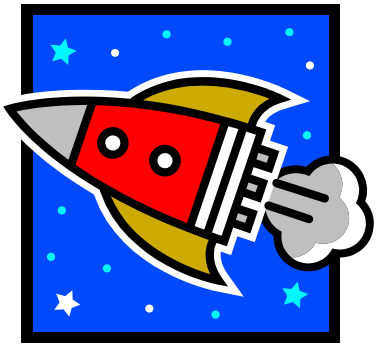


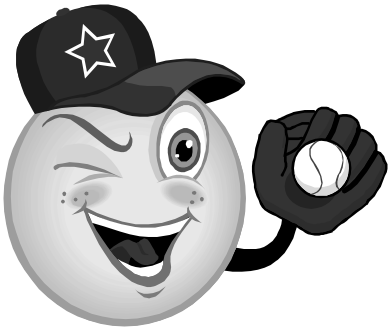
ROLLING KNOLLS ROCKETS

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER…

AUGUST/SEP. 2014

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Month At a Glance:

September 1– Labor Day, schools Closed

September 16—Back to School Night Grades 1-5

September 17—2 Hour Early Dismissal; NO PM PreK

September 19—Picture Day

September 25—Rosh Hashanah; Schools Closed

Principal's Corner

It is hard to believe that the summer is really over, but we are back in full swing and ready for an exciting school year. The staff and I hope everyone had a relaxing and refreshing summer.

This summer we have had some staffing additions and changes. The following is an update of the changes and additions:

Lori Hoffman, Kindergarten Teacher

Maura Shaul, 2nd Grade Teacher

Allison Bogdan, 3rd Grade Teacher

Bridget Lanigan, 4th Grade Teacher

Jennifer Davison, 5th Grade Teacher

Chris Acosta, Physical Education Teacher

Casey Chappelle, School Psychologist

It was so nice to meet the many supportive parents and families at the Sneak a Peek, PreK and Kindergarten Orientation, and Kindergarten/1st Grade picnic. We encourage your continued active participation with our school programs. The next scheduled event will be Back To School Night on September 16, from 6:30 to 8:00.

On September 17, all Anne Arundel County Public Schools will dismiss two hours early. During this time, teachers will be involved in professional development. As we continue to promote life-long learning in our students, as adults we must model that behavior.

On September 25, all Anne Arundel County Public Schools will be closed in observance of Rosh Hashanah. We hope you are able to enjoy some extra quality family time.

I look forward to an exciting year filled with engaging activities for all of our families and staff.

Sincerely,

Shira L. Dowling

Principal

The Anne Arundel County Public School System does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, age, national origin, religion, disability, or socioeconomic status in matters affecting employment or in providing access to program. Questions regarding nondiscrimination should be directed to: Leslie N. Stanton, Specialist in Human Relations, AACPS, 2644 Riva Rd., Annapolis, MD 21401:(410) 222-5500.

Counselor Corner

Katie McCord

KMcCord@aacps.org

It has been a fantastic start to a new year, and your children appear to be adapting well to a new grade, teacher and routines. If you find your child needs some help adjusting beyond the normal beginning of the year focus on routines and rules, please call or email me. I'm here to support every student at Rolling Knolls. I have the opportunity to provide school and emotional skill building lessons in the classroom every other week, and to some students in small groups or individually.

PLAY: This summer I heard a radio program about the importance of free play for child development, and I wanted to share the research findings of Sergio Pellis from the University of Lethbridge in Alberta, Canada. He concluded that "The experience of play changes the connections of the neurons at the front end of your brain, and without play experience, those neurons aren't changed." To produce this brain development, children need to engage in plenty of free play without coaches, rules and umpires. While free play helps kids learn to navigate social interactions, it also prepares a young brain for life, love and schoolwork. Pellis states "It is those changes in the prefrontal cortex during childhood that help wire up the brain's executive control center, which has a critical role in regulating emotions, making plans, and solving problems."

At Rolling Knolls your children will get 20 minutes of free play during recess every day at school, but I encourage you to also provide opportunities for supervised (but not structured) play in the hours they are not at school in the neighborhood, park or even indoors having play dates. It is going to help your child develop skills they'll need the rest of their lives.

PBIS: Using the positive behavior approach has been shown to reduce disciplinary problems and increase test scores, but more importantly it helps the students focus on learning while feeling good about themselves. Rolling Knolls once again earned recognition as a Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS) Gold school for our program, and we are looking forward to a positive and consistent support for students again this year. Look for positive and constructive communication this year as well.

Students earn rocket dollars for following the RKE promise and showing they are respectful, responsible, safe, and prepared. The PBIS program includes whole school behavior celebrations, opportunities to win a raffle, and the Cosmic Cart for K through 3rd grade students that is full of fun items and school supplies students can purchase with their rocket dollars. The 4th and 5th grade students will have the opportunity to purchase privilege coupons and school supplies. We would love to have the school supply cart available two mornings a week from 8:55 am to 9:15 am for any student to buy items with their rocket dollars. Please let me know (contact information below) if you would like to volunteer to help with the supply cart or cosmic cart this school year. Donations for the cosmic cart are welcome any time. In December we plan to host the flea market again, and we will ask for donations closer to that event.

I look forward to a very playful, positive year with your children.

KMcCord@aacps.org

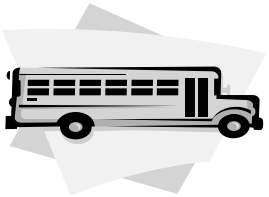


EXCEPTIONAL TRANSPORTATION REQUEST FORMS

These forms are available in the Main Office. Transportation arrangements are to be consistent for each day (morning and afternoon) for the duration of the time period requested. Approval is also contingent on the space available on the affected bus.

SITUATIONS THAT WILL NOT BE APPROVED ARE:

- Community athletic practices/games.
- Scout or club meetings.
- Music lessons.
- Doctor or Dental appointments.
- **Visiting a friend.**



Exceptional transportation requests are to be submitted not less than **five (5) school days prior to the date** exceptional transportation is to commence.

EARLY DISMISSALS

When your student must leave school early, please follow these steps to help ensure that the dismissal will be handled in an efficient manner:

A note should be brought to school at the start of the school day and turned into the teacher. The note should state the date and time of the departure and the nature of the appointment.

The note should contain the student's full name and grade.

There must be a phone number where a parent/guardian can be contacted for verification of the dismissal.

If your student has not brought a note to school for the early dismissal, please expect a 15-20 minute wait.

ALL STUDENTS WILL REMAIN IN THE CLASSROOM UNTIL THE PARENT/GUARDIAN HAS ARRIVED.

Tardiness and Absenteeism negatively effect your student's learning and achievement in school. Please help us by ensuring your student is present.

Join the Band and Orchestra! It's Fun!

Lunchtime reminders

Children love to bring in cupcakes and cookies to share with classmates for birthdays and special occasions. However, because of numerous allergies, we cannot allow homemade goodies – only store bought treats with the ingredients listed can be brought in to share during lunchtime as dessert. Also, on the topic of sharing – if you go to McDonald's or any other outside vendor to bring lunch to your child, please DO NOT share any of this with other students at the table. Please do not bring any balloons to school, they are not permitted.

JA Day is coming to RKE on Friday, December 19th!

Imagine spending a day with a classroom full of students who are excited to learn about earning, spending and saving. *JA in a Day* enables volunteers to bring the JA elementary school financial education curriculum to an entire school in one day. This one-day event is a great way to impact the community.

Rolling Knolls needs volunteers and Junior Achievement of Central Maryland, Inc. will provide you with easy-to-use materials and training. For one day you can volunteer for JA in your child's classroom and help students learn how to be workforce-ready and money smart. Please contact your child's teacher if you are interested.

Items to be reviewed… Please send in notes with students in the morning if there will be a change in dismissal for that day. Calls can be made to school, but **no later than 3 P.M.** If you come early to pick up your student from school, please be prepared to show a photo I.D. ALL parents and visitors must sign in at the office and wear an I.D. sticker if going anywhere in the building.

EMERGENCY DRILLS

During each school year, various drills are conducted at every school to ensure that staff and students are prepared in the event of an emergency. These drills include monthly fire/evacuation drills.

In addition five drills with scenarios developed by the school system's Office of School Security and based upon various possible emergency scenarios are done each year. These include, but are not limited to: evacuation for natural gas emergencies; shelter for tornado and earthquake; shelter for outside hazardous materials release; lockout for danger outside of the school building, reverse evacuation back into the school for students and staff outside; and lockdown for a person with a weapon inside of the school.

These drills are discussed with staff prior to the drill, evaluated once the drill is complete. In some cases, the drills may be discussed with students before they take place.

Rolling Knolls Elementary School is equipped with a video camera system. It covers selected interior and exterior public portions of the building and grounds. It is NOT monitored constantly, but is monitored during emergency situations. During certain events, when the safety or security of students may be in question, authorized personnel form local, state, or federal police or fire emergency units may be given access to view images projected on the cameral system. If you have any questions about the system, you should call the Supervisor of School Security at 410-222-5083.

A little birdie told me...

Rolling Knolls Elementary is now on Twitter!

Follow us @RollingKnollsES

Get news and updates from our school and AACPS

School PICTURE Day is September 19th!!

Please remember to bring your order forms and money on September 19th. Dress your best and smile BIG!

This is a fundraiser for our school, we appreciate your participation! Thank you!

Notes from Mrs. Curley

Welcome Back to School!

I hope you had a wonderful summer full of relaxing, rejoicing with family time, and reading!

What's Up with Common Core?

Maryland is going into the second year of full implementation of Common Core State Standards. Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) has decided to call the standards "Maryland College and Career Readiness Standards" but you will hear our educators at RKE still referring to them as Common Core ☺.

MSDE has wonderful resources for teachers, students, and parents. I hope you have a chance to visit their website, http://marylandpublicschools.org , to answer any questions you may have about the standards or state assessments.

Please take a moment to read one resource I have attached in this newsletter about expectations and what you can do at home to help your child reach every standard.

MarylandPublicSchools.org

MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Preparing World-Class Students

English/Language Arts and Literacy: Expectations for Students & Ideas for Parents

What's the Shift?	What will students have to do?	What can parents do to help?
Read as much fiction as non-fiction	• Read more non-fiction • Understand how non-fiction is written and put together • Enjoy and discuss the details of non-fiction	• Supply more non-fiction texts • Read non-fiction books aloud or with your child • Have fun with non-fiction in front of your child
Learn about the world by reading	• Learn more about science and social studies through reading • Use "primary source" documents • Get smarter through the use of texts	• Supply series of texts on topics that interest your child • Find books that explain how things work and why • Discuss non-fiction texts and their ideas
Read more challenging material	• Re-read until they understand • Read books both at and above their comfort level • Handle frustration • Keep pushing to improve	• Know what is grade-level appropriate • Provide challenging texts as well as books they can read easily • Read challenging books with your child • Show that challenging books are worth reading
Talk about reading using evidence	• Find evidence to support their arguments • Form judgments and opinions • Discuss what the author is thinking • Make predictions about what will happen next	• Talk about texts • Demand evidence in everyday discussions and disagreements • Read aloud or read the same book as your child and discuss • Discuss predictions
Write about text using evidence	• Make arguments in writing using evidence • Compare multiple texts in writing • Learn to write well	• Encourage writing at home • Write "books" together using evidence and detail • Review samples of exemplar student writing
Know more vocabulary words	• Learn the words they will need to use in college and career • Get smarter at using the "language of power"	• Read often and constantly with young children • Read multiple books on the same topic • Talk to your children, read to them, listen to them, sing with them, make up silly rhymes and word games

Source: *EngageNY.org, New York State Education Department.* www.engageny.org/sites/default/files/resource/attachments/parent_workshop_what_parents_can_do_handout.pdf

MarylandPublicSchools.org

MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Preparing World-Class Students

Mathematics: Expectations for Students & Ideas for Parents

What's the Shift?	What will students have to do?	What can parents do to help?
Build skills across grade levels	• Keep building on learning year after year	• Be aware of what your child struggled with last year and how that will affect ongoing learning • Advocate for your child • Ensure that the support is given for "gap" skills, such as negative numbers, fractions, etc.
Learn more about less	• Spend more time on fewer concepts	• Know what the priority work is for your child at their grade level
Use math facts easily	• Go more in-depth on each concept	• Spend time with your child on priority work • Ask your child's teacher for reports on your child's progress on priority work
Think fast AND solve problems	• Spend time practicing by doing lots of problems on the same idea	• Push children to know, understand, and memorize basic math facts • Know all the mathematics fluencies your child should have • Prioritize learning the fluencies your child finds most difficult
Really know it, really do it	• Make the math work, and understand why it does • Talk about why the math works • Prove that they know why and how the math works	• Ask questions and review homework to see whether your child understands *why* as well as *what* the answer is • Advocate for the time your child needs to learn key math skills • Provide time for your child to work on math skills at home
Use math in the real world	• Apply math in real world situations • Know which math skills to use in which situations	• Ask your child to do the math that comes up in daily life

Source: *EngageNY.org, New York State Education Department.* www.engageny.org/sites/default/files/resource/attachments/parent_workshop_what_parents_can_do_handout.pdf

Arrival and Pick up Procedures for Car riders

Rolling Knolls Elementary School 2014-15

All parents providing <u>car transportation</u> for their children must use the designated drop off and pick up car lanes. These procedures must be followed even if the students are usually bus riders or walkers.

<u>Arrival 8:55 AM</u>	**<u>Dismissal 3:40 PM</u>**
• Use the center lane in the parking lot • Do not allow your child out of the car unless there is a teacher on duty in the crosswalk; you may let your child out if there is a teacher in the crosswalk even if the bell hasn't rung yet- they will wait at the front door. • The 6 or 7 cars stopped in the drop off lane will unload at the same time. All students must exit on the passenger side and walk to the cross walk staying to the right of the solid white line. • DO NOT pass cars- this is for the safety of all students • Follow signals and direction of teacher on duty in the crosswalk- they will need to momentarily stop traffic if a bus needs to exit the bus loop. • If you are running late and there is no teacher on duty in the crosswalk, you need to park and check your child in at the main office. The late bell rings at 9:15.	• Use the bus loop • Please write your student's name on the **yellow paper** in big, dark letters using a marker. This should be visible on the passenger side dashboard every day, all year. • Stay in your car. Your student will be called and walked to your car. • Stay in the right lane and DO NOT PASS another car unless someone on duty tells you to. This is for the safety of all students. • When you are first in line, please pull all the way up to the flag pole to allow for all cars to move into the lane. • Once you are in the dismissal lane, you must stay and follow through the line. DO NOT turn around on Valley Rd. This creates safety hazards. • All students will be loaded into cars waiting in the bus loop while buses are loaded. Then the line moves quickly. Please be patient.

*** If you have any questions or concerns about our arrival or dismissal procedures, please contact Shira Dowling, principal 410-222-5820. All teachers on duty have been instructed to adhere to the above stated procedures.

Thank you for understanding that our goal is the safety of ALL our students!

TO ALL PARENTS/GUARDIANS OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

Each year, school children have accidents. Medical costs can be expensive, and unexpected bills can cause hardships. Even if you have other insurance, it is often not enough as coverage can require high deductibles or co-insurance payments.

Anne Arundel County Public Schools **does not** purchase blanket accidental medical or dental insurance for sports, school sponsored activities, or student activity while school is in session. However, we have made arrangements with ***K&K Insurance Group, Inc.*** to offer accident coverage to all enrolled students at a modest premium. Through this program, parents/guardians have the opportunity to purchase this protection for their child.

Some of the advantages of this insurance include:

At-School Accident coverage: This provides insurance for the hours and days when school is in session and while students are attending school sponsored and supervised activities on or off school premises. Coverage is provided during:

- The school day, on school premises, while school is in session
- Direct and uninterrupted travel to and from home and scheduled classes
- School sponsored and supervised sports (excluding high school football)
- Travel to and from school sponsored and supervised sports while in school approved vehicle

◈ Once effective, coverage continues until the earlier date where the enrolled students coverage has been in place for twelve months or the first day of the next school year.

24-hour Accident coverage: This provides insurance coverage around-the-clock, anywhere in the world. Coverage is provided:

- Before, during and after school
- Weekends, vacation and all summer including summer school
- School sponsored and extracurricular sports (excluding high school football)

◈ Once effective, coverage continues until the earlier date where the enrolled students coverage has been in place for twelve months or the first day of the next school year.

*All coverage becomes effective on the date that the completed application and premium are received by **K&K Insurance Group, Inc.** or online enrollment is completed.*

YOU CAN APPLY AND PAY ON-LINE AT: www.studentinsurance-kk.com

You have a choice of different benefit schedules. The insurance information that the student in your household brings home will provide the information necessary to guide you in your decision-making.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call ***K&K Insurance Group, Inc.*** at (855)742-3135. Their representatives are available to assist you in your inquiries or go to www.studentinsurance-kk.com.



Got Homework? Get a card...

from the Anne Arundel County Public Library

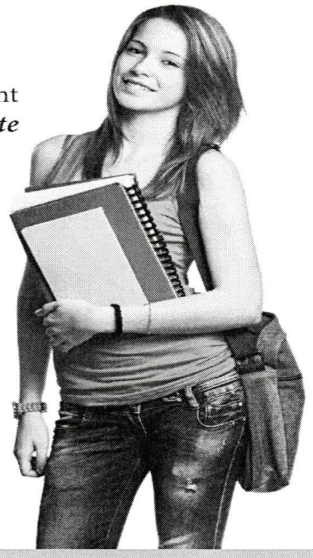
An Anne Arundel County Public Library card is one of the most important school supplies a student can have, and it's free! A library card gives students access to a world of both print and electronic resources to help them succeed in school. Students have access to subscription resources such as *e*Books, magazine and journal articles, practice tests and language learning software from their computer - or one of the library's PCs. Have a question? Students can chat live with a librarian 24 hours a day using Maryland AskUsNow, and get real-time online homework help with subject specialist tutors from 2 PM to midnight with HelpNow from Brainfuse. Links are available on the library's website, www.aacpl.net. And don't forget – the Library still has print books, audiobooks, DVDs and CDs!

Databases and eResources:

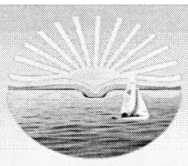
The Anne Arundel County Public Library subscribes to authoritative databases and other electronic resources to ensure that students can access the most current and accurate information available. ***See the reverse side of this sheet for a complete list of the Anne Arundel County Public Library's online resources for students.***

Our databases and *e*Resources:

- Work through the Internet, but are not Internet sites.
- Are subscription-based and paid for by the library.
- Provide access to authoritative articles, information, eBooks, tutoring and more.
- Are created and published by companies that also produce print resources.
- Are chosen by library staff to support educational and curriculum needs.
- Are accessible from home with a valid library card.



To learn more about the homework resources at the Library, visit your local branch or go to www.aacpl.net.



Anne Arundel County Public Library
www.aacpl.net • 410.222.7371

****HelpNow/Brainfuse****
Elementary, Middle, High
Chat live with a tutor, 2 p.m. till midnight, seven days a week. Science, math, English, social studies and writing help. Available in Spanish.

****Maryland AskUsNow****
Elementary, Middle, High
Chat live with a librarian 24/7 at www.aacpl.net/help

Biography in Context
Middle, High
People past and present

CultureGrams
Elementary, Middle, High
Culture, history and customs of countries and states.

Discovering Collection (STEM)
Middle, High
Literature, history, science and biographies.

Funk and Wagnall's New World Encyclopedia
Elementary, Middle, High
General Encyclopedia

Global Issues in Context
High
Country and international issues resources.

History Reference Center
Middle, High
U.S. and world history resources.

Kids Infobits (STEM)
Elementary
Beginning research.

Literature Resources from Gale
Middle, High
Author biographies, criticism, excerpts, and plot summaries.

National Geographic Kids (STEM)
Elementary, Middle
Magazine 2009-current (last three months excluded), 200 National Geographic Kids books and 500 kid-friendly, downloadable images.

National Geographic Virtual Library (STEM)
Middle, High
National Geographic magazine back to 1888. Includes images and videos.

Opposing Viewpoints in Context
Middle, High
Articles and information on current events and social issues.

Primary Search
Elementary
Full text access to many magazines.

Science in Context (STEM)
Middle, High
Current research for students, including science experiments.

Science Reference Center (STEM)
Middle, High
Full-text periodicals, reference titles & encyclopedias. Includes science experiments.

Student Resources in Context
Middle, High
Full-text articles, biographies, essays and timelines.

U.S. History in Context
Middle, High
U.S. history from the colonial period to the present.

World History in Context
Middle, High
World history through the ages.

Learning Express Library
Elementary, Middle, High
Practice subject and grade-specific tests, ASVAB, AP, ESL, GED, SAT

Testing and Education Reference Center
High
Practice SAT, AP and other exams. Also financial aid and scholarship info.

Muzzy Online
Elementary, Middle
Fun and interactive language learning.

Transparent Language
Middle, High
Learn over 80 languages, including ESL.

3M Cloud Library
Elementary, Middle, High
Downloadable popular eBooks and eAudiobooks.

DK (Dorling Kindersley) (STEM)
Elementary
eBook versions on popular DK children's books.

Gale Virtual Reference Library
Elementary, Middle, High
eBook versions of reference titles.

OneClickDigital
Elementary, Middle, High
Downloadable eAudiobooks .

Overdrive
Elementary, Middle, High
Download popular eBooks and eAudiobooks, includes a reading room.

Safari Tech Books (STEM)
High
Technical eBooks on programming, certification, web design, etc.

TumbleBooks
Elementary
Interactive eBooks and educational games.

Novelist Plus
High
Search for fiction and nonfiction titles by author, plot, read-alikes, curriculum, lexile level and more.

Novelist K-8 Plus
Elementary, Middle
Search for titles by author, plot, read-alikes, curriculum and more.