

School Talk

WEEKLY UPDATE!

January 5, 2024

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Happy New Year! We hope you all had a wonderful winter break!

UPCOMING: Celebrating National School Choice Week with SPIRIT WEEK

MPSA is participating in [National School Choice Week](#), **January 21st through 27th**. On Monday through Friday of that week, we are asking students and staff to participate in School Spirit Week! Each day has a fun theme!

Monday, January 22: Crazy Hair Day! Time to get original and creative with your hair! Style it funky, put in temporary color or put wild and adventurous bobbles and clips in your hair. Not into messing with your hair? Then you are free to wear a crazy hat instead.

Tuesday, January 23: Decades Day! Time to fire up the wayback machine and dress up as a blast from the past! Roaring 20s? Psychedelic 60s? Awesome 80s? Come dressed in styles representing any decade **BEFORE** the 2010s!

Wednesday, January 24: Monarch Day! Today we will celebrate school spirit by wearing clothing/items with the monarch butterfly or colors of the monarch butterfly – orange and black. You can also wear your school swag.

Thursday, January 25: Sports Day! Dress up in your favorite sports gear, or wear swag representing your favorite sports team. Don't have gear or swag? Wear your favorite team's colors!

Friday, January 26: Lounge Day! It's all about Friday comfort. Come in your PJs and slippers or your most comfortable lounge-around outfit.

Winter Weather – APS Inclement Weather Procedures

The local weather agencies have predicted that the DC area is going to have an unusually large amount of winter weather in the coming months. Here are some things to take note of as you come out of our winter break.

APS and Inclement Weather: Please review our [inclement weather procedures here](#) and ensure you have a plan in place should we need to close schools or change arrival or dismissal due to weather.

Based on the number of minutes available, we have **13 days** available for weather events and other unexpected school closures. We will therefore allow for 13 traditional snow days. After 13 days off due to weather (should we reach that amount) we will transition to **distance learning** on any additional snow days to meet our required 990 hours of instructional time and to avoid extending our school year.

View how APS makes their decision to close/delay school [here](#).

Winter Clothing: Children are required to be dressed in winter apparel when they go outside for recess or activities when the weather falls below 40 degrees, so please make sure to send your children with the proper gear. If you are having trouble acquiring winter gear, you can reach out to our social worker, Ms. Decker, at kristin.decker@apsva.us.

Important Middle School Dates

Application Timelines for School Year 2024-25

Middle and High Schools

Open – **Monday, Nov. 6, 2023**

Close – **Friday, Jan. 12, 2024 at 4 p.m.**

Lottery (online) – **Jan. 22, 1 p.m.**

Families receive lottery results by 8 p.m. – **Jan. 29**

Accept/Decline Deadline – **Feb. 5, 11:59 p.m.**

PreK and Elementary Schools

Feb – March, 2024

Elementary Lottery – TBD

Pre-K Lottery – TBD

Families receive lottery results – TBD

Accept/Decline Deadline – TBD

Culture Spotlight: Mezmur Presentation Today

Friends from Ms. Maheshwari's and Ms. Elsherbeen's classroom share the traditional Ethiopian Christmas song "Mezmur" with Lower Elementary students. Students were also introduced to the *Kebero*, *Kirar* and *Masenqo*.



Upcoming Dates

- Monday, January 15: **NO SCHOOL, Martin Luther King, Jr's Birthday**
- Monday, January 29: **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 ***NEW!***
- Principal Genove on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/CSGenove>
- Arlington Montessori PTA: <http://acmpta.com/>
- Arlington Montessori Action Committee (AMAC): <http://www.arlingtonmontessori.org/>

****SCROLL DOWN FOR THE PTA NEWSLETTER****

ACMPTA WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



What's Inside?

- **Baroody Registration Opens this Sunday the 7th!**
- **PTA General Meeting Tuesday, January 9th**
- **Join the PTA or Sponsor a Staff Member**

[Baroody Registration Opens this Sunday the 7th!](#)

We are excited to have Baroody Camps back at MPSA for the Winter 2024 session providing a variety of Enrichment Programs for your children! Registration opens this Sunday the 7th at 1PM and will close a week later, Sunday, January 14th at 11:59PM!

[Click here to see their offerings, the prices and register.](#)

[PTA General Meeting Tuesday, January 9th](#)

This is a reminder to join us for our monthly PTA general meeting held via Zoom. Tuesday, **January 9th** at **7PM**. On Zoom: **Meeting ID:** 399 269 8481, **Passcode:** MPSA23

If you have any questions or concerns you'd like the PTA to address, please direct them to info@acmpta.com at least 1 day prior to the meeting.

[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!