



School Talk

WEEKLY UPDATE!

December 19, 2025

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School will be **CLOSED** for the winter break from **December 22nd through January 4th**. We look forward to seeing everyone back at school, rested and relaxed, on **Monday, January 5th!**

(This newsletter will go on hiatus until Friday, January 9th.)

Our MPSA All Star – Kay Miller!

Every month, APS recognizes an exceptional group of team members whose passion, expertise, and commitment shine through in their work each day. These honorees exemplify the spirit of service and teamwork that defines APS, and their contributions enrich the experiences of students, families, and colleagues throughout our community.

This month, we are especially proud to celebrate our own MPSA librarian, **Kay Miller**, who was selected as an APS All Star this month. Kay was nominated by library assistant **Becky Trytten**, whose nomination highlighted Kay's dedication, care, and positive impact on our school community. MPSA is grateful to have such outstanding staff representing our school. Dr. Duran surprised Ms. Miller yesterday and presented her with her award, along with the heartfelt nomination Ms. Becky wrote for her. [You can watch that here](#). Congratulations, Ms. Miller!



Instrument Refurbishing Project

Many thanks to Michael Hughes, father of Abby Hughes (Ms. Siri) for rescuing abandoned [Orff](#) instruments from a demolition site in Maryland. When fully repaired and reassembled, these rescued— incredibly valuable— instruments will be enjoyed by MPSA students for years to come.

Thank you to Jennifer Rasche for clearing the demolition dust and debris, readying the various instrument parts, for hands-on student learning.







A Huge THANK YOU for Your Help!

Thanks to the generosity of our MPSA families, we collected over \$2800 and were able to expand the number of families we originally planned to help! We were able to give each family \$100 gift cards to a local grocery store. We also received Target gift card donations which we will use to fund

purchases of items such as winter coats, pants, shoes and other necessary items. Any gift cards we had left over will be distributed during Spring break.

Upcoming Dates

- Monday, January 5: **Welcome Back to School!**
- Wednesday, January 14: **Early Release, students dismissed at 1:30PM**
- Monday, January 19: **NO SCHOOL, Martin Luther King, Jr's Birthday**
- Friday, January 30: **NO SCHOOL, Grade Preparation Day**

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/>

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NEWSLETTER!**

ACMPTA WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



December 19, 2025

What's Inside:

- **We Ask for Your Membership in 2026!**
- **Thank You for the Treats!**
- **Keep In Touch**

Happy Holidays from the PTA!

As winter break begins, we'd like to wish our entire school community a joyful, restful, and safe holiday season. Thank you for being such an important part of our Montessori family and for all the ways you support our students and staff throughout the year.

We hope this break brings time to relax, connect, and recharge. We look forward to seeing everyone again in the new year—refreshed and ready for a great start!

Warm wishes,
The ACMPTA

We Ask for Your Membership in 2026!

Families, we invite you to join the PTA and help support our school in an easy, meaningful way! PTA membership is a simple fundraiser for our school—we keep a portion of every membership fee.

Being part of the PTA strengthens family–school partnerships, gives parents a voice in advocating for children's education, health, and safety, and builds a strong community that supports students and teachers through involvement and funding. It's a direct way to support your child's learning environment, access helpful resources, and join a larger movement for educational equity at the local, state, and national levels.

Membership costs:

- \$12 for one person
- \$20 for two people in the same household

Join today and help make a difference at MPSA—together, we're stronger!

Thank You for the Treats!

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!](#)

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>