



# Salem Avenue Saber News

**HAPPY  
NEW  
YEAR**

January 2017

School Website: [www.salemavenue.weebly.com](http://www.salemavenue.weebly.com)

Facebook: Salem Avenue

## Important Dates & Upcoming Events

- January 3:** Professional Day- No School for Students
- January 9:** PTA Meeting 5:30 p.m.
- January 10:** Pajama Day at School & Family Reading Night 5:00 p.m.
- January 13:** End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Marking Period- Students ***DO*** have school
- January 16:** Martin Luther King Jr Day- Schools Closed
- January 17:** Professional Day- No School for Students
- January 31:** Team Tiger Tuesday- wear house colors or college shirt

## POP UP ATTENDANCE SURPRISE

We have hosted 3 pop up attendance surprise days so far this school year. lollipops, chance to win a Halloween/fall book and lei's were given away to those students on time to school. We plan on hosting more pop up attendance days, so make sure your child is here and on time every day! You never know when the next Pop Up day will be!!

## NOTES AND REMINDERS

- Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather. We take students outside for recess unless the temperatures is below 32 degrees.
- Check those homework folders nightly, lots of important information is sent home with your child. If they don't automatically give you the folder, ask for it. ☺
- We sincerely thank those parents who continually follow arrival and dismissal procedures. These procedures are in place to ensure the safety of all students, and not as an inconvenience to families. ***Thank You!!***
- The school day begins at 8:55 a.m. Please ensure your child is here and on time each day. We continue to have problems with a large number of students being tardy.

## Attendance/ Tardies/ Early Dismissals

Regular school attendance is extremely important to student achievement. The Washington County Public Schools attendance policy states: No more than 12 absences, lawful or unlawful, per school year. Absences after 12 days require official documentation (i.e. Doctor's notes, legal documentation, etc.)

- If your child is absent, please send a note the next day explaining the absence. Per WCPS policy, students are permitted to miss only 12 days a year.

Salem's school day begins at 8:55. Any student arriving after 8:55 a.m. is considered tardy and **MUST** be signed in by a parent/ guardian. Tardies disrupt the normal flow of the school day. Tardy students are not able to enjoy the free breakfast that would normally be provided to them and are often missing out on valuable instruction. It is important to have your child to school on time every day.

- **If your child is tardy, you MUST walk them into the school and sign them in using the C.L.A.S.S system. You WILL NEED to bring your driver's license in with you.**

If your child is going home another way than their usual way, please be sure to provide us with a written note. We cannot dismiss students a different way without a note.

- Students will not be dismissed early after 3:15. After that time all, students will be dismissed as walkers at 3:25.
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Volunteers **MUST** complete a Volunteer Application and Information Form **AND** be approved to volunteer and/or chaperone, each school year. Many volunteer opportunities are offered to only already approved volunteers, so we encourage you to complete this process ASAP. Contact Jennifer Johnson, Title I School Family Liaison with any questions.

### Team Tiger News

Thank you to all the families who supported the Team Tiger Talent Show last month. Mrs. Wood and Mr. Grove did a fabulous job with the show! It was so nice to see some of our talented Salem Sabers.

Please remind you child to remain referral free so that they can purchase snacks at the Team Snack Shak this month!

## *Music News - January*



- **Kindergarten:** We're learning about up/down and high/low sounds and playing instruments.
- **Grade 1:** We're learning to use eighth notes, quarter notes and quarter rests.
- **Grade 2:** We're learning to the half note.
- **Grade 3:** We're learning use dotted half note.
- **Grade 4:** We're learning use sixteenth notes.
- **Grade 5:** We're learning use combinations of sixteenth notes and eighth notes.

### *A Message from the Media Center* *Mrs. Holloway, Library Media Specialist*

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During the month of December, all classes worked on Hour of Code activities using the resources available on the website [www.code.org](http://www.code.org). The Hour of Code is an event that takes place each year during Computer Science Education Week and helps people understand what types of things they could do if they chose to go into that field. Coding involves using logic and problem solving and it was fun to watch

students work hard to figure out how to work through the levels in their activities and teamwork with their classmates when they got stuck. If you would like to work on the activities at home, we used studio.code.org and code.org/learn during class.

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Please encourage your children to return their library books on their media day. It is good practice to keep the books in their bookbag unless they are reading them so that they will have them at school with them each day. Thank you for your help with this.



## Pre-kindergarten News

Please remember to:

- Visit our website weekly for updates: <http://mrsmeltonprek.weebly.com/>
- Return your **library book** and the **baggy book** on Mondays. New books go out on Tuesdays/Wednesdays.
- Check your child's folder each night and initial the calendar.
- Continue to help your child write his/her name.
- Practice zipping and buttoning coats as cooler weather arrives,
- Ensure your child has a change of clothes in his/her backpack. Please update with winter clothing.

### This month your child will be learning:

**\*Reading:** Continue to explore story elements and facts in nonfiction books; tell how the illustrations support the story.

**\*Foundations:** The correct formation of letters and identify letters and sounds.

**\*Writing:** How to write personal stories, place labels on the illustrations, continue to add more details, write simple sentences, work with a partner and writing resources.

**\*Math:** Counting, Subitizing, Comparing, Naming Shapes.

### Ways you can help:

**\*Reading:** Encourage your child to retell stories and name the characters and setting, and discuss the new information learned in nonfiction books.

**\*Foundations:** Use the Foundations formation directions when helping your child write his/her name. Remember to say the directions out loud and invite your child to join you.

**\*Writing:** Continue to encourage your child to continue to label pictures and begin to write simple sentences.

**\*Math:** Play dice games and count objects each day.



# Kindergarten in January!



This month we will be learning:

- **Reading:** Students will work to become stronger readers. They will learn to become resourceful by tackling hard words and tricky parts in books.
- **Writing:** Students will be composing informative pieces of writing.
- **Fundations:** Students will form uppercase letters of the alphabet. They will blend and read, as well as segment and spell three-sound short vowel words. They will work with alphabetical order. They will distinguish long and short vowel sounds
- **Math:** Students will be counting to 50 by ones. They will begin representing addition and subtraction with objects, fingers, drawings, equations, etc. They will solve addition and subtraction word problems.
- **Social Studies:** Students will be learning about geography and the environment.

You can help your child at home by:

- making sure your child arrives on time. Students who arrive late are missing Reading instruction.
- making sure your child completes his/her homework and filling in the Reader's Log.
- ensuring that your child has a coat appropriate for the weather and can button, snap, or zip his/her own coat. If the playground is clear, if it is not snowing or raining, AND the temperature is above 32 degrees, we will go outside for recess.
- helping your child practice tying his/her shoes.
- update your child's bag of clothing for emergencies to winter clothing.



Kindergarten teachers would greatly appreciate any donations of tissues, paper towels, and Clorox or Lysol Wipes. As the weather changes, so does the demand for these items. Thank you! ☺

## Look What's Happening in First Grade

This month we will be learning:

- **Reading-** students will study characters and their stories in their fiction books. Readers will get to know characters by performing their books.
- **Math-** students will compose two-dimensional shapes or three-dimensional shapes to create other shapes.
- **Social Studies/Science-** students will continue to learn about light in science. In social studies the students will learn about traditions.
- **Writing -** students will be writing book reviews and beginning opinion writing.



## Look What's Happening in Second Grade

Second grade students will be finishing up all 2nd marking period skills and beginning 3rd marking period skills.

- In Reading students will be studying book characters in Fiction stories, and in Writing they will be doing the Unit, Writing Gripping Fiction Stories. As students are studying characters in Reading they will be using all they have learned, to add to make their characters come alive in the reader's mind.
- In Social Studies, students will be studying Economics, learning about Goods and Services.
- In Science, students will be looking at Processes that Change the Earth. Students will use critical thinking skills to analyze ideas.
- In Math students will be working on Measurement and Data skills.

Continue Reading with your child daily and practicing Reflex.



## Look What's Happening in Third Grade

- **Math** - Students will identify shapes using their attributes. They will use what they know about the shape's attributes to put them into larger categories.
- **Reading** - Students will be getting to know the characters in their books by studying them and learning the character traits and motivations. They will make predictions as they follow the character across the story and defend their thinking.
- **Writing** - Students will be writing literary essays. They will also be writing about their reading and writing fictional stories. They need to making sure to use complete sentences, capital letters and punctuation at all times.
- **Social Studies** - Students will understand how knowledge of the past helps one understand the present and make decisions about the future. They will compare life in specific historical time periods to life today.
- **Homework** - Third graders are expected to read every night for 20-30 minutes and log it on their reading log. Please have your child read aloud to you to practice fluency and ask them questions to check their comprehension.

## The Exciting Things Happening In Fourth Grade!

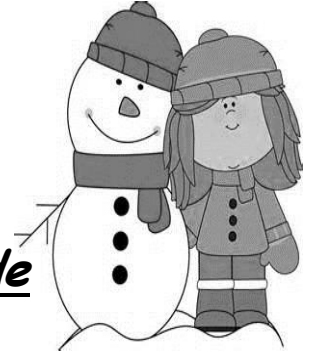
This month we will be learning:

- Reading- This month we will be spent reading historical fiction. Students will be immersed in historical events while they get to use their fiction reading skills.
- Writing- Students will be writing informational writing pieces based on the historical events of America and our very own state of Maryland.
- Math- Students will begin working with measurements as well as geometric shapes and figures in real world settings.
- Science- Students will be investigating the different structures of plants. We will learn about the internal and external structures and how they help plants to survive.

- Social Studies- We will be learning about the different types of transportation that have helped the state of Maryland grow since the founding of the colony.

You can help your child at home by:

- Check and sign homework planners nightly.
- Sign and return Tuesday folders on a regular basis, please return the work for your child's portfolio.
- Help your child to find a quiet place where they can complete focused reading each night and then discuss their reading with them.
- Have your child work on the Reflex Math app, the IXL website or by practicing multiplication and division facts.



## Look What's Happening in Fifth Grade

This month we will be learning:

- **Reading:** Students will be exploring informational texts and paralleling what they are studying in writing to support their thinking and demonstrate comprehension of informational texts. Students will be studying informational text to determine the main idea and supporting details in order to summarize, analyzing the authors craft, learning to infer within a text, exploring text cohesion and comparing and contrasting informational texts.
- **Writing:** Students will be writing an informational piece. They may also begin to research and write notes to use for their Congressional Hearing speeches later this year.
- **Math:** Students will be continuing the 5th Grade fractions Unit. They will *solve real world problems involving Division of fractions and mixed numbers. Apply and extend previous understandings of division to divide unit fractions by whole numbers and whole numbers by unit fractions. They will also be using fractions with line plots.*
- **Social Studies:** Students are going to be studying the exploration and early colonization of the United States.
- **Science:** Students will continue to study matter and energy this month.

You can help your child at home by:

- re-reading the 5<sup>th</sup> grade, whole-group, leveled text each week with your child to better support their understanding. Also asking your child to use the week's vocabulary words in their own sentences will allow them to understand those words in a more meaningful way.
- reading each night for at least 20 minutes is always a practice that will help improve your child's reading ability. Ask students about what they are reading in their guided reading groups.
- logging into "ixl.com" and "Stride Academy" to practice many reading and language arts and math concepts at home.