



School Talk

WEEKLY UPDATE!

April 1, 2022

Inside this Edition

- **APS Celebrates Week of the Young Child**
- **Myths, Making & Music – Our Indonesian Embassy Visitors**
- **Nowruz Showcase & Thanks**
- **Monarch Book Awards Winning Design**
- **Spring Break Mitigation Supply Distribution**
- **The Annual Montessori Camping Trip is Back!**
- **Upcoming Dates**
- **Keep in Touch**

[APS Celebrates Week of the Young Child](#)

Week of the Young Child is a nationally celebrated time showcasing early childhood education, the teachers, families, and communities of our youngest learners. APS has formed a partnership with **Wolftrap** and are offering virtual courses for our preschoolers. Click on the flyer below (available in several languages) to see the courses offered and registration information.

Program Flyer: [English](#) [Español](#) [عربي](#) [ᠠᠮᠤᠩᠭᠣᠯ](#) [МОНГОЛ](#)

[Myths, Making & Music – Our Indonesian Embassy Visitors](#)

Recognizing Arts in Schools month, MPSA students and staff partnered with cultural institutions [Rumah Indonesia](#) and [Omah Cangkem](#), and both the **Fox** and **Reksono-Komisani** families of MPSA, for two weeks of virtual and live cultural studies. Via Zoom, students met master Javanese [wayang](#)-maker **Mr. Pardiman** and experienced Javanese gamelan and shadow puppet performances detailing the epic stories of mythological super-hero [Gatotkaca](#).

Within our school building, students enjoyed Indonesian folktales, the opportunity to explore artifacts from Java and Bali. They created their own wayang and shadow puppet performances, visited with gamelan musicians and enjoyed the story of Gatotkaca brought to life in dance.



Nowruz Showcase & Thanks

Thank you to Aliya (LEM) and Torin (Primary) for MPSA's stunning [Haft-seen](#) table!

Nowruz is the Persian word for "new day." It marks the vernal equinox and the first day of spring. Persian New Year festivities focus on the idea of renewal, themes naturally represented within the Spring season.

Nowruz is a secular holiday. People in many regions participate in the thirteen-day festival adding their own local traditions. In Iran, the centerpiece of the *Nowruz* celebration is the *Haft-seen* (*Seven S's*) table laden with symbols of spring—seven of which begin with the letter S: *Sumac*, *Senjed*, *Serkeh*, *Seeb*, *Sir*, *Samanu*, *Sabzeh*.

Source: [The Outreach Center for Middle Eastern Studies](#) and [National Museum of Asian Art](#)



Monarch Book Award Winning Medal Design

MPSA Upper Elementary students will be hosting the **Monarch Book Awards** in May! The students have been hard at work reading books and then nominating the ones they like for MPSA's first ever literary award.

In anticipation of the event, MPSA librarian, Ms. Miller, held an art contest to find the design for this award. When the submissions were gathered, Ms. Miller sent them out to MPSA students and staff to vote for their favorites. We are happy to present the winning design! **Eabha Ostrowski**, of Ms. Ross' class, was chosen as our winner. Congratulations Eabha, and we look forward to seeing which books our children give this new award to!



Spring Break Mitigation Supply Distribution

We will be distributing Spring Break COVID-19 rapid test kits prior to spring break beginning. The spring break distribution will include one (1) rapid COVID-19 antigen test kit (CareStart or OnGo brand) for each student and staff. Each test kit contains 2 tests. **We are advising families, especially those who are traveling, to test your children prior to sending them to school to prevent a repeat of the many COVID-19 outbreaks we experienced after returning from Winter break.** We thank you for your support with keeping our staff and students safe.

The Annual Montessori Camping Trip is BACK!

Join Montessori families from all over Arlington at our annual camping trip, hosted by the **Arlington Montessori Action Committee (AMAC)**. Camping will be **June 17-19th** (Father's Day weekend) at Lake Fairfax. The cost is **\$100 total** and includes 3 days, 2 nights of camping (for up to 5 people) in a spot that has electricity, can hold 2 tents and a vehicle and has a grill. Visit the event page on the AMAC website: <https://www.arlingtonmontessori.org/events/amac-camping>

Your spot is not confirmed until you pay. Once you register, a link to pay will be sent to you.

This is loads of fun that you don't want to miss!

Upcoming Dates

- Friday, April 8, 2022: **End of the Third Quarter**
- Monday April 11 - Friday, April 15: **Spring Break**
- Monday, April 18: **NO SCHOOL for students** (*Teacher Grade Prep 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
- Principal Genove on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/CSGenove>
- Arlington Montessori PTA: <http://acmpta.com/>
- Arlington Montessori Action Committee (AMAC): <http://www.arlingtonmontessori.org/>