

December Classroom Counseling Topics

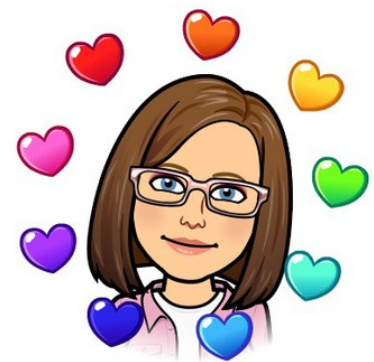
Pre-K - 2nd Grade - Problem Solving

Third Grade - Recognizing prescription vs. nonprescription drugs - safe use, choices and problem-solving, and an introduction to what opioid drugs are. They will be using a book: **Charlie and the Curious Club: Candy or Medicine**.

Fourth Grade - Learning about the physical effects of drugs, understanding why substance abuse is a problem and what addiction is, and identifying how they can contribute to solving the problem of substance abuse on a community level. They will be working with materials from [KidsHealth.com](https://www.kidshealth.com) and recent news clips to define the problem and discuss how to address the problem.

Fifth Grade - Learning and practicing strategies to deal with peer pressure, using refusal skills to build confidence to deal with situations when they might be asked to do drugs, recognizing the effects opioids can have on the brain. Students develop strategies and receive a pocket card with strategies and resources on it.

Substance Abuse Lessons can be found on <https://www.aacps.org/>. Click on Families>Find a School Counselor>Elementary Core Curriculum>View All>Start Talking Maryland.



Please let me know if I can be of assistance!

Michele Noble, School Counselor mnoble@aacps.org

Strive
FOR

9

or fewer!



18 OR MORE DAYS

- Excused and unexcused absences represent lost time in the classroom and lost opportunities to learn.
- Missing just one day every two weeks can add up to 18 days in a year. Absences add up before you even know it.



10 TO 17 DAYS

- Students who are absent an average of 15 days a year miss a year's worth of school before their senior year.
- When students miss a day of school it actually puts them two days behind their classmates.



9 OR FEWER ABSENCES

- Students with good attendance generally achieve higher grades and enjoy school more.
- Children benefit and make the most of their educational opportunities if they attend school regularly and on time.



Advancement Via Individual Determination

AVID Teachers - Mrs. Bean & Ms. Nicholson

FAMILY INFORMATION NIGHT

DECEMBER 6, 2023

WHERE: Chesapeake Bay Middle

B-side Cafeteria

6:00-7:00 pm

**Hear from current/former AVID
students and parents of AVID
students**

What is AVID?

AVID is a national program offered in grades 6-12 in Anne Arundel County. This program prepares students in the academic middle for college and career readiness. The core component is the AVID elective, which supports students as they tackle the most rigorous classes. In the AVID elective, we teach academic and social skills not targeted in other classes, create a positive peer group for students, and develop a sense of hope and personal achievement through hard work and determination.

Reading

Please be on the lookout for our December Reading Logs and encourage our Panthers to earn more stickers for their grade level! Every month, grade level teams are collecting their student's reading homework to tally and see which grade level will get the most paw print stickers for participation.

Here's one strategy to help in choosing books this December. Good readers make connections with the books that they read. December is a great month to read stories together and share memories from the holidays and winter months. Connections are links that readers make between their prior knowledge and what they are reading. Making connections helps readers to better understand what they are reading. One of our most popular books is about a snowstorm because most of our students have prior knowledge and a connection to seeing or playing in the snow.

Question Stems:

- ❖ How does the story make you feel?
- ❖ Have you ever had a similar experience?
- ❖ Were you reminded of anything in your own life?

Keep reading each day!

Cathryn Nash, Literacy Teacher

cnash@aacps.org

Media Center Notes

In December, students in all grades will participate in Hour of Code activities. The Hour of Code started as a one-hour introduction to computer science, designed to demystify "code," to show that anybody can learn the basics, and to broaden participation in the field of computer science.



Students in all grades will also have the opportunity to evaluate another of our Black-Eyed Susan nominated picture books: XO, Exoplanet by Deborah Underwood.

Julie Bradshaw, Media Specialist

jbradshaw@aacps.org

EEE - Global Studies

In Global Studies the fifth grade is wrapping up their "Hurricane Homes" unit and fourth grade will continue designing chairs in "Take a Seat." The third grade is learning about alternative energy and will be designing and constructing windmills. The second grade is learning vexillology, the



Enhancing Elementary Excellence

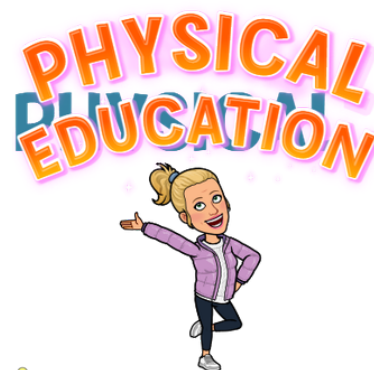
study of flags, and will be designing their own personal flags. The first grade is learning all about holidays around the world while Pre-K is "Tinkering with Tools."

Ryan Peters, EEE Global Studies Teacher

rpeters@aacps.org

Physical Education

During the month of December students will be practicing jumping in vertical and horizontal planes. Our intermediate students will be moving through Kangaroo Club skills. Students will complete Winter Challenge stations before our winter break, as we work on enhancing our muscular strength and endurance.



Colder weather is upon us. Please make sure your child wears sneakers/tennis shoes. Boots, crocs, etc. are not a safe choice for P.E. class. Our December Mind and Body Calendar is a great way to add movement into each day. Click [here](#) to view.

Carrie Deaver, Physical Education Teacher

cdeaver@aacps.org

Art with Mrs. O'Boyle

The annual Winter Wonderland exhibit will be on display at the Westfield Annapolis Mall and run from December 2 – January 3, 2024. This winter themed exhibit represents each county elementary school. Congratulations to Justin and Ridley who had work selected to be in this exhibit!



Artwork continues to be uploaded to Artsonia (this is a slow, time consuming process). Kindergarten and new families will be getting an email soon about how to create a new account. Students who have an active account with parental permission will have artwork published. Please invite family members and friends to view your student's page, join their fan club and leave them a special message about their artwork. Students earn special Artsonia ribbons. All artwork remains on the Artsonia website from year to year. Thank you for supporting our Artsonia page! Artsonia is a secure and safe way to show off your child's artwork online with family and friends. Click [HERE](#) to check out our Artsonia website!

EEE and Art are looking for donations of unused tiles for a future mosaic project. If you have any around your house that you're willing to donate, please send them in to school. Any size or color is appreciated.

Karen O'Boyle, Art Teacher

Music Notes

The Pasadena Elementary School Concert will take place on Monday, December 18, 2023. Please have students wear their PES music shirt and black bottoms to school that day for the dress rehearsal. In the evening, STRINGS STUDENTS should report to school at 5:45pm for a 6:00 concert start time. BAND and CHORUS STUDENTS should report to school at 6:45pm for a 7:00 concert start time.



If you are looking for more opportunities to attend musical performances this December, below is the concert information for Chesapeake Bay Middle School and Chesapeake High School Winter Concerts. This is a great opportunity for your student to see what they have to look forward to in middle and high school music.

Date Group Location Time

12/6/23 CHS Percussion CHS Auditorium 7:00 PM

12/11/23 CBMS Choir CHS Auditorium 7:00 PM

12/13/23 CHS & CBMS Band CHS Auditorium 7:00 PM

12/14/23 CHS & CBMS Orchestra CHS Auditorium 7:00 PM

12/20/23 CHS & CBMS Jazz CHS Auditorium 7:00 PM

Anna Gavrilov, Music Teacher

agavrilov@aacps.org

Band & Orchestra

It's concert time! in a little less than 3 weeks all band and orchestra students will have their REQUIRED after school concert on December 18. More information will be sent home this week with the students about when to show up and what to wear along with a paper that needs to be signed and returned. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to me (or Mrs. Gavrilov about chorus).

Jacob Allison, Band & Orchestra Director

jcallison@aacps.org

Volunteer/Chaperone

You may have an expired or expiring background check, or you need to complete one to be a volunteer/chaperone. Please visit: <https://www.aacps.org/volunteer> for more information.

#PanthersCARE

VALUES: Care, Achieve, Respect, Engage

VISION STATEMENT: We envision Pasadena Elementary to be a school where we maintain high expectations for academic standards through rigorous instruction. We will continue to foster a positive, caring school climate where we respect and value diversity and prepare individuals for success in higher learning and careers.



MISSION STATEMENT: Pasadena Elementary is dedicated to preparing students for college and career readiness, promoting academic excellence and citizenship for all students.

Anne Arundel County Public Schools NON-DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICE: The Anne Arundel County Public School System does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation or familial status in matters of affecting employment or in providing access to programs.



Pasadena Elementary 2023-2024



PreK-5 school-Anne Arundel County; 2019 E-GATE; 2016 Nat'l Blue Ribbon; MD Blue Ribbon; Green School; & AACPS Wellness School of Distinction. #PanthersCARE

