

TUESDAY TIDINGS –10/29/19

We are wrapping up October and the first quarter already! This week we have a don't miss event: the annual Book Character Parade is on Thursday! As you coordinate your materials, **please consider donating extra costumes** (and matching books!) for anyone in need. Donations can be dropped off in the Teacher's Lounge. See what's happening this week:

FIVE THINGS TO KNOW:

- Please join us on Wednesday, Oct. 30 for the **ACPS Safety Forum**, sponsored by ACPS, the Alexandria PTA Council, and Parents for Safe Alexandria Schools. From 7 to 9pm at the T.C. Williams Minnie Howard Campus, you can hear presentations on the following: National & Virginia PTA stance on gun violence prevention; ACPS Superintendent Dr. Gregory Hutchings on our shared mission to prevent and reduce the impact of gun violence in our schools and community; Early Childhood Advocate Susan Keightley on the Be SMART program for safe gun storage; ACPS Coordinator for Security & Safety John Contreras on ALICE Violent Intruder implementation and Say Something program; ACPS Mental Health Specialist Faiza Jackson on anxiety issues created by the threat of gun violence in schools and how to talk to our children; and, Alexandria Police Chief Michael L. Brown to discuss coordination of school safety issues between APD and ACPS. **Pizza and childcare available starting at 6:45pm.** Child-sensitive content will be covered. [RSVP now!](#)
- Dads, granddads, uncles, step-dads, and adult brothers: Be a positive male role model to Maury students and spend the day in the fun atmosphere of our school. [Sign up](#) to be involved in the **Maury Watch DOGS** program!
- **WE WANT YOUR CANDY!** Your leftover Halloween candy can help put smiles on the faces of our Troops, Veterans and First Responders! The Military Family Subcommittee is collecting candy November 5 and 6 before school for Operation Gratitude's Halloween Candy Give-Back Campaign. For more info, email [Josie Beets](#).
- We are excited to announce the **Second Annual Maury Spelling Bee**. Students in grades 2 through 5 may sign up for the Class Spelling Bee beginning in November. The class Bee(s) will be the week of February 3rd, 2020. Winners in each grade will continue on to the school-wide Spelling Bee on Saturday, February 22, 2020. More information regarding Sign-Ups, Volunteer Opportunities, Spelling Word lists and activities for participation in the Bee to come!
- Are you ready for a FOOTBALL TAILGATE? Nov. 20 is the monthly **Teacher Appreciation Lunch, hosted by second grade families** and we've got a football-themed playbook. [Sign up now!](#) Any questions? Contact Coach [Fran](#).

AROUND THE PTA

Who knew you could skewer a balloon?! Looking for something fun (and educational) to do with your children at home? Check out [these](#) fun science experiments from the PTA that exercise the right side of the brain, which handles logical tasks, and the left side of the brain, which processes the five senses. This National PTA newsletter has all sorts of fun STEM project ideas for families, as well as other resources for education, wellness and parenting.

We are still accepting **PTA memberships!** PTA membership is an easy way to support Maury and all its children. Individual, teacher/faculty and family memberships are available. [Sign up now!](#)

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

10/30 – [ACPS Safety Forum](#), 7-9pm. Link for RSVP is [here](#).

10/31 – Book Character Parade, 1:45pm. More details are [here](#). Plus, donate extra costumes to the Teachers Lounge.

11/2 – Equity Book Club meeting, 2:30pm, St. Elmo's Del Ray. Questions? Email kconlanbaron@me.com

11/4 – TAG Advisory Committee meeting, 7 – 9pm, Francis C. Hammond Middle School.

11/5 – Teacher Work Day, NO SCHOOL for students.

11/7 – PTA Executive Committee meeting, 8:15 – 9:15am in the Conference Room. All are welcome.

11/7 – [ACPS School Board Meeting](#), 7pm, 1340 Braddock Place Alexandria, VA 22314.

11/8 – School make-up picture day. If you'd like a retake, please have your child return the original photo package. You can still order online at: mylifetouch.com, Picture ID: HJ279061Q1.

11/11 – PTA Meeting with an amazing vocal performance by our third graders, 6:15pm in the Cafeteria.

11/2 – Dine out at [Chipotle](#) (Potomac Yard location). Dine in or take out 5-9pm and mention Maury!

11/13 – Maury Special Education Committee meeting, 8am in the Conference Room.

11/13-11/15 – Early dismissal for students, 12:35pm, to accommodate parent teacher conferences.

11/19 – Dine at out [Scramble](#), 4:30-8pm.

Still need an ACPS Volunteer Card? Click [here](#) to apply. If you are a current or past volunteer you are not required to complete a new application. Instead, please [click here](#) to complete a renewal.

Continued Thanks To Our Admiral Level Community Partners:

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And To Our Captain Level Community Partners:
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📱 Text "@maurypta" to the phone number 81010 for text alerts.

📅 Import the [Maury PTA Calendar](#) to your Google calendar.

👍 Like us on Facebook and Twitter @MauryPTA