



# School Talk

## WEEKLY UPDATE!

October 29, 2023

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### Still Need Supplies for the Monarch Festival on October 31st

While every classroom may choose their own way to celebrate the monarch butterfly, this year's main event will feature our Upper Elementary 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders leading their younger classmates in Primary and Lower Elementary in craft and cooking activities, along with read alouds and more! Look forward to some wonderful pictures of the day!

To make this celebration a success, the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders are asking for a little help with getting supplies. If you are inclined to help, [please sign up here](#).

All items can be dropped off to the main office. Any questions? Contact Upper Elementary teacher, [Lila Ross](#).

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents – HACP & Middle School Information

**The Home Address Confirmation Process (HACP) begins on November 27<sup>th</sup>. ALL 5<sup>th</sup> grade families are required** to provide the school with a copy of your deed/lease and two current proofs of address to confirm your residency here in Arlington. Families who recently submitted renewed leases or updated A/B Forms in September/October are still required to send in the supporting documentation. Families who do not submit their documents by the deadline of **January 26<sup>th</sup>** will have their students and their siblings (regardless of which school they are attending) **withdrawn** from APS at the end of the year. All documents received will be researched and verified for validity.

You do not need to wait until November 27<sup>th</sup> to start submitting your documents. You can e-mail them now, or drop them off in person, to Kia Haynes ([kia.stevensonhaynes@apsva.us](mailto:kia.stevensonhaynes@apsva.us)).

**Homeowners:** Arlington County will provide you with a free copy of your deed. E-mail **Arlington County Land Records** at [landrec@arlingtonva.us](mailto:landrec@arlingtonva.us) making the request, being sure to include your child's school and school ID# in the request for enrollment confirmation.

**Middle school information sessions have been scheduled.** Each middle school offers an in-person information session between December and January. Families are encouraged to attend to learn about their assigned neighborhood school or option school of interest, meet school staff, and ask questions.

Middle School Family Information Sessions:

#### **December**

- Swanson Middle School – Thu, Dec. 7, 6:30 p.m.
- H-B Woodlawn – Tue, Dec. 12, 7 p.m.
- Dorothy Hamm Middle School – Wed, Dec. 6, 6:30 p.m.

#### **January**

- Kenmore Middle School – Thu, Jan 4, 6:30 p.m.
- Williamsburg Middle School – Tue, Jan. 9, 6:30 p.m.
- Jefferson Middle School – Wed, Jan. 10, 6:30 p.m.
- Gunston Middle School – Thu, Jan. 11, 6:30 p.m.

**Application information for Middle School Option programs:** Opens **Nov. 6, 2023**, and closes **Jan. 14, 2024**. [Applications submitted here.](#)

**Neighborhood transfer requests for Middle Schools:** If neighborhood transfers are available, interested students must review the transfer eligibility and submit an online application between **Feb. 19** and **March 8, 2024**. [Applications submitted here.](#)

#### **MPSA's Lost & Found is Getting FULL**

**The MPSA Lost & Found is packed!** Help keep the Lost & Found clear by labeling **EVERYTHING** with your child's name – and we mean **EVERYTHING** because you should not take for granted that your child, or your child's teacher, will be aware of every lost item. If the items are labeled, we can get the items back to your child.

**The Lost & Found is in the cafeteria.** When you enter, you will find it on the right side where the hooks & shelf is. If your child is missing items, please encourage them to go search through there for their things. If they are younger, you yourself are welcome to come search through items either before school starts or after the school day has ended. You can also come look on during teacher work days (when the office is open but school is closed); after school on early release days; during Extended Day pick up or other times when you may be in the building (e.g. chaperoning, volunteering.)

**We also have an Instagram for our Lost & Found.** [Follow it here](#) and check often to see if any of the items your child is missing has made it there. Found jewelry is kept in the main office. *Caveat: While we try to post as many items as we can, due to the sheer volume, not every item will be photographed.*

**Items not claimed by November 21<sup>st</sup>, the day before Thanksgiving break, will be donated to local churches.** APS is not required to store lost items; therefore we highly recommend that you come check out the Lost & Found before that date.

### New MPSA Planters

Girl Scout, **Taylor Santorini**, built and donated these planters to our school in an effort to earn the Gold Award, the highest award available to Seniors and Ambassadors. Gold Award Girl Scouts in high school complete projects to make the world a better place. As our Montessori children do a lot of gardening work with a focus on the environment and sustainability, these planters have found a great home with us. You can find these planters in the courtyard near the Upper Elementary classrooms.

### Upcoming Dates

- Monday, November 6: Last Day of the Marking Period
- Tuesday, November 7: NO SCHOOL for Students (Teacher Work Day)
- Friday, November 10: NO SCHOOL, Veterans 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](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/>

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# ACMPTA WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



## What's Inside?

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### What a Wonderful Turnout for the Dance

Friday's dance was a rousing success! We were thrilled to see so many families come out and party with us! The music was wonderful, the decorations festive, and treats galore! We have a few pics to share from the evening, with **more to come** that will be shared on social media. (Follow us on X(Twitter): [ACMPTA](#) and [MPSA](#).)









We'd like to thank a few of the contributors to the night. The evening's success was in part to their generosity!

- **DJ L Boogie** for volunteering to be our DJ for the evening, free of charge!
- The **families & companies** that donated items for our raffles!
- The **food trucks** that waived their minimum earnings requirement for the evening!

And of course, last but not least, ACMPTA Programs and Events VP, **Sonali Singh**, and **all the volunteers** who helped plan, decorate, execute and clean up before, during and after the dance! We couldn't have done it without you!

*(We will publish the full "thank you" list next week, along with more pictures!)*

Any feedback about the dance can be sent to [info@acmpta.com](mailto:info@acmpta.com). We look forward to seeing everyone at our next event!

### **The NO STUFF Fundraiser is Back!**

This year we are once again holding a **NO STUFF** fundraiser. This means families **will not** need to sell **anything** to participate (e.g., chocolates, cookies, wrapping paper, etc.) Instead, this is a flat donation fundraiser with a suggested price of **\$75** per family. You can also choose another amount that works for you.

There are two ways to submit funds:

- Write a **check** made payable to ACMPTA and send it in an envelope made attention to Kia Haynes, Front Office at MPSA, and send it via backpack mail.

- Submit funding **online** [here](#).

If you know of any organizations (e.g, employers) or individuals seeking a charity to make donations, please refer them to [info@acmpta.com](mailto:info@acmpta.com) so we may connect with them.

Last year, funding went toward:

- Gardening upkeep for the school grounds
- Teacher grants that purchased Montessori school supplies for the classroom
- Staff professional development
- Staff appreciation day and holiday gifts
- 5th grade promotion
- Parent-Education

Thank you for supporting our community!

### **Teacher Wish Lists – Check Them Out**

The generosity of families who shopped our MPSA teachers' wish lists have helped teachers get the supplies they desired to help give your child a full, educational experience. If you are so inclined to give, please look at our Wish List page for teachers [here](#). Your child's teacher may be listed!

### **Join the PTA or Sponsor a Staff Member**

Membership is **\$12** per person, or **\$20** for 2 people. Cash and check will be accepted or sign up through our [online portal on Membership Hub](#). Signing up to be a member is also the easiest fundraising effort you could make as a portion of the dues goes into our general fund. Already have a membership? Consider sponsoring a staff member. We require staff to be a paid PTA member in order to receive a PTA grant. Help them out by purchasing them a membership!

### **Stay in Touch With the ACMPTA**

- Our Website: <https://www.acmpta.com/>
- Our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ACMPTA/>
- Our Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/MPSAFamilies/>
- Our Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ArlCoMontessori>
- Sign up for our Chat listserv: <https://groups.io/g/ACMPTA>