
A.P. Morris Early Childhood Center

IS UN-BEE-LIEVABLE!



Victoria Palmer-Gilliard, Principal
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From the Principal's Desk

Your children are "SCHOLARS"
We have high expectations for our children, so we let them know by referring to them as "SCHOLARS."

We have completed our first month of virtually learning. While these are uncertain times for all of us, I must say how proud I am of our entire APM/ECC community and how we continue to be "UN BEE LIVEABLE" under some of the most difficult circumstances.

None of us would have dreamed we would still be virtual but here we are, doing what we do best: Learning, sharing, collaborating and building relationships through morning meetings, exercise in PE, music, art, learning their letters, numbers, shapes, writing and enjoying stories read by their teachers. The next few months, we will continue to conduct assessments to gather data on how we can target the individual learning needs of all scholars. We are excited to be starting our new ELA program "Amplify" and Math Envision 2.0. This school year may be challenging but please remember our goal is to develop our scholars to be passionate, confident, and excited about

learning. We will do this by keeping your children/our "SCHOLARS" focused and positive. We can not do this without your support, help, and trust. **TOGETHER** we will all be successful and stronger.

Fun things to do at home with your child/ren in the month of October!

- Rack leaves and jump into them
- Go leaf looking
- Iron leaves between two sheets of waxed paper and hang them in the window
- Make a fall wreath or fall tree with leaves
- Make a pumpkin man for the front porch
- Find a new way to decorate pumpkins
- Count pumpkin seeds
- Toast pumpkin seeds

Mrs. Victoria Palmer-Gilliard,
Principal



From the Vice Principal's Desk

I want to thank all of our families for their support and encouragement during this unprecedented time. Our teachers are doing wonderful work in their virtual classrooms and our students are in full swing learning mode. Please keep these important points in mind to support your child during virtual learning:

1. **Stick to your child's schedule** - consistency and routines assist children in developing independence and confidence.
2. **Model persistence** - technology issues can be frustrating. We are here to support you.
3. **Set up a designated workspace, if possible** - having a learning area in your home will provide scholars with stability and the necessary space to do great work.
4. **Get to know Canvas** - we have a support team at APM/ECC to assist with your Canvas questions. Feel free to reach out to your child's teacher, if you require additional guidance with Canvas.

5. **Stay in communication** - always feel free to reach out to your child's teacher and building administration with your questions, concerns, or feedback. Stay safe and healthy and we look forward to when we return to school!

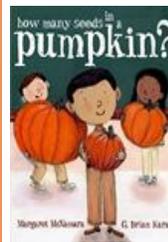
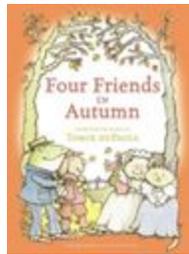
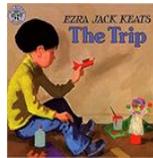
From the Desk of the Instructional Supervisor

Fall has officially arrived! This month, teachers spent a great deal of energy building a strong virtual classroom culture. Students are encouraged to strive for **STAR status**. **S**- self-control, **T** - try hard, **A**- achievement, and **R** - respect. Classes take time during morning meetings to clear, to share, to address important themes promoting good character and teamwork. Students are encouraged to be prepared to learn and share their experiences with their new virtual classroom friends.

This month will also focus on assessment for learning. Students will engage in various assessments in Reading, Writing and Math using the textbook and our **LinkIt!** platform. We are using these assessments to plan extensively for all students. We have clear goals and action steps for meeting our desired outcomes for students.

October is also all about pumpkins, changing leaves,

and curling up with a few good books. Here are some suggested readings for your family:



Please let your teacher know what your favorite book is for the Fall. Happy Reading!!



We encourage everyone to become a PTA member and volunteer 5 hours this school year. The first meeting is 10/7/20 at 6:30 p.m, please use this link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6921839680> to join our meeting.

FROM THE SCHOOL NURSES

1. According to New Jersey school regulations N.J.A.C. 6A: 16-2.2 "all students new to a school district are to supply the school nurse with a physical examination form from the doctor within 30 days of entry."

The physical must have been completed within a year prior to entering school. If you have not provided a physical at registration, please make sure to submit it to the nurse as soon as possible.

2. Please note that the flu vaccine is a requirement for all children 6 months through 59 months of age attending any preschool facility. Each child **MUST** receive at least one dose of influenza vaccine between September 1st and December 31st. **Students who do not receive the vaccine by December 31st will not be allowed to return to school** and this exclusion will continue for the duration of the flu season (through March 31st) or until they receive one dose of the vaccine.
3. Kindergarten students must have their 4 year old boosters. If you have not submitted documentation to the nurse, please do so. Notices will be mailed home for students who are not up-to-date. If documentation is not provided by the set deadline in the notice, your child may be excluded from virtual learning.

Mrs. Antunes, RN jantunes@hillsidek12.org

Mrs. Padlo, RN apadlo@hillsidek12.org



MRS. ARCUNI'S CLASS

Happy October! The month of September flew by! We made new friends virtually and learned about our favorite foods, colors, and things to do with friends! We also learned our class rules and how to participate in Active Listening.

This month our themes will be "Marvelous Me" and "Family Matters. During our "Marvelous Me" theme, we will learn about different types of feelings, how

things grow and change, and the five senses. During our "Family Matters" theme will discuss members of families and all the different things we like to do with our families. Everyone has been doing a great job with their work and participation! Keep up the great job!



MRS. DREFKO'S CLASS

What's happening in Mrs. Drefko's Kindergarten class?

October is here.
The air is cool.
It's been so exciting,
Learning virtually at school!

Mrs. Drefko's scholars have enjoyed making friends and learning to do new things in our virtual classroom community. We've been finding exciting ways to connect with each other and show what we know. We know how important it is to have virtual classroom rules to keep us happy and safe so that we can learn. We are already especially good at keeping our cameras on and microphones off at listening time to respect each other. One of our favorite new words is "independent." Our scholars have been learning that when someone is independent, they try and say, "I can do it by myself." We're having fun learning to be independent.



MS. LOVE'S 1st GRADE

September went by in a flash! We learned how to be respectful and support our friends even when on the computer. We talked about how we are feeling and how we can work together to make others feel happy and cared about. October is here and so is our desire to read and write! We are now up to 7 minutes of reading stamina and we are continuing to stretch our brain power! We are going to keep practicing our simple sentences and will be pros at writing before November.



MRS. CLARO'S CLASS

October is going to be an exciting month in virtual PreK! We will be exploring all the new signs of autumn in our homes and neighborhoods and sharing it with our online classmates! We are excited to become nature detectives and go on the hunt for leaves changing colors and fall animals getting ready for winter!

In Literacy, we are discovering the differences between letters and words and uppercase and lowercase letters. We have become letter experts on many different letters!

In Math, we are working on counting past 10, counting objects, and identifying pairs and sets.

Happy Fall!



MS. MENDEZ' CLASS

Welcome to a New School Year! Virtual Learning will be a different experience, but it will still provide the opportunity to connect with families and children to deliver a great education. We are all going to work together to support children to succeed academically. We will be committed not only to support our scholars academically, but also emotionally, so they could continue smiling. They are active participants by having activities every day that support language, physical, emotional, reading, and math skills. We will be working on letter sounds, rhymes, and print awareness, which will help them develop reading skills. For mathematics, we will be reinforcing counting, identifying numbers, patterns and more. We will keep supporting and scaffolding learning through developmentally appropriate activities.

When we are committed to work hard and together, everything is possible!



MRS. VALEGAS/MRS. HARDY'S CLASS

October is a fun month for Mrs. Valega and Mrs. Hardy's Pre-K class. In the beginning of the month, we will learn all about ourselves and our body. We will explore our five senses and discuss all of the important jobs that our body parts have. During the rest of October, we will learn about families. What is a family? Who is in your family? What do you like to do with your family? We'll explore the answers to these questions. Although our class is not together in person, we are building wonderful relationships with each other and have become our own 'Pre-K family'.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Greetings! My name is Mrs. Jeanie Ruban and I am so excited to return to APM/ECC as the School Counselor for my 8th year! Although we are not in the same physical space as your children, we are with them in spirit. We are so proud of our AP Morris families for getting off to such a great start to learning. It is my hope that this year will be full of successful experiences for all students. Remember, WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER. If you ever need anything, do not hesitate to reach out to me at JRuban@Hillsidek12.org
Stay Safe and Stay Strong!

SOCIAL WORKER'S CORNER

Hi. My name is Dieayah Bryant, this is my 2nd year being the social worker at APM/ECC. I am excited for this school year and even though we can not be together in person, I am here for you. I can be contacted at:

dbryant@hillsidek12.org.

Stay safe and well :)