

## TUESDAY TIDINGS – 12/11/18

### REMINDERS

- **4th and 5th Grade Winter Concert** – The 4th and 5th graders will perform for us tomorrow, 12/12. Ms. Koss will lead the chorus, plus the band and orchestra students will perform with Ms. Bridges. There will be a shorter show for students at 1:30pm (roughly 30 mins), plus a 6:30pm show featuring all songs (roughly 1 hour) for parents and families — all are invited! Performances will be in the Maury gym.
- **Special Education Meeting** – The next monthly meeting will be at 8am tomorrow (12/12) in the Principal's Conference Room. For more info email Kristen Creighton at [kristen.s.creighton@gmail.com](mailto:kristen.s.creighton@gmail.com).

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Scripps Spelling Bee** – For the first time, Maury has registered to participate in the Scripps Spelling Bee! A sign up form for interested students will be sent out electronically by the end of the year. Once we receive your form, a word list will be shared electronically (printouts available upon request). Kids study on their own, but if you're interested in forming a study group, please note that on your form. Anita Sachariah, 2nd grade mom, will be coordinating the event to take place in mid-February, but she needs some help! We need at least 4 parent or teacher volunteers (3 judges and 1 announcer), as well as some help with general event management. Please contact Anita at [anita.sachariah@gmail.com](mailto:anita.sachariah@gmail.com) and become a part of our spelling bee action team! Competition date and details to be announced next year.
- **Author Visit** – Courtney Pippin-Mathur is coming to visit with our kindergarten, 1st and 2nd graders at Maury on Friday morning, 12/21. She's the writer and illustrator of the books "Dragons Rule, Princesses Drool" and "Maya Was Grumpy." If you didn't receive an order form from Hooray for Books and wish to order a personalized/signed copy of either of her books for you child, please email [info@hooray4books.com](mailto:info@hooray4books.com) or call 703-548-4092 by this Friday, 12/14.

### IMPORTANT INFO

- **Year-End Donations to Maury PTA** – As you consider year-end charitable giving, please think of Maury. Just [click here](#) to make a quick donation via PayPal (credit cards also accepted). You may also write a check and leave it in the PTA mailbox at school, made out to "Maury Elementary PTA." Additionally, does your employer match charitable donations? Check with your employer's HR department, or click on this link

to a list of [corporate-match donors](#), or try this [online searchable database](#). If you donated to the Gala, you may even be able to still attain a match if available! Donations are tax-deductible, and Maury PTA's tax ID is 541991273.

- **Book Donations Wanted** – Jennifer Kenealy is collecting gently used books for Cora Kelly kids and other toy distributions in Alexandria. Also, Mrs. Lusk will be setting up a book table for families in need, when they come to pick up the Maury Elves donations. Book donations can go in the bin in the Maury lobby or on Jennifer's front porch at 23 West Myrtle St. Board books and preschool are welcomed too! If questions, email [jenniferkenealy@yahoo.com](mailto:jenniferkenealy@yahoo.com).
- **Maury Elves** – We could still use some help spreading cheer to 10 of our Maury families in need this year. Please [click here](#) to see donation options and sign up to help! The deadline is this Thursday 12/13. More details are in the link, or you can email [kathrynhd@gmail.com](mailto:kathrynhd@gmail.com) with questions.
- **Gift Pool for Encore Teachers** – The encore room parents decided to set up a gift pool to make recognizing our encore teachers easier at the holidays. Contributions will go to coaches Ashley Lienau & Scott Allan, music teacher Laura Koss, art teacher Luisa Tio, band and orchestra director Laura Bridges, and our librarian Michelle Arnold. If you wish to contribute please do so by Friday 12/14. [Just click here](#) to go to our HipChip page. This service helps to pool the money, which we'll use to purchase Amazon Gift Cards for each of the teachers.
- **Gift Pool for Ms. Carrico** – Courtney Schlieter is organizing a holiday gift pool for Ms. Carrico, who teaches 5th Grade TAG writing and provides General Aptitude (GIA) services to our K-3 students. If you wish to contribute please do so by Friday 12/14 by [clicking on this Paypal link](#).
- **Gift Pool for Special Ed Teachers** – Kristen Creighton has set up a gift pool for Maury's wonderful special ed teachers and paraprofessionals. Contributions will be divided among nine teachers: Kertyzak, Freeman, & Hinton (special ed); Smith, Spratt & Purce (special ed paraprofessionals); Monsheimer (PT); Rath (OT); and Corso (speech). We will send an [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) card to each one. If you'd like to contribute, [just click here](#).
- **AmazonSmiles** – Just another reminder that a portion of your Amazon purchases can go to the Maury PTA! Don't forget to encourage family members to set up Maury PTA as their charity, too — anyone can do it. Please [click here](#) and you'll see a quick link to set it up and instructions, plus other simple ways your everyday purchases can help our school.

*Note: purple items below are new or revised in this list since the last Tidings.*

## DECEMBER DATES

12/12 – Staff Appreciation Breakfast

12/12 – Special Ed Committee Meeting (8:00am)

12/12 – 4th & 5th Grade Winter Concert (1:30pm for students / 6:30pm for families)

12/14 – PBIS Prize Cart for Students (1pm)

12/21 – Author Visit with Courtney Pippin-Mathur in the morning

12/24-1/2 – Winter Break

You can always [view older Tidings here](#).

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