



@MonarchAcademy



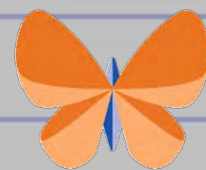
@MonarchAcademySchools



@MonarchAnnapAACPS

* Your monthly guide to school news, information and events.

THE Monarch Annapolis CHRYsalis



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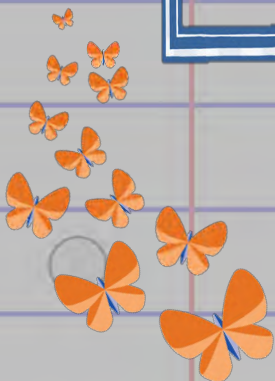
Monarch PTA News page 11

Welcome to November! ☺ Congratulations, we have almost made it through the first marking period! Please read through this month's newsletter closely to find out the awesome things going on this month. As always, please don't hesitate to contact us!

<http://monarchacademy.org/annapolis/>
(410) 934-1444

November 2020

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri
2	3 School Closed Election Day	4	5	6
9	10	11 Veterans' Day	12 Two-hour Early Dismissal	13 Two-hour Early Dismissal
16	17	18	19	20
23	24 Report Cards Distribution	25 Thanksgiving	26 Thanksgiving	27 Thanksgiving
29	30			





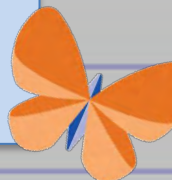
Who We Are

Monarch Academy Annapolis (MAA) is a Public Charter School contracted through AACPS, run by The Children's Guild. The Children's Guild programs are guided by Transformation Education (TranZed), MAA is approaching the authorization to become an official International Baccalaureate, Primary Years Programme School.

Our Mission

At Monarch Academy Annapolis, we educate the whole child by empowering students to embrace diversity, inspire curiosity, and cultivate compassion.

**Exceptional
Education for
Every Learner!**



A message from your principal!

Dear Marvelous Monarch Annapolis Families,

As we turn the calendar to November, I'd like to take a moment to thank you and your family for being a part of the Monarch Academy Annapolis family. It has certainly been a unique year full of many unexpected moments, challenges, and opportunities that have changed how we do school. Many great things are happening at our school each day. We are thankful to have your child here at MAA and for your partnership.

November brings the end of the 1st marking period and the beginning of the 2nd. This will provide a great opportunity to reflect on current progress and effort with your child and to set goals for the 2nd marking period. With a few weeks left until the marking period concludes (11/12-11/13), I urge you to connect with your child's teacher or to take a look at Parent Connect to review your child's grades and look for possible missing assignments. There is still time to turn in missing tasks and to ensure that your child meets with success.

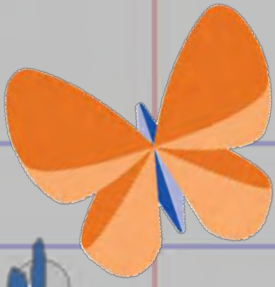
We continue to work through the hybrid reentry planning process and to gather data regarding student and staff selections for hybrid. This data will allow us to create our plan and to share more information with you. We know it has been a challenging experience as we wait for information and plans. The current AACPS plan has Prek-2 slated to open for hybrid on 11/16, however, this is contingent of Anne Arundel County health metrics and a final decision by the school board. We will keep you informed of our progress to develop the plan and ensure readiness for the building for our students. Please know no matter when we bring students back into school: 1) We will be ready for them. 2) The health and safety of our students and staff is the top priority. 3) It will be different than before; plan for changes. The way we did school before will look different as we re-enter with new protocols for arrival, lunch, dismissal, bathrooms, etc. We will all need extra grace and patience and 4) It will feel like the beginning all over again. We will need to re-norm everyone about the way we do school and for our youngest learners it will be their first opportunity to be in our school. This process will take time and patience, but we are in this together to ensure a safe return to school.

As always, if I can support your child in anyway, please do not hesitate to reach out. I am available by phone (school office 410-934-1444) and by email (ramstutz@aacps.org).

Have an amazing November!

**Sincerely,
Ms. Rachel Amstutz**





UPDATES from Mr. Clapper!

Devices Update

At this time we are continuing to email families as more devices arrive at our building and are prepared for student use. Families who completed the Device Survey will be emailed by Mr. Clapper when their device is ready for pick-up. Please include your child's first and last name. If you have never completed the survey and need a device, please access it below:

[English](#)

[Espanol](#)

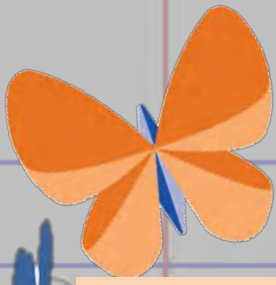
Free and Reduced Meals Application

Thank you to all the families who have completed the Free and Reduced Meals Application. While currently all students can get free meals from one of the county meal distribution locations, once we return to the school building that will end. If your child received free or reduced meals last school year, that benefit expired on October 21st. Families must apply each year to receive the Free and Reduced Meals benefit. The application can be completed here:

[Free and Reduced Meals Application](#)

iReady Testing

All grade levels have completed their in the classroom opportunities for iReady. If your child has not yet completed both their Reading and Math diagnostic, please have them complete it as soon as possible. This data will be used by their teacher and the school staff to determine the best way to assist your child moving forward. If students do not complete the diagnostics, teachers are unable to use the data to help them make instructional decisions.



UPDATES from Mr. Johnson

Building Access Update

At Monarch Academy Annapolis, we value your safety! Due to restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, visitors are currently allowed in the building by **APPOINTMENT ONLY!** All visitors must wear a mask and maintain all social distancing protocols. Students and children are not allowed to enter the building unless they are a part of our before and after care program facilitated by the YMCA. We are still asking that visitors remain outside for any assistance that they need. Thank you for your cooperation as we help to maintain the health and safety of our staff and community!

Emergency Cards

Thank you to all the families who have turned in their child's Emergency Cards! Currently, we are still missing some cards for some of our students. Emergency Cards contain information that we have on file for your child. If we do not have your child's card, we will be sending you an e-mail with the Emergency Card attached to it. We ask that you please send it back to us so that we can have the correct information in your child's file. If you have any questions or need assistance with Emergency Cards, please contact Ms. Nyia Curtis via ncurtis@aacps.org or 410-934-1444.

Attendance

To be successful, students must attend school regularly. Parents can encourage proper attendance by ensuring that their child:

- gets enough rest
- eats a healthy breakfast
- has adequate time to log-in to school.

At Monarch Academy Annapolis, our Attendance team is working closely with our administration to remove all barriers to Virtual Learning so that every student is available and ready for learning each day. Our goal is to keep the lines of communication open with **ALL** families with regards to daily on-time attendance. As we progress through the rest of this school year, we are going to be sending attendance letters home to our students that have known patterns of unlawful absences. A list of what would be considered a lawful absence is below:

Lawful Absences

- | | |
|--|--|
| • Death in the family | • Lack of authorized transportation (excluding students suspended from bus for disciplinary reasons) |
| • Illness | • A visit with a parent/guardian who is an active duty member of the uniformed services and has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or immediately returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat support posting. |
| • Religion holiday | • Pregnant and parenting needs (student) |
| • Suspension | • Other emergency or circumstance approved by the Superintendent |
| • State emergency | |
| • Hazardous weather conditions | |
| • Work approved or sponsored by the school | |

If you would like to provide documentation that would excuse your child's absences, please use this link to our Attendance Notes Form:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScSHFJL5IOUEpoS0KqaLmdw4xAUXPCV2AkJIO_YaOKBBsW5Lg/viewform.

If you have any questions or need assistance with Attendance at Monarch Academy Annapolis, please contact Ms. Nyia Curtis via ncurtis@aacps.org or 410-934-1444.

Important Dates

Coming up in November:

11/1-11/16 MAA PTA Thanksgiving Food Drive

11/3 Election Day (Schools Closed)

11/11 Veterans' Day

11/12 Two-Hour Early Dismissal

11/13 Two-Hour Early Dismissal

11/24 Report Card Distribution

11/25-11/27 Thanksgiving Holiday

Important Resources

[Coronavirus Information and Updates can be found here.](https://health.maryland.gov/coronavirus)

<https://health.maryland.gov/coronavirus>

Not receiving digital communication from us? Please let us know immediately!

MonarchAnnapolis@gmail.com

● [MAA Virtual School Link](#)

● [AACPS Bullying, Harassment, or Intimidation Reporting Form](#)

● [AACPS Families Resources](#)

● [Digital 2020-2021 AACPS Calendar](#)

GRATITUDE

Scavenger Hunt

1. Find something outside you enjoy looking at.
2. Find something that is your favorite color.
3. Find something that makes you happy.
4. Find something about yourself that is AWESOME.
5. Find something that makes you feel safe.
6. Find something in the morning that you enjoy.
7. Find a person or pet you enjoy spending time with.
8. Find something that tastes good.
9. Find someone/something that reminds you that you are loved.
10. Find/make something to give to someone else to make them smile.

There is never a bad time of year to teach kids about gratitude. Gratitude is one of the many positive emotions we teach kids at Monarch Annapolis. It can be explained with this definition: pausing to take notice and appreciate the things we have (things we often take for granted). You can use the Gratitude Scavenger Hunt as an activity to do together with your child.

There are also so many [amazing books](#) about gratitude. A favorite is *Those Shoes* by Maribeth Boelts. You can find a [read aloud](#) of this book on Youtube. Monarch Academy Annapolis wouldn't be the same without YOU! Thank you for making our school so special!

MAA Diversity in ACTION Zone

Hello Amazing Monarch Academy Parents!

As the school year is moving forward without hesitation. We at Monarch Academy of Annapolis have been working diligently to make every effort to be all inclusive of the beautiful gifts of diversity that we have in our school and community.

Cultural diversity is dear to my heart. Therefore, it is my greatest honor to introduce and lead our "Diversity in Action" efforts. One of the objectives of Diversity in Action is to provide a resource hub take will inform us of the diversity initiatives that are taking place in the MAA community.

The hub will be called the "Diversity Resource Guide." The DRG will be composed of links that will connect us to information, projects, programs, celebrations, heritage events, clubs, and various other resources. The Diversity in Action Team is working hard to embrace the many cultural gifts that are represented in our great school and communities. In conclusion, the DRG will be a great addition to our pool of resources and we look forward to sharing it with you.

Sincerely,

Mr. Rowel

PYP UPDATE

Thank you to all the families who attended the PYP and Parents Learning Nights hosted in October. I am planning to deliver the same learning opportunity in Spanish in collaboration with our new Community Liaison, Miguel Vicente. Be on the lookout for a date announcement soon!

New PYP curriculum information has been posted to the MAA Inquiry Website!

Check out the [MAA Unit of Inquiry Page](#) to see your student's "Year at a Glance" and also learn more about the curriculum elements such as the IB-PYP's 6 Transdisciplinary Themes, Learner Profile Attributes and Key Concepts. The Parents [IB Resource Page](#) has been updated too. You can find IB Guides for Learning through play and supporting your student's personal inquiries. Developing life-long learners is one of our goals through PYP curriculum implementation. If you have any questions about what your child is learning or about our school's journey to become an authorized IB World School, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me over email at mcoyle@aacps.org.

Literacy in November

We are so thankful to all our students and families for completing their iReady assessments!

This data will help us create small groups in our classrooms and better target our instruction. Students will now be able to have focused literacy lessons at their level when they use My Path in iReady. Primary students in Grades K-2 will also be able to use Scholastic FIRST for some extra reading practice!

The weather is getting cooler and I hope you find time to curl up with a good book. If you want to share what you are reading – please email Mrs. Nash cnash@aacps.org or Mrs. Good ahgood@aacps.org and you can get a shout out on the morning announcements!

HAPPY READING!

2020 Harvest for the Hungry



**GIVE WHERE
YOU LIVE**

October 1st – November 25th

*Together we can unite to fight hunger
in Anne Arundel County!*

#AllMeansAll #WeAreBetterTogether

- ▶ Food insecurity impacts a child's ability to learn
- ▶ Every dollar collected is equivalent to 8 pounds of food
- ▶ COVID-19 increased the number of needy families in our community
- ▶ 1 in 8 families in Anne Arundel County struggle with food insecurity

Your monetary donation will make a difference for families throughout our schools & community.
To donate go to: **www.aacps.org/harvest**

Proceeds benefit the Anne Arundel County Food & Resource Bank

Kids Helping Kids
Virtual Campaign

Monarch Academy Annapolis

NOVEMBER Spirit Days!

Building a positive school climate is one of our many goals here at Monarch Academy Annapolis. As an educational team we want our students and staff to come to school (virtually) each day with an excitement for learning, teaching, and being an active service member of our community. Our monthly "Spirit Days" are just one way for our students to positively participate in something that makes our community great!

Friday, November 13th



Friday, November 20th



Red, White & Blue Day!




*in honor of Veteran's Day (November 11, 2020)

*students and staff dress in red, white, and blue




Football Friday!

*students and staff can wear their favorite Football Team jersey, tshirt, or sweatshirt



MONARCH ACADEMY ANNAPOLIS




AACPS Magnet Programs Information Sheet

Greetings MAA 5th Grade Students & Families!
How exciting...5th grade...last year of Elementary School! In preparation for your 6th grade experience I wanted to remind everyone that the application window for applying for Magnet Programs will be open from October 12, 2020 through November 24, 2020.

AACPS is proud to offer the following Magnet Programs:

- International Baccalaureate (IB)
- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)
- Performing and Visual Arts (PVA)

Please visit the links to learn more about Magnet Programs. I will be popping in to all 5th grade classes during the month of October to share information with students. Please feel free to reach out to me via email (ipritchett-johnson@aacps.org) or via Google Voice #302-464-0735 if you have any questions or concerns. I look forward to your child's academic and social success this year!



Mrs. Nikki Johnson
School Counselor

Links to Important Information:

- [Magnet Program Website](#)
- [Magnet Video \(English\)](#)
- [Video Programas Magnet \(Spanish\)](#)
- [Magnet Program Information Guide](#)

HEALTH ROOM UPDATE

Hello, my name is Kristina! I will be Monarch's new school nurse. A little about me; I live in the Annapolis area with my husband and 9-month-old daughter. We enjoy spending time with friends and family as well as traveling. Looking forward to a happy and healthy school year.

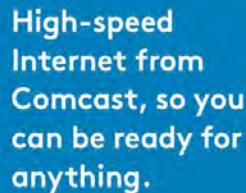
Here are some ways you can help:

- ▶ Make sure immunizations are up to date AND we have a copy in their file
- ▶ Turn in physical forms so we know how to prepare and care for your child

Our goal (especially this year) is to **KEEP HEALTHY KIDS HEALTHY!**

This means limiting who comes into the health room.

- ☒ Emergencies
- ☒ Illnesses
- ☒ Injuries
- ☒ Daily or as needed medications
- ☐ Rest breaks
- ☐ Minor scrapes or scratches
- ☐ bug bites
- ☐ bandaids
- ☐ bathroom accidents
- ☐ broken glasses



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(1-855-846-8376)

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essentials
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GOOGLE RESOURCES

- **Intro to Google and Other Online Tools**

<https://sites.google.com/aacps.org/studentintrotodigitaltools/home>

- **Family Help Site - AACPS Digital Resource Information for Families**

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1igVJ2kotPH05soBxGCMDU4wYy8m0GrIdn4nF9wd58EE/edit#>

MemberHub

You should have received a join link to join your class hub! If you have not please reach out to MAAPTA@monarchannapolispta.org with your child's classroom and we can resend it. The MemberHub will also have a place for all PTA emails under announcements. You can find the AACPS, the PTA, and the School Calendar all here in 1 place. In your class hubs you can email parents through the hub, white board ideas, add class specifics to your room calendar. and so much more!

Thanksgiving Food Drive

The PTA is hosting a Non-Perishable Food Drive from November 1st - November 16th. There is a box outside the main office to collect donations for Thanksgiving Dinners. We are accepting grocery store gift cards as well. The food donations will go to Monarch Families first then the extra to a local food pantry. Please reach out to maapta@monarchannapolispta.org.

