

SHIPLEY'S CHOICE ELEMENTARY

310 Governor Stone Parkway
Millersville, MD 21108
410-222-3851 Fax: 410-222-3885



OCTOBER 2016

Dear Shipley's Choice families,

Welcome to October! I am excited to see the deep learning that is happening in our classrooms! This will be a busy month. We are winding down our **Read-a-Thon**, and are ready to begin **Harvest for the Hungry!** Be sure to see the calendar for fun Spirit Days tied to the Harvest for the Hungry food drive.

All families will be receiving an invitation to attend a Parent-Teacher Conference on either October 20th or December 2. We are partners in your children's education! We are striving to have 100% of our families attend a conference. If you have questions, contact your child's teacher.

Last week, parents received reports about their children's progress on the 2016 PARCC Assessment.

Here are some highlights.

- *The assessment was given in grades 3, 4, and 5 in Mathematics and Literacy.
- *Eighty seven percent of students met or exceeded standards in mathematics.
- *Overall, our school increased number of students exceeding standards in math by 6 percentage points.
- *In Literacy, 87% of students met or exceeded standards.
- *The percent of students exceeding literacy standards increased slightly to 30%.

We know that PARCC just reflects a part of the amazing learning that our students do each day! If you have specific questions about your child's report, you may discuss it at your child's conference on October 20th or December 2.

Don't forget to check out our new website: www.shipleyschoiceschool.org. If you have not done so, please register for ParentSquare.com. This will be our school and PTA's main method of communication.

Follow us on Twitter (@ShipChoiceAACPS) to see pictures of great learning!

Beth Anne Burke

Principal
baburke@aacps.org
410-222-3851

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Oct. 5 Walk to School Day
- Oct. 6 Chess Club Starts
- Oct. 7 "Veg-Out" Spirit Day
(bring a canned vegetable & dress in comfortable clothes)
- Oct. 10 Coffee & Conversation with the Principal
- Oct. 11 Read-A-Thon Ends
PTA Meeting 7PM
- Oct. 12 **SCHOOL CLOSED** — Yom Kippur
- Oct. 14 "Buddy Day" Spirit Day
(bring in "buddy" food, ie pb & j dress the same as a buddy)
- Oct. 19 "Tutti Fruity Day" Spirit Day
(bring in canned fruit/fruit cups dress in tutti fruity brights)
- Oct. 20 **SCHOOL CLOSED**
- Oct. 21 **SCHOOL CLOSED**
- Oct. 28 **2 HR. EARLY DISMISSAL**
"Soup-er Hero Day" Spirit Day
(bring in a can of soup dress as a superhero)
Fall Tree & Bulb Planting
- Oct. 31 **2 HR. EARLY DISMISSAL**
Halloween Parade & Party

Safety & Security

All adults in the building must wear a badge. Visitors may only enter through the main doors and must check in at the office. Please note that only parents of students enrolled in the Y Daycare may enter through the side door. Thank you for your help in this.

Parents who are at the school for evening activities or for the Y Daycare may not go to classrooms or elsewhere in the building.

The Anne Arundel County Public School System does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, age, national origin, religion, disability, or socioeconomic status in matters affecting employment or in providing access to programs. Questions regarding nondiscrimination should be directed to Leslie N. Stanton, Specialist in Human Relations, Anne Arundel County Public Schools, 2644 Riva Road, Annapolis, Maryland 21401; telephone (410) 222-5318; TDD (410) 222-5500.

ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL

Thank you for your help in making arrival and dismissal go more smoothly each day. Please keep in mind that when it rains, you will need a bit more patience when dropping children at school. For safety reasons, please continue to only drop your children off in the car rider loop. **Reminder: Doors open at 8:45. Please do not drop children off or let them walk to arrive earlier.**

BUS LOOP

Cars are NOT permitted in the bus loop while there are buses there!!

CAR RIDER LOOP

For speed and safety, make sure your child has a note so s/he may be dismissed with car riders. All car riders are dismissed through the side door near kindergarten.

Here are a few reminders for safety in the car loop:

- 1) Pull down as far as you can to the STOP sign.
- 2) Remain in your car and have your child enter and exit through the passenger door.
- 3) Students may not be dropped off in either parking lot. If you go to the parking lot, park and escort your child to the school.
- 4) Cars may not be left running on school property (this is a law!).
- 5) If your child is not ready to exit in the car loop, please be courteous and pull to the parking lot until s/he is ready.



WALKERS

Students who walk home from school may only exit through the back door to the blacktop. If you are meeting your child, please do not ask your child to meet you anywhere but in the car loop or on the blacktop. Students may not go to the parking lot without an adult accompanying them. If you would prefer adult supervision for your children until you meet them, send a note to have them wait in the car rider loop.



WE LOVE DOGS, BUT NOT AT SCHOOL

Did you know that coaches that use our property for practice and games must spend time cleaning up after dogs before they let children on the field?

Please remember, no dogs are allowed on school property at any time. This is according to Anne Arundel County Code of Law and is a safety and health issue. Walking dogs on school property is not allowed. Please do not bring dogs with you when you are walking to or picking up children from school. We have had a number of complaints because of dog waste as well as children who have allergies or are afraid of dogs. Thank you for your assistance.

COFFEE & CONVERSATION WITH THE PRINCIPAL

Back by popular demand! Coffee & Conversation with Mrs. Burke. Bring your own cup of coffee and meet with Mrs. Burke in the Shark Café to discuss what is on your mind. The first Conversation will be on October 10th at 9:05. See you there!

ABSENT NOTES

As you may know, we can no longer accept phone calls about student absences. We must have written documentation of the reason for absence. When your child is absent, you will automatically receive a phone call from Blackboard Connect (formerly Connect-ED). When your child returns, you can send a note explaining the absence.

From the AACPS Parent Handbook: Whenever your child is absent, you must provide a note of explanation to the school within three days of your child's return to school. Absences due to illness in excess of five consecutive days require a physician's note.

HALLOWEEN PARTY

We want the Halloween Party to be a fun and memorable event for all! This year, the Halloween Party will be open for any parents to attend. Due to space and security, only parents may attend the party, but all are invited to view the parade. Please watch ParentSquare for a notice from your Room Parent about our Halloween Celebration.





VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE

Volunteers:

The Harassment Prevention PowerPoint, required before all volunteer opportunities, can be found at:

<http://media.aacps.org/Dept/SchoolFamilyPartnership/SexualHarassmentAndChildAbuseVolunteerTraining/>

UPDATES:

LUNCH SCHEDULE CHANGE

To allow time to clean up and transition between lunch groups, we are making a slight change to the lunch schedule. This is only a five minute shift at the beginning and end of lunch. This change will begin on Monday, 11/10/16.

11:35-12:05 Grades K + 1

12:10-12:40 Grades 4 + 5

12:45-1:15 Grades 2 + 3

Room Parent Announcements:

Room Parent Introduction Letters should be making their way home soon. Please fill these out and return ASAP.

Watch for **Guess Reader** opportunities in your class. Class sign up will be sent via Parent Square from your Room Parent.

Halloween Parade and Party will be held Monday, October 31. Parade is from 12:00 – 12:30 and everyone is welcome to attend. Class party will immediately follow the parade from 12:30 – 1:15. Parents *only* for the party please!



HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Lonergan's Bus Service
410-923-4185

Transportation Office:
410-222-2910

Crossing Guards:
Main 410-222-6866

Health Room:
Patty Bellotte, Nurse
Rachael Penner, Health Asst.
410-222-3809

Board of Education:
410-222-5000

CAMERA SYSTEM

Shipley's Choice Elementary 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, you should call the Supervisor of School Security at 410-222-5083.

HOLIDAY SHOP 2016

It's hard to start talking about the winter holiday season when we just turned the corner into fall, but it will be here before we know it!

This year's Holiday Shop will take place on **December 5th (5:30 - 8:30 pm)** and **December 6th (3:30-5:30 pm)**.

For those of you who are new to the school, the Holiday Shop provides an opportunity for students to participate in the spirit of giving as they shop for their families (mom, dad, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, etc.). But instead of shopping with mom or dad, volunteers will be there to help students with budget management and their shopping lists.

Volunteer sign-ups will be available via Parent Square in November so please stay tuned! If you have any questions, please contact:

Rian Oliver

(rialmon@hotmail.com),

Marjorie McHale

(marjorie_mchale@hotmail.com), or

Jennifer Mann

(jennifermann1559@yahoo.com).



SHIPLEY'S CHOICE MEDIA CENTER

BOOK CHARACTER PUMPKINS



Dear Shipley's Choice families,

This year, the media center is getting into the fall spirit with some pumpkin decorating fun! Students may bring in their pumpkins on **October 10th, 2016** to be displayed for the month of October.

PARTICIPATION RULES:

1. ABSOLUTELY NO CARVED PUMPKINS! You may use real pumpkins or craft pumpkins so have fun decorating with paint, fabric, accessories and more! Be creative!
2. Pumpkins should represent a favorite book character. ***Use our online catalog to find books that we own in the media center so we can display the book with your child's pumpkin***

<http://opac.aacps.org>

3. Please complete the entry form below and submit it with your pumpkin on **Monday, October 10th**.
4. Pumpkins will be sent home on **Monday, October 31st**. Any pumpkins remaining will be discarded. Students will be carrying their pumpkins so keep the size reasonable, or consider using a foam craft pumpkin.
5. Contact Mrs. Ventrudo (kventrudo@aacps.org) with any questions!

Book Character Pumpkin Entry Form

Student Name: _____

Teacher: _____

Book Character: _____

Book Title: _____

Author: _____



**Shiple's Choice Elementary School
is participating in Walk to School Day on
Wednesday, October 5, 2016
8:15am-9:00am Rain or Shine**
Join children and adults around the world to celebrate
the benefits of walking and bicycling.

About our event:

Leave the car at home and walk to school with your family and fellow Sharks, rain or shine. Walking safely to and from school helps reduce carbon emissions from carpooling and is a great way to get some physical activity and increase brain power!

Meet as a group on a street or near Shiple's walking paths to create a large "Walking School Bus". Large groups should meet at crossing stations on East-West, Governor Stone, and Rustling Oaks. Parents, older scouts, 4th and 5th graders, and neighbors can be walking buddies for the younger grades. Make it fun for everyone:

-  Make a banner for your group, to proudly display your reason for walking.
-  Bring the whole family!
-  Initiate a "flash mob" dance when you get closer to school.
-  Count and record how many steps it takes to get to school.
-  Count how many birds or other critters you can find on the way.
-  Take lots of pictures!
-  Enter your walk on Walking Calendar!

Contact Jennifer Mann for more information, jennifermann1559@yahoo.com.

Learn more at

walkbiketoschool.org

Walk to School Day is coordinated in the U.S.A. by
the National Center for Safe Routes to School.



Shipley's Choice Elementary School
"Chart a Course to Reduce Carbon Footprint Calendar"

Student Name: _____

Grade/Teacher Name: _____

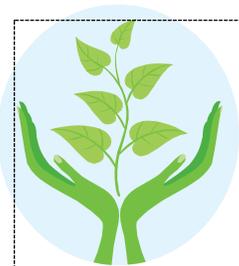
Sail into Success as you Stride to School!

Check off which days you walked, biked, or scooted to/from school! Turn in to Mrs. Morris on November 2nd to redeem your prize.
 Must walk/bike at least 3 times a week to qualify.

October-November 2016

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Week 1	Example Walk To: <input checked="" type="radio"/> Y <input checked="" type="radio"/> N From: <input checked="" type="radio"/> Y <input checked="" type="radio"/> N Both: Y	4 October 2016 To: Y N From: Y N Both: Y	5 Walk to School Day! To: Y N From: Y N Both: Y	6 To: Y N From: Y N Both: Y	7 To: Y N From: Y N Both: Y	8 Weekend e-tip: Wash all laundry loads in cold water today!	9 Weekend e-tip: Shop at a local farmer's market.
	10 To: Y N From: Y N Both: Y	11 To: Y N From: Y N Both: Y	12 To: Y N From: Y N Both: Y	13 To: Y N From: Y N Both: Y	14 To: Y N From: Y N Both: Y	15 Weekend e-tip: Change home air filters.	16 Weekend e-tip: Install LED or CFL bulbs in all outdoor lighting.
Week 3	17 To: Y N From: Y N Both: Y	18 To: Y N From: Y N Both: Y	19 To: Y N From: Y N Both: Y	20 Walk to a sports activity! To: Y N From: Y N Both: Y	21 Go to a state park and hike! To: Y N From: Y N Both: Y	22 Weekend e-tip: Mulch leaves back into yard when mowing.	23 Weekend e-tip: Clean up after your pet to reduce runoff into the Bay.
	24 To: Y N From: Y N Both: Y	25 To: Y N From: Y N Both: Y	26 To: Y N From: Y N Both: Y	27 To: Y N From: Y N Both: Y	28 To: Y N From: Y N Both: Y	29 Weekend e-tip: Take a litter pick-up walk through your street.	30 Weekend e-tip: Plant a native Maryland tree in your yard.
Week 5	31 To: Y N From: Y N Both: Y	1 NOVEMBER To: Y N From: Y N Both: Y	2 Turn in calendar. To: Y N From: Y N Both: Y				

Turn your completed sheet in to Mrs. Morris on November 2nd for a great prize.



Shipley's E-Tips Newsletter

October 1, 2016

Brought to you by the
SCES PTA Environmental Committee



Wednesday October 5th

8:30am – 9:00am

Leave the car at home and walk to school with your family and fellow students, rain or shine. Walking safely to and from school helps reduce carbon emissions from carpooling and is a great way to get some physical activity and increase brain power!

Meet as a group on a street or near Shipley's walking paths to create a large "Walking School Bus". Large groups should meet at crossing stations on East-West, Governor Stone, and Rustling Oaks. Parents, older scouts, 4th and 5th graders, and neighbors can be walking "bus drivers" for the younger grades. Make it fun for everyone:

-  Make a banner for your group, to proudly display your reason for walking.
-  Bring the whole family. Take lots of pictures!
-  Initiate a "flash mob" dance when you get closer to school.
-  Count and record how many steps it takes to get to school.

As an additional Wellness School incentive, Mrs. Morris is challenging all students to log in their walking for the **ENTIRE** month of October. Calendars have been sent home with each student to complete how many days you left the car at home and walked, biked, or scooted to/from school. Students must log the calendar for at least 3 days a week. Return the calendar to Mrs. Morris on November 2nd!



October E-tip:

Take a Stand, Lend a Hand

Are you a "greenie" at heart and would love to help educate our next generation be kind stewards of the earth? Please join our Environmental Committee and take charge of one of these great initiatives:

- Walk to School/Bike to School Day
 - October and May
- Fall Tree Planting
 - October
 - Printer Cartridge recycling -yearlong
 - Color Marker recycling-twice a year
- Waste Free Wednesday Lunch Captain
 - Every Wednesday, all lunch shifts
- Outdoor Classroom Nature Box - yearlong
- Butterfly garden maintenance
 - Fall and Spring
 - Outdoor Education Day/Earth Day -April
 - Rain garden maintenance - Early Spring
 - Composting - Winter and Spring

We welcome all friends and abilities to our group. Join on Parent Square Today!

SAVE THE DATE: Fall Tree and Bulb Planting

Come out after school on **Friday, October 28th (a half day)** to dig in and plant beautiful native trees and bulbs. Groups can also help pick up litter around campus. Everyone is welcome, even the little ones. Bring a shovel, gloves and a camera too! If you are interested in helping, **Sign up on Parent Square today.**

