Welcome to March! We are over half way through this school year. We hope you have seen your student(s) grow by leaps and bounds. This month and next are packed with fun activities!

http://monarchacademy.org/annapolis/  (410) 934-1444

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*Be sure to mention Monarch Annapolis when you order!*

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### March 2020

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Dear Marvelous Monarch Annapolis Families,

With spring just around the corner, it’s getting very busy at school! There are so many things to update you on.

Parent Teacher Conferences are next week! We are excited to meet with you and to discuss your child’s/children’s progress and next steps. All teachers have an online sign up and can also be contacted via email or at the school phone to set up a conference time. If you are not able to come to school, we can arrange a phone conference.

We need your help! In the recent weeks, we’ve seen an increase in physical behaviors between students at school. Many of these are starting out as playful, friendly interactions. During Morning Meeting, we are talking about school expectations of keeping our hands, feet and things to ourselves, being empathetic, and understanding others’ perspectives. I urge you to talk with your child about school expectations regarding refraining from physical contact with peers. All families send their children to school and expect that they will be safe and comfortable at school. We must work together to ensure that all students display expected student behaviors and keep our school safe. Our work in this area will shift to a focus on Peace Days in the coming weeks where we will teach students what peace means and also provide a review of appropriate strategies to handle conflict. Grade levels will keep track of Peace Days—days without conflict—and will be able to earn special rewards! More information coming.

March is also the beginning of state testing. Our 5th graders will begin with the Science MCAP assessment later this month, then in April/May all 3rd-5th graders will take the Reading and Math assessments. Now is a great time to ensure that your child is using the Keyboarding without Tears program to build their keyboarding skills. Contact your child’s teacher for more information. We have many exciting projects and partnerships on our horizon! Our 5th graders will be collaborating with a local artist who will facilitate a connection with a school in Brazil to learn about the similarities of local ecosystems, culminating in a mural project. Several awesome performing and visual arts summer camp opportunities at our school are about to be announced. Finally, we are actively recruiting for next year and are closely watching the state legislature’s actions regarding the Kirwan Commission funding. Please spread the word about Monarch Annapolis.

We appreciate your partnership! If I can be of assistance to your child, please contact me at ramstutz@aacps.org or 410-934-1444. Sincerely, Ms. Amstutz

Sincerely, Ms. Rachel Amstutz
Important Dates

Coming up in April:

4/1 Kindergarten Registration Opens
4/3 Spirit Day - Blue Day!
4/7-4/8 Two Hour Early Dismissal
4/9-4/13 Easter/Spring Break - Schools Closed
4/14 Beginning of 4th Marking Period
4/17 Spirit Day - Super Hero Day!
4/20-4/24 Book Fair
4/23 Report Cards Sent Home
4/28 Primary Elections - Schools Closed

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Upcoming Concerts:
May 6, 2020 Spring STRINGS Concert at 2:00pm and 6:30pm MAA Gym
May 13, 2020 Spring BAND/CHORUS Concert at 2:00pm and 6:30pm MAA Gym

Bucket Band Session 2 begins March 25th.

Now is a great time to restock on any instrument supplies:
Strings - Rosin
Woodwinds - 2 strength reeds (clarinet, saxophone)
Brass - Valve/Slide oil

Instrumental Music schedules and information can be found at http://brimhallmusic.weebly.com/
TEXT "MONARCHANNAPOLIS“ TO 31996 Join Monarch Academy Annapolis’ new text system to get real-time text notifications on the status of your child’s bus! Simply text "Monarch Annapolis" to 31996. You will be asked to provide information about your child’s school enrollment and which bus they ride home. Normal text messaging rates apply. Text "STOP " to opt out. Text "HELP" for help.

Coronavirus Information and Updates can be found here.
https://health.maryland.gov/coronavirus

Important Resources

- AACPS Chaperone Site
  https://www.aacps.org/chaperone

- Digital 2019-2020 AACPS Calendar
  https://www.aacps.org/Page/2

- AACPS Families Resources
  https://www.aacps.org/families

- March Lunch Menu
  https://tinyurl.com/qvc7u4x

- AACPS Bullying, Harassment, or Intimidation Reporting Form
  https://tinyurl.com/t4lmhrm

Not receiving digital communication from us? Please let us know immediately!
MonarchAnnapolis@gmail.com
**CLUB CORNER**

Upcoming Clubs!

- **Yoga Club** (K-5th grade) | meets on Wednesdays 3:15-4:15 pm
  All 20 spots for Yoga will be filled, the students not selected in the random lottery will be placed on a waitlist. Permission slips need to be returned to Kate McFaul via email or paper copy.

Potential Clubs!

- **Chess Club** | Details coming soon!

Club Update!

We received an overwhelming response for both Art & Lego club. Based off the success of this session and leader availability, there may be a spring session. If another session would be set up, there will be another random lottery based off the current waitlist.

Free clubs are only possible with willing and dedicated volunteers. Please let Kate McFaul know if you have any interest in leading or assisting with a club.

Contact for Kate McFaul: mcfaulk@monarchacademy.org

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**FIDGETS**

**WHAT THEY ARE & WHAT THEY ARE USED FOR**

**Fidgets:**

- are tools used for self-regulation and helps with focus, attention, calming, and active listening.

- come in all different shapes, sizes, and textures and are often referred to by various different names.

- create pretty mindless entertainment, that can actually improve attention rather than distracting.

The Brain loves movement, big or small, the brain thrives off it!

Students need to be taught how to use fidgets as a Tool not a Toy.
Keyboarding Without Tears is an important school funded program right here at Monarch! This keyboarding program helps students learn these important skills at their developmental level. Students will want to be practicing this in preparation of upcoming state assessments that require responses to be typed on a computer.

*Contact your child(ren)’s Teacher to receive log-in information*
Monarch Academy Annapolis

Grandparents’/Grandfriends’ Day 2020

Thursday, March 19, 2020
9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Please join us for
Refreshments & Classroom Activities

___________________________________________

Grandparent/Grandfriend Name(s):

___________________________________________

My grandchildren/grandfriends are:

___________________________________________ Grade: _______

___________________________________________ Grade: _______

_____ Yes, I plan to attend Grandparents’ Day @ Monarch

Classic Photography will be present to take formal pictures of Grandparents and Grandchildren, if interested.

The Spring Bookfair will be open for Grandparents who wish to purchase books for their Grandchildren. Bookfair will open at 10:00 am.

*please return this portion of the flyer to your grandchild’s/grandfriend’s teacher by Monday, March 9, 2020

*Grandparents/Grandfriends can avoid the long lines to get into this special event by PRE REGISTERING any day prior to 3/19/2020 between the hours of 9:30 am and 2:00 pm. Please bring a PHOTO ID to pre-register. Grandparents/Grandfriends who are unable to pre-register should bring a valid photo id on 3/19/2020.
Monarch Academy Annapolis

Career Week 2020

Monarch Academy Annapolis is unleashing the power of GREATNESS this year! We believe that ALL STUDENTS ARE CAPABLE OF SUCCESS, NO EXCEPTIONS! We believe that children succeed when they can articulate their future. When children can see their future, have a plan to get there, and find the energy to pursue their goals they are much more likely to succeed.

Wednesday, May 27th

College Day!
- teachers & staff members showcase their college/university
- students and staff dress in college shirts (uniform bottoms for students is expected)

Thursday, May 28th

Passports to the Future Day!
(students dress as their future career choice)

Friday, May 29th

Career Day!
- parents, family, and community members visit classrooms to share careers - between 9:00 am and 2:30 pm
- a signup genius link will be available in early March for signup

*dates updated from previous flyer sent due to Naval Academy Graduation on May 22, 2020

Monarch Academy Annapolis

MARCH Spirit Days!

Building a positive school climate is one of our many goals here at Monarch Academy Annapolis. As an educational team we want our students and staff to come to school each day with an excitement for learning, teaching, and being an active service member of our community. Our monthly “Spirit Days” are just one way for our students to positively participate in something that makes our community great!

Tuesday, March 17th

St. Patrick’s Day!
- students and staff wear green shirts - students wear uniform bottoms (khaki or navy bottoms)

Friday, March 27th

Welcome Spring!
- students and staff wear “Spring Colors” to kick-off Spring
March Assessments

As March arrives, many of our students will be taking portions of the Maryland Integrated Science Assessments (MISA)/Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP). MCAP is replacing PARCC, which was our state testing program the last several years. In March, our 5th grade students will be taking the MCAP Science Assessment. MISA/MCAP will be given on Wednesday, March 25th, and Thursday, March 26th, 2020. Make-up assessments will be conducted for students who are absent those days in the weeks after. 5th grade students will take two forty minutes assessments each day, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. By having two sessions each day, we will minimize the number of days students are impacted by testing.

This assessment is a great opportunity for our 5th grade students to show what they have learned in Science. Please encourage your student to be present each day, get plenty of sleep, and be prepared to be successful. Please contact Mr. Clapper at bclapper@aacps.org with any questions.

Brad Clapper
Assistant Principal

Internet Essentials from Comcast

Internet Essentials from Comcast brings affordable, high-speed Internet to your home so you can have greater access to homework, job opportunities, healthcare and benefits, education resources, and more. When you’re connected, you’re ready for anything.

High-speed Internet from Comcast, so you can be ready for anything.

You may qualify if you:

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3. Have not subscribed to Comcast Internet within the last 90 days.
4. Have no outstanding debt to Comcast that is less than one year old.

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Limited access to Xfinity WiFi hotspots

Restrictions apply. Not available in all areas. Limited to Internet Essentials service for new residential customers meeting certain eligibility criteria. Advertised price applies to a single customer. Actual speeds may vary and are not guaranteed. After initial participation in the Internet Essentials program, if a customer is determined to be no longer eligible for the program and elects a different Internet service, reasonable rates will apply to the selected Internet service. For Internet Essentials program terms and conditions, visit www.InternetEssentials.com. Additional restrictions apply to minimum service terms.**, **Low-cost computer is subject to availability. Restrictions apply. Only one computer per eligible customer.**

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Monarch PTA News

Important Dates:
- March 2nd Dine and Donate Chick Fil A, Somerville Road, Annapolis location; mention that you are supporting Monarch Academy Annapolis when ordering your food!
- March 24th Boosterthon Kick Off
- April 2nd Boosterthon GLOW Run

Hi Monarch Families!

The MAA PTA and school are excited to announce that Boosterthon, the largest fundraiser of the year, will be kicking off in March! Our goal this year is to raise $25,000 to provide the students with Chromebooks and carts, music scores and risers for the music department, and a STEM closet for the teachers to use. We will be kicking off with an exciting Pep Rally for the kids on March 24th then a fun week of character building and fundraising. The event will end with our GLOW run on the 2nd of April. Class run times will be announced soon! All parents are welcome to come to the run! This year’s theme is Wild Wild West.

Any questions please email monarchannapolispta@gmail.com

Interested in decorating the school for Boosterthon? Sign up here: https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/60b0d44aea823a1f94-boosterthon

We also need parents to pass out water after the kids run! Please email monarchannapolispta@gmail.com if you are interested with the subject line “Boosterthon day of volunteer”

Best,
Elizabeth Noble
VP of Fundraising

*****
We thank our generous sponsors for their support of the Monarch Annapolis Students and PTA. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor please email monarchannapolispta@gmail.com for more information:

**Platinum Level**

![Commonwealth Equipment Logo]

*Commonwealth Equipment*  [https://www.commonwealthequiptment.com](https://www.commonwealthequiptment.com)

**Silver Level**

*Fred C Johnson Garage Door Company*  [https://www.garagedoorsmaryland.com](https://www.garagedoorsmaryland.com)

**Bronze Level**

*Mountain Kim Martial Arts - Annapolis Location*  [https://annapolis.taekwondo.com](https://annapolis.taekwondo.com)

*K&B True Value - Annapolis Location*  [http://kbtruevalue.com](http://kbtruevalue.com)

*HIP/PIRHL*  [https://www.pirhl.com/Home.aspx](https://www.pirhl.com/Home.aspx)