ershing Hill Etementary

General News.

March 2024

The Principal's Message

Greetings Parents, Students and Staff,

This month in collaboration with our PTA and our fabulous School Team, we have planned many fun and exciting events this month. Each day during the month of March, our students will begin their day with a special presentation in honor of National Reading Month. Also, during the month of March, students will participate in a Read-A-Thon, Reading Spirit Week and Career Day. We are so excited to host these events for our student community.

Other exciting news.......Please help up congratulate Mr. Armstrong, Physical Education Teacher and Ms. Clements, 3rd Grade Teacher for their Teacher of the Year Nomination. We are super proud of them and their accomplishments at Pershing Hill. We look forward to attending their celebration in April.

Our phenomenal teachers continue to work hard to ensure students are provided the best possible learning structures. As a reminder, all grades are recorded into the PowerSchool Portal for parents to view at any time. During the marking period, students must obtain a total of eight grades from ELA and Math. Grades are inputted each week school is in session. Two Common Formative Assessments will be included as part of the eight grades. The Quarterly Assessment will only account for 5% of the total Marking Period Grade. Please let us know if you are having difficulty accessing the portal or if you have any other grade related questions or concerns.

As a safety reminder, please remember the PHES Car Rider Line is the only authorized student drop off. With that being said, students cannot be dropped off near the crosswalk. While the Crossing Guard's position falls under the purview of Anne Arundel County Police Department, we want to make sure we are providing continuous support to our community partners by following school procedures to ensure are students and families are always safe.

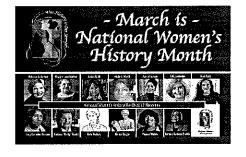
In closing, thank you for continued support as we work together at PHES.

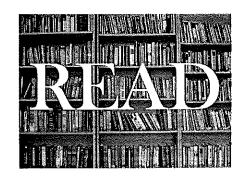
Your partner in education,

Selecia Hardy, Principal

Important Dates

Date	Event
February 26 th –	PTA Read-A-Thon
March 8th	
March	National Reading Month
1 st – 31st	
March	MISA Testing
4th - 8th	
March	PTA General Meeting at 4:15
12th	pm
March	Career Day
13 th	
March	Student of the Month
18 th	Breakfast at 7:45 am
March 18 th –	Reading Spirit Week
22 nd	
March	Unity Day- Please wear
19th	orange; 2 Hour Early
	Dismissal
March	PTA Free Book Event
21st - 22nd	





GRATITUDE

Each month, we will show gratitude to our PHES Community!



Thank you Ms. Romero!

As students entered the happy halls of Grade 1 on Valentines' Day, their eyes lit up with pure excitement.

Ms. Romero had spent her entire morning decorating and preparing for the students' arrival in Ms.

Gruss and Ms. Noel's classroom.

This act of kindness sparked a buzz throughout the building as we all quickly headed down to Grade 1 to witness the excitement among students and staff.

Thank you Ms. Romero for going over and beyond for PHES!

Crossing Guard

We are so thankful for Mr. Larry. Mr. Larry welcomes our walkers to school with a huge smile and a warm hello. He is the first person that our students see when they arrive at school as walkers. We are so appreciative of his support for our students and families.

Staff Potlucks:

Special thanks to Ms. Wilson, Ms. Dines, Ms. Jeanphilippe, Ms. A. Colon, Ms. S. Colon, Ms. Green, Ms. Starbeck, Ms. Leach, Mr. Travis, Ms. Linares, Ms. Gruppo and Ms. Benavente for donating their time and talents during the Chili Cookoff for Staff. The Scrumptious Chili was awesome!

Thank you Ms. Gyan for contributing to our African-American Staff Potluck. The Jalloff Rice was absolutely amazing!!



Thankful:

Special thanks to The Benavente
Family. There is not a holiday or
special occasion that goes
unrecognized. We appreciate your
support and kindness. You are truly
beacon of light!!

Appreciation is a wonderful thing. It makes what is excellent in others belong to us as well.

-Voltaire

March 2024

Penny Reisler, Principal's Secretary preisler@aacps.org

Debbie McAlvanah, Secretary dmcalvanah@aacps.org

Patrice Tucker, Secretary pctucker@aacps.org

Notes from the Office

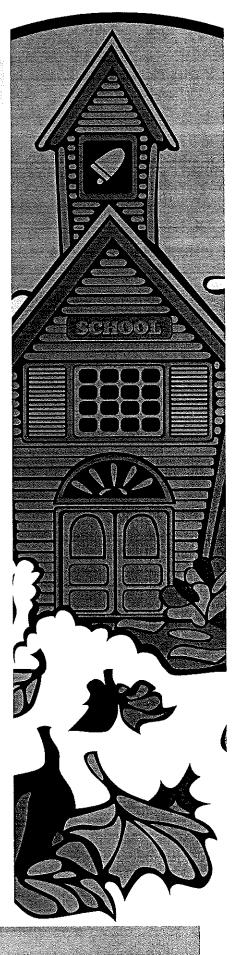
Early Dismissal / Change in Dismissal -- All Early Dismissals or Change in Dismissals must be done prior to 2:00 PM

<u>Late Arrival</u> -- Any arrival after school begins at 8:00 AM, is considered tardy. You must bring your student into office to sign them in.

<u>Absences</u> -- Absences can either be reported through the Parent Portal Account or a note can be sent in with the student when they return to school. Emails and phone calls are not accepted.

Automated Attendance Calls — When your child is late to school, or absent, you will receive the automated phone call stating that your child is absent. Updating attendance is a manual process done throughout the day and can take up to 24 + hours to be updated.

Are you moving soon? — If you are planning on moving soon, please notify the office via email with when your student's last day will be and where you will be moving to. This will ensure time to make sure an electronic transfer packet is created, as well as making sure items such as chromebooks and media books are returned to the school.



PHES Reading News



March is National Reading Month!

This month we are planning some fun events to celebrate reading. Our focus is to motivate students to read more and to enjoy reading. Research has shown that children who are motivated read more, have larger vocabularies and make achievement gains beyond their less motivated peers. Please take a look at our Reading Events this month and plan to support your child in celebrating reading.



The Bowie Baysox Reading Incentive Program

This program continues through the month of March. Each student who reads 4 books outside of school by Thursday, April 4th will receive one adult and one child's ticket (2 tickets total) for Anne Arundel County's Reading Night at the Bowie Baysox Game on Friday, May 24, 2024. Please return the orange Baysox Reading Log to your child's teacher no later than Friday, April 5th to receive the free tickets. Let's get our students reading in March!

Women's History Month - celebrate the vital role of women in American history by reading a biography about a famous American Woman! Who are your child's female heroes?

Robin Parker, Literacy Teacher rbparker@aacps.org
Corinne Herrera, Early Intervention Teacher cherrera@aacps.org

PHES March Reading Events

March: National Reading Month & Women's History Month! March: The Bowie Baysox Read & Hit a Homerun Reading Incentive Program continues.

March: The PTA Read-A-Thon continues through March 9th.

March 18th - 22nd Reading Spirit Week

Mon. 3/18 Crazy Sock Day! Wear your crazy socks and tell a friend about a crazy good book.

Tues. 3/19 Neon Color Day Wear neon colors because reading makes you bright.

Wed. 3/20 Read your shirt day! Wear a shirt with words for others to read.

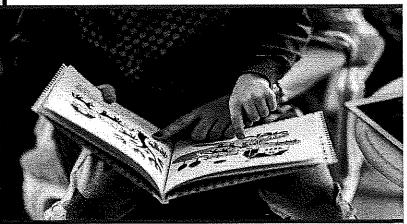
Thurs. 3/21 Dress as a Book Character. Dress as your favorite book character and be ready about who you are and what book you are from!

Thurs. Evening 3/21: 5:30-7:00 PM **Reading Under the Stars!** Families should prepare to join us for a night of fun reading activities.

Fri. 3/22: Pajama Day! Bring a towel or small blanket to enjoy a special reading time.

Motivate Your Child to Read at Home

What is your child interested in? Find out what your child's interests are and locate reading material to support your child's interests. Trips to local book stores and public libraries can be fun, but reading from online sources can also work. Set aside time to read with and to your child and plan to discuss what was read after reading. Make this time enjoyable. If the material is beyond your child's reading level, remember that reading to your child develops listening and understanding vocabulary necessary for future reading.





Counselor's Corner March 2024



Career Day: Our Future is Bright!

We are very excited about our upcoming Career Day on March 13. Students will have the opportunity to speak with representatives from a variety of careers and do extension activities to spark their imaginations about their futures.

<u>Dress the part:</u> Please help your child dress for a future career that day: it can be their dream job, a job they might be considering or just a job they think is interesting. We can't wait to see our future professionals.

Did you know that our school counseling team is ready to support parents in the following ways?

- Discussing social or emotional concerns about your child and brainstorming interventions
- Referrals for community resources
- Understanding the developmental changes of childhood
- Identifying and addressing barriers to student success including attendance issues, family difficulties affecting your child at school, and other student concerns

Please reach out if we can be of service.

Evy Gelvar egelvar@aacps.org

Christine Jackson

cmjackson3@aacps.org

Caseload:

Caseload:

3rd: Taylor/Clements,

1st, 2nd &

4th: 5th & ACC

3rd: Pardoe/Scott

Coffee with the Counselor events.



Scan the QR codes below to access some great resources from our recent talks.

Anxiety:



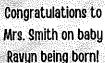
Growth

Mindset:



MARCH ACC NEWS:





note from Acc Teachers

Thank you for sharing your student with us! It has been amazing to watch them grow this school year. We love learning about their unique personalities and getting to know them better each day. Thank you ACC families for all that you do to support your student's learning and your consistent communication.

Donations Needed!

We love to Work for skittles and popcorn treats! Any donation of skittles and/or popcorn Would be greatly appreciated!

Many Thanks and Grateful Hearts,
Mrs. Fournier, Ms. Haughton, and Ms. Tripp

ACC MONTHLY GOALS AT A GLANCE

Acc 1 - Our goals are based on your student's IEP:)

Math: Acc 2 - One to one correspondence based on your student's IEP goals.

Acc 3 - Working on multiplication and division.

ELA: Acc 2 - Creating complete sentences using connecting words.

Acc 3 - Using correct capitalization, spelling, and punctuation.

Reading: Acc 2 - Answering "wh" questions (what, where, when, who,) after listening to a read aloud.

Acc3 - 'Wh' questions!

ACC 3 had a fantastic field trip this February!



Contact Us:

ACC 1 Reminders!

- Please check your student's folder and empty it out daily.
- Please make sure your student's snacks are stocked at school.

A ACC 2 Reminders!

- Please sign your student's daily log!
- Weekly Spelling Lists go home every Monday. This is the list of words your student will be working on reading, writing and recognizing each week.

Acc1 - ktripp@aacps.ora Acc2- aafournier@aacps.ora Acc3- ihavahton@aacps.ora

First Grade Team Newsletter

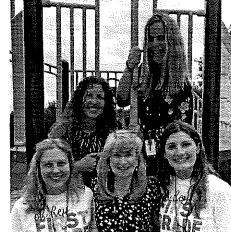
Mrs. Noel nanoel@aacps.org

Mrs. Tibbetts ktibbetts@aacps.org

Ms. Gruss caruss@aacps.ora

Mrs. Graham tjgraham@aacps.org

Ms. O'Connell mvoconnell@aacps.org



Instructional Focus for the Month of February:

Writing: We will continue expressing our opinions and back them up with facts. As we do so, we will hone in on subject/verb agreement, bringing closure to our paper, and editing.

Science: We will be able to describe how light helps us communicate.

Explicit Comprehension: In reading, we will continue to practice retelling stories, describing characters, identifying main idea and supporting details, as well as identifying words in books that appeal to feelings or the five senses.

Foundations: We will learn and apply grade-level phonics and word skills when decoding words. FUNdations will focus on glued sounds ending with-ng and -nk.

Math: In earlier units, students developed strategies to add and subtract within 20 as they worked toward fluency with addition and subtraction facts. In unit 9 we will be using tools to add 2-digit numbers to develop place value understanding. They will also be adding multiples of 10. These skills prepare them for work next year with more difficult addition and subtraction problems. We will start unit 10 before Spring Break.

Upcoming Events:

Spring Pictures 3-14-24

Unity Day 3-19-24 2hr Early Dismissal Wear Orange Spring Break 3-25-24 to 4-1-24

2nd Grade March ••• NEWSLETTER

REMINDERS

 Please be sure to have your child bring their take home folder home and back to school daily!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- March 14th- Reading Assessment
- March 20th- Math Assessment
- March 25-April 1 Spring Breakl

2nd Grade Contacts

Ms. DeCrispinomdecrispino@aacps.org

Ms. House- chouse@aacps.org

Mrs. Meissgeier-

bmeissgeier@aacps.org

Mrs. Smith-tasmith5@aacps.org

Mrs. Carter- ncarter@aacps.org

Mrs. Hawkins- Khawkins@aacps.org

WHAT WE'RE LEARNING

Math: Strategies to add 3 digit numbers

Reading: <u>Fiction</u>- Understanding the plot and structure of a story, identifying character traits.. <u>Nonfiction</u>- Formatting a friendly letter, responding to a prompt using RUNOW, understanding key details.

Writing: Opinion Writing- Students will continue to learn the difference between fact and opinion, as well as how to construct an opinion based argument through writing.

Science/Social Studies: We Are Storytellers- Students will learn about different Native American tribes' customs, culture, and environment. We will discuss their past and present way of life.

Learning Focus

Reading: This month we will be continuing to look at skills that are needed to help with reading comprehension. This will include looking at how to determine the main idea and details and use text features to support understanding. We will also be practicing some test taking strategies to prepare for testing.

Writing: This month we will continue strengthening our opinion pieces by adding examples. transitions, and strong conclusions.

Math: This month we will be spiraling back to multiplication and division relationships. This time, we will be looking at patterns found within division.

Science: This month we will start our new topic of weather. We will learn about weather hazards and ways to prevent them.

Social Studies: This month is Social Studies we will continue learning about economics.

Contacts

Kayla Clements

Krclements@aacps.org

Loren Pardoe

Lpardoe@aacps.org

Katie Scott

Kescott@aacps.org

Sophie Taylor

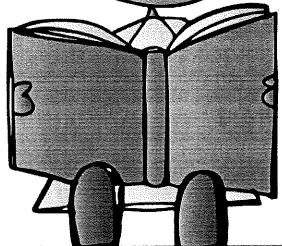
smtaylor4@aacps.org





Testing is coming!: Please check to see if your child has headphones, as there are not enough extras in the classroom. Please make sure your child is also bringing their chromebook to school, fully charged, each day.

Take Home Folders: Please check take home folders regularly. School information does get sent home in them.



Fourth Grade March *** NEWSLETTER

Reminders:

Feb. 26 - March 8: PTA's Read-aThon Fundraiser

March 13: Science Quarterly Assessment.
March 14: Picture Day (Class Pictures)
March 15: Reading Quarterly Assessment

March 19: Unity Day - 2 hour Early Dismissal (Wear Orange)

March 22: Math Quarterly Assessment

March 25 - April 1: Spring Break (No School)

Power School should be checked frequently to review your students grades. Any unfinished or missing assignments are also noted in Powerschool.

What are we learning?

Reading: Fiction & Nonfiction Focus

We are focusing on the following skills.

- Main Idea and Detail/Theme
- Sequencing/Summarizing
- Context Clues
- Character Traits
- Comparing and contrasting texts on the same topic.

Writing:

We are working on opinion writing. Forming opinions and backing them up with reasons and evidence from credible sources.

Science:

We will be working on identifying different types of energy and how energy is transferred.

Social Studies:

We are learning about the events that lead up to the American Revolution.

New Grading Policy per PHES:

Classwork retakes will be allowed if students miss an assignment due to an excused absence or if they score below a 60%. If a student refuses to do an assignment, they will be given a 50% and will not be allowed to retake the assignment.

Assessments/Checkpoints cannot be redone and are added to the gradebook.

Math:

We will be covering the following skills:

- Adding and Subtracting mixed numbers.
- Multiplying fractions by whole numbers.
- Decimals (tenths and hundredths)

Contact Info:

Mrs. Corcoran: alcorcoran@aacps.org

Mr. Wells: rnwells@aacps.org
Mrs. Boaten: nboaten@aacps.org

Mrs. Whittington: jewhittington@aacps.org

5th Grade March ••••• •••• NEWSLETTER

Ms.Crockett & Mrs. Ramirez tmccloudcrocket@aacps.org aramirez@aacps.org Mrs. Edralin & Ms. Nelson sedralin@aacps.org dnelson2@aacps.org

REMINDERS

- Students need to bring their own headphones & Chromebooks charged everyday!
- M.I.S.A testing will begin March 4th to the 7th
 - Students grades will be updated on Powerschool every week

** New Grading Policy per PHES **
Classwork redos will be allowed if students miss an assignment due to an excused absence or if they score below a 60%. If a student refuses to do an assignment, they will be given a 50% and will not be allowed to redo the assignment. For redos, the new and initial grade will be averaged to create the grade that goes into the gradebook ** Assessments cannot be redone **

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 4th - 7th M.I.S.A. Testing

March 13th Quarter 3 Science Assessment

March 14th - Picture Day

March 14th - 15th Quarter 3 EL.A. Assessment

March 19th Unity Day - 2hr early dismissal

March 20th Quarter 3 Math Assessment

March 25th - April 1st Spring Break

All Classes

IReady Reading Homework: 2 Lessons per week IReady Math Homework: 3 Lessons per week

WHAT WE'RE LEARNING

<u>Math:</u> We are finishing Unit 9: Add and Subtract Fractions. Next we will move on to Unit 10 Multiply Fractions. Student will build their understanding of multiplying a fraction by a whole number and develop two processes for approaching the concept.

<u>Reading:</u> During the course of this unit, students are exposed to factual representations and narrative descriptions of conflict and collaboration at this point in history. Balancing the informational texts amongst the literary texts enables students to develop an awareness necessary to understand the conflicts experienced by the characters. By the end of this unit, fifth grade students will develop critical thinking skills to prevent or cope with conflict.

<u>Writing:</u> In Quarter 3 students will be learning to write Opinion Essays. They will write on topics they feel strongly about and support their opinions with reasons and evidence.

<u>Science</u>: We are beginning to explore the principle of Conservation of Mass. Students will manipulate matter in a variety of ways to prove that the weight of matter is conserved. Then we will engage students in how substances combine. The students will investigate saturation points by investigating how much sugar and salt will dissolve in water.

<u>Social Studies</u>: Beginning Unit 2 in Theme 3, Urbanization, Industrialization and Immigration, the students will examine the City of Baltimore after the Civil War. It is important to recognize the negative environmental impacts that started to occur with urbanization and industrialization. The time from 1865 to 1900 is sometimes referred to as "the Second Industrial Revolution" and more people moved to cities like Baltimore because of the many changes in business, transportation and industry.

The Cultural Arts Corner! We are so excited to share what is happening in the cultural arts classrooms!

ART with Mrs. Long: Students have been working very hard in art class! 1st grade has been sending messages in art and will soon create an artwork that explores light and shadow. 2nd grade is telling stories about what is important to themselves through visual art while exploring the art of Jacob Lawrence. 3rd grade is learning all about color and how different color schemes can affect an artwork's mood and feeling. 4th grade is making paper quilt squares. They are discovering how to create visual patterns and to solve problems. I'm hoping this artwork will be hung up in the school once it is completed. 5th grade is exploring how to use color to create emphasis in an artwork and ways to use perspective in an artwork to create a more 3D space.

March is Youth Art Month. Please swing by the Odenton Area Library to see some amazing PHES artworks. And celebrate this special month by making art when you have some free time.

Contact information:

Mrs. Long - aglong@aacps.org

Ms. Bostwick - abotswick@aacps.org

GENERAL MUSIC with Mrs. Phelix: What a start to the year it has been! The 5th graders are having amazing conversations (and writing opportunities) to evaluate National Anthem Performances. We cannot wait to see how the 5th grade votes and decides who becomes this year's champ. Students in all grades were introduced to many amazing musicians in honor of Black History Month and we are excited for the month of March with Women's History Month and Music in our School's Month! Music education, exploration, and creation is such a wonderful skill and class that helps develop the brain and encourages social-emotional learning. Spotlight on 3rd grade this month. Students will be continuing to enhance their treble clef literacy skills as well as understanding the science of sound in terms of musical instrument families.

Contact information:

Mrs. Phelix - <u>kphelix@aacps.org</u>

Mr. Poole - <u>srpoole@aacps.org</u>

PE with Mr. Armstrong: During the month of March, students in Physical Education will complete units on Safe Yoga, Creation of Tumbling Routines, Dribbling/Ball Control with the Hands (basketball dribbling), and shooting on a goal (shooting into a basketball hoop).

Contact information:

Mr. Armstrong - starmstrong@aacps.org

Mr. Beaty - bbeaty@aacps.org

EEE with Ms. Gilbert: During March each grade level will present their findings while answering a driving guestion that focused their project-based learning.

First and second graders will be presenting their findings on story-telling and mindfulness to other groups of students eager to observe what they have been learning. Third graders will also be presenting their Egyptian Stele replicas, that include symbols to represent themselves and their families. Parents, please be looking for a space at home for students to display their family steles.

Fourth and Fifth graders are focused on team design and are working on designing backpacks and chairs.

Contact information:

Ms. Gilbert - amgilbert@aacps.org
Ms. Johnson - kdjohnson@aacps.org

MEDIA with Mrs. Reed: This month, students have the opportunity to engage in two wonderful learning experiences. All grades will read our 2023-2024 Black Eyed Susan nominees, a student chosen state book award, and then vote for which book they think is the best and should win. Students across the state will also be voting, look forward to the winners announcement coming in late April or May! Grades 3-5 will engage in circuit building with snap circuits to learn about the flow of energy and what makes circuits work. Grades 1-2 will revisit our indi robots and work in teams to complete challenges with them.

Contact Information:

Mrs. Reed - <u>glreed@aacps.org</u>
Ms. Wineke - <u>swineke@aacps.org</u>

Our Music Program:

<u>Chorus:</u> The chorus has the amazing opportunity to sing at the Baysox on May 25th. More information will be coming, so be on the lookout! Our performers are currently working on harmonies, singing technique, and spring concert repertoire. Our Spring Concert is May 28th.

<u>Instrumental:</u> Many of our instrumental music students spent time learning to play the blues over the past couple of months. We've had a lot of fun! Mark your calendars: Spring Concert is on Wednesday, May 22. Students are already working on concert music in class – keep practicing at home.

March is Music in our School's Month!

The purpose of MIOSM is to raise awareness of the importance of music education for all children – and to remind citizens that school is where all children should have access

to music. MIOSM is an opportunity for music teachers to bring their music programs to



the attention of the school and the community, and to display the value that school music brings to students of all ages. At Pershing Hill, the music department is so thankful for the support of our administration and teachers; they value our music students and the learning that takes place every day in general music, band, strings, and chorus classes. We love teaching our kids and making music together.

Contact information:

Mrs. Phelix (chorus) - kphelix@aacps.org
Mr. Lindberg (instrumental music) - wlindberg@aacps.org

Pershing Hill PIA

The PTA is hosting our annual Read-A-Thon. This fundraiser helps the PTA support school events and activities. Additional information on how to participate has been sent home with your students and can be found on our Facebook page.

On March 19th the PTA is hosting our traditional Unity Day staff lunch. Lunch will be a sandwich bar. If you'd like to contribute keep en eye out for the sign up link that will go out via email and our facenook page.

We are seeking executive board nominations for the 2024–2025 school year.

Nominations will be announced at the March PTA meeting. For additional information please contact us via email at pershinghillmdptaegmail.com

The next PTA meeting will be held March 12th at 415pm in the Cafeteria.

Box Tops

You can support Pershing Hill PTA by uploading your grocery receipts to the Box Top app.

Get Active in the PTA

You can sign up to be a member of the PTA by submitting a PTA form, along with \$5 membership dues paid by cash, check, or Zelle (pershinghillmdpta@gmail.com)

Got questions? Contact us at PershinghillMDPTA@gmail.com

