



School Talk

WEEKLY UPDATE!

November 7, 2025

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Reminder that there is **NO SCHOOL** this Tuesday, November 11 in observation of Veterans' Day. The school & office will be **CLOSED**.

We Still Need You for Multicultural Night is THIS THURSDAY!

On **Thursday, November 13th**, we will be celebrating **Multicultural Night!** From **6PM to 8PM**.

We need hands on deck to help make the evening wonderful! Set up, clean up and help running some stations. [Sign up to volunteer or present here.](#)

We are also looking for **contributions** to our **Multicultural Night potluck**, the signature event of the evening. Sign up to bring a food representing your culture/heritage (*to include American cultures and regional dishes/specialties*). Can't/don't like to cook? Bring paper products instead! [Sign up to bring a dish here.](#)

NNAT & CoGAT Testing Next Week

Next week our **first-grade students** will be taking the **Naglieri Nonverbal Ability Test (NNAT3)**. The NNAT3 test is given to all Arlington Public Schools students in grade 1 in the fall. The timed test is given online and takes 30 minutes. Items on the test are presented as figures that require spatial analysis, but no verbal knowledge or skills are required. The NNAT3 fosters a normative

understanding of general ability without reliance on language, culture, or institutionalized curriculum.

Also, our **2nd through 5th graders** who have not previously taken the **Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT)** will be given the assessment. All elementary schools will be giving this assessment to students in grades 2 - 5 who have not previously taken the CogAT in an APS elementary school. The CogAT provides a snapshot of your student's reasoning and problem-solving abilities in the following three areas:

- **Verbal:** assesses a student's abilities to use search, retrieval and comparison processes that are essential for verbal reasoning.
- **Quantitative:** assesses a student's ability to reason about patterns and relationships using concepts that are essential in quantitative thinking.
- **Nonverbal:** assesses student's abilities to reason with somewhat more novel questions that use spatial and figural content.

The results of the assessment will serve several functions. First and foremost, the results will be used to drive instructional practices in the classroom. The scores will guide efforts to adapt teaching methods to the needs and abilities of students. The scores are also used as one component of the holistic case study approach to determine areas of strength and possible screening for gifted services.

The results of these tests will be used by your child's teacher to inform the instruction of your child. Your child's teacher should have informed you of their testing schedule. We ask that you avoid scheduling any appointments that would require your student to be absent from school during this testing window. It is very important that your student arrives at school on time on testing day. Please be sure your student has a good night's sleep before test day and eats a good breakfast on the morning(s) of the test. **iPads should remain at school during this testing period.**

Teacher Wish Lists

Many of our teachers and instructional teams have Amazon wish lists in hopes that families who are able will support their classroom needs with items that APS won't typically purchase. If you are willing, [please look at the lists here](#). Thank you in advance.

Too Much Halloween Candy? We'll Take It!

Have you found yourself with an abundance of leftover Halloween candy that you don't want or need? Please consider donating it to the main office! Ms. Kia puts candy out for the teachers to come and get a sweet pick-me-up during the day, and she would greatly appreciate your contribution! You can bring it to her in the office or have your children drop it off to her. Thank you so much!

Make Up Pictures & Retakes: November 19th

If you missed picture day, or you want to have your child's picture retaken, you can on **November 19th**! Pictures will be taken in the morning only. This will be the only make up picture day. You can [pay online here](#) and use picture day code **EVT8PDF99** to order your pictures. Want to pay cash? We have a limited number of order forms in the main office.

Upcoming Dates

- Tuesday, November 11: **NO SCHOOL** (*Veterans Day*)
- Thursday, November 13: **Multicultural Night**, 6PM
- Wednesday, November 26-Friday, November 28: **Thanksgiving Break** (*No School*)
- December 10: **Early Release**, dismissal is at 1:30PM

Keep in Touch

- MPSA on APS: <https://montessori.apsva.us/>
- MPSA on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/MPSArlington>
- MPSA Library on Twitter: https://twitter.com/MPSA_Library
- MPSA Science on Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/MPSA_Science
- Principal Genove on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/CSGenove>
- Ms. Barbour's Art Class on Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/heather.barbour2018/>
- Arlington Montessori PTA: <http://acmpta.com/>
- Arlington Montessori Action Committee (AMAC): <http://www.arlingtonmontessori.org/>

SCROLL DOWN FOR THE PTA NEWSLETTER!

ACMPTA WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



November 7, 2025

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- We Still Need an ACTL Representative
- Join the PTA – It's Never Too Late!
- Keep In Touch

The Reflections Deadline Has Been Extended!



The annual **PTA Reflections Art Competition** is now open! This year's theme is **"I Belong!"**. Information about the different categories can be found [here](#). There you will also find video tutorials by local artists on how to create your best art via mixed media, photography, art (clay), movie making and more!

Deadline to turn in entries has been extended to **Monday, November 10th** to give children time to work on finalizing projects over the weekend. The submission box is in front of the office.

[REGISTER HERE!](#)

*Reminder that all entries **must have** an accompanying registration form, either paper or digital.*

Any questions? E-mail reflections@acmpta.com. We look forward to seeing the art you create!

Treats for the Sweet!

MPSA instructional staff must meet at least once a month for after schoolwork & collaboration meetings. The ACMPTA would like to revive the tradition where our families would provide snacks for the teachers to have during these meetings. We are looking for at least 4 families to donate snacks to the cause. *Examples of snacks: Granola bars, fruit snacks, nuts, cheese & crackers, cookies, etc. We will also be asking for fresh fruit/vegetables as well.*

Snacks can be dropped off as early as the day before to the Kia in the main office. The PTA will provide paper products.

Sign up here!

We Still Need an ACTL Representative

The [Advisory Council on Teaching & Learning \(ACTL\)](#) is made up of representatives from each school and certain community organizations to assist in reviewing the system-wide curriculum and instructional program, and in developing recommendations for improvement.

The ACMPTA is seeking MPSA parents to be our representative on this committee. We are looking for a primary and an alternate. If you are interested, please send an e-mail to president@acmpta.com. To read more about ACTL, [click here](#).

Join the PTA – It's Never Too Late!

Getting a PTA membership is some of the easiest fundraising you can do! [Click here to sign up](#). Want to gift a membership to a teacher? List who the membership is for, and we will notify them of your gift. In the chance that someone has already purchased a membership for your teacher, we will pass it along to one of the teachers that is in need of membership. A sponsored membership is \$15.

individual membership is \$15, and a family membership (2 adults in the same household) is \$25.

Keep In Touch

- PTA Website: <https://www.acmpta.com/>
- PTA Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ACMPTA>
- Private PTA Forum on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1614926128674543>
- PTA Twitter: <https://x.com/ArlCoMontessori>
- PTA Listserv: ACMPTA+subscribe@groups.io
- Montessori Caregivers Group (Parent-lead Private Forum):
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1419402838207257>