



# School Talk

## WEEKLY UPDATE!

March 18, 2022

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**Reminder:** If you cannot make it to the main entrance to pick up your child **BEFORE 3:15PM**, ***please go to Door #5***. Your child will be released to you there. The dismissal process begins about 3:20PM so it’s disruptive if you arrive after 3:15PM. ***Thank you for being respectful of this request.***

### **Spring Picture Day is Coming!**

Spring picture day is **March 25<sup>th</sup>**! This is your opportunity to have individual portraits taken again (or for the first time)! A **free** class picture comes with every order. Order online at [mylifetouch.com](https://mylifetouch.com), Picture Day ID **EVTX8W3NB**. *Per Lifetouch: The class picture is not available as a standalone purchase, however, class pictures do have a value of \$14.99, so just order the Basic package for \$14.99 and you’ll get a class picture.*

We will need volunteers that day. If you are interested, **please sign up here**. If you can’t commit to those time frames but would like to help at some point during the day, please e-mail Kia at [kia.stevensonhaynes@apsva.us](mailto:kia.stevensonhaynes@apsva.us). You will need to have passed the volunteer screening.

### **Big Music Class Announcements**

**Music Class Sharing Day** will be the week of **March 21-25**. Students will be able to share something that is important to their identity. Examples are singing, dance, special skill, cultural item or practice, item of importance, visual art, etc. If your child would like a backing track to sing or dance to, the recording should be shared to their music teacher beforehand. We cannot wait to see what makes you, YOU!

Ms. Beth- [Elisabeth.brewer@apsva.us](mailto:Elisabeth.brewer@apsva.us)

Ms. Flowers Shakespeare- [amie.shakespeare@apsva.us](mailto:amie.shakespeare@apsva.us)

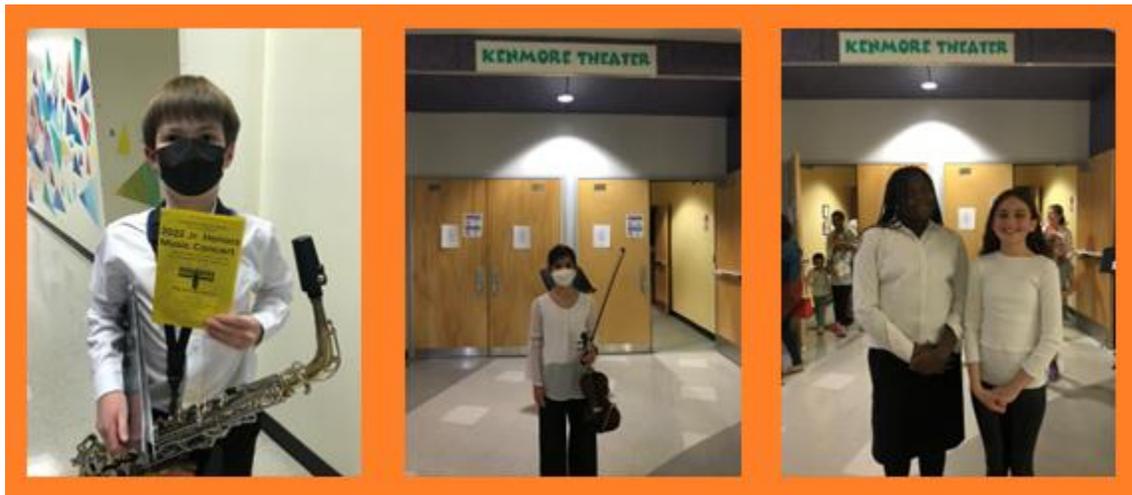
### **Myths & Making: Exploring Javanese Storytelling**

On Wednesday, March 23, you are invited to travel virtually to the beautiful island of Java, one of the largest islands in Indonesia and home of Jakarta, the nation's capital. Beginning at 9:15 EST students will Zoom away to begin their exploration of

Wayang. <https://artsandculture.google.com/project/indonesian-puppetry>

If your family would like to join us from home, please email Ms. Shakespeare by Monday, March 20 with your name, the name of your student at MPSA and the number of individuals viewing from home.

**Bravissimo to MPSA's Honors Ensemble students: Thomas Larson** (saxophone), **Camilla Randi** (violin), **Marianna Lee** and **Akunna Isiadinso** (voice)!



*What is an Honors Ensemble and Who is Eligible?*

Honors ensembles offer fantastic opportunities for the most able instrumental and vocal students in Arlington Public Schools to perform together. Every year, auditions take place late-fall, weekly rehearsals begin in January and the culminating Honors Concert is held mid-March. All interested APS 5th grade choir and 4-6th grade band and orchestra students are invited to audition.

 **AMAC Presents "It's Hard to Raise a Grownup!"**

Have you ever asked yourself parenting questions like:

*"Should I pay my child for chores?"*  
*"How do I get my child to leave the playground?"*  
*"What are suitable toys for my child?"*

Come take a look at these questions from a child's perspective with a Montessori viewpoint. Join MPSA Primary Montessori teacher, **Kathleen O'Donnell** as she helps you explore parenting ideas and suggestions through the eyes of a child.

This presentation focuses on the 3-6 year old age group, however, the information can be a useful for any age group! **We hope you will join us!** March 23<sup>rd</sup> on Zoom: Meeting ID: **838 0983 1986**, Passcode: **AMAC22**

### APS Needs Your Input

APS is seeking community feedback on three surveys. Your feedback is important to us and helps us gather actionable data to strengthen student services, operations and more.

**2022 Your Voice Matters Survey** (Deadline: Apr 10): Families received an email from Panorama Education with a personalized survey link on Mon, March 14. This is the biannual survey APS conducts to gather input on family engagement, student well-being, school climate and other vital areas. Responses are confidential. [Details online.](#)

**School Bell Times Study Survey** (Deadline: Mar 28): The APS Bell Times Study Survey has been revised and reissued based on community feedback. Changes were made to the staff, student and family surveys. If you already took the survey in its original form, we kindly ask that you take it again because your feedback is important to us. [Take the survey.](#)

**2022 SEL Survey** (Mar 21-April 8): The Panorama Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) Survey for students (grades 3-12) opens next week on Mon, March 21. This is administered online in a classroom setting on topics such as well-being and sense of belonging. [Details, including the sample surveys, are available online.](#)

### Upcoming Dates

- Wednesday, March 23: **"It's Hard to Raise an Adult", 7PM on Zoom**

### 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](https://twitter.com/MPSA_Library)
- Principal Genove on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/CSGenove>

- Arlington Montessori PTA: <http://acmpta.com/>
- Arlington Montessori Action Committee (AMAC): <http://www.arlingtonmontessori.org/>