



AMERICAN PREPARATORY ACADEMY

Facebook: www.facebook.com/americanprepSalem

APA Salem: (801) 465-4434 Elementary Ext: 1 Secondary Ext: 2

** The asterisk throughout the newsletter indicates information that is new.*

School Calendar–Salem Campus

February 7, 2020

Wed., Feb. 12 No Elementary Extended Day

Looking ahead.....

Mon., Feb. 17-Fri., Feb. 21

NO SCHOOL–Midwinter Break

Mon., Feb. 24

Secondary Midterm Missing Work Deadline

Wed., Feb. 26

No Elementary Extended Day

Wed., Mar. 4

*No Elementary Extended Day

Thurs., Mar. 5

Noon Dismissal, ALL Grades (Parent Teacher Conferences)
PM-Kindergarten Attends, NO Lunches Served.

No Elementary Extended Day

Fri., Mar. 6

*Elementary Midterm Missing Work Deadline

Noon Dismissal, ALL Grades (Parent Teacher Conferences)
AM-Kindergarten Attends, NO Lunches Served.

No Elementary Extended Day

Wed., Mar. 11

*No Elementary Extended Day

You will find all events, updates, and extracurricular activity schedules on our campus calendar at www.salem.americanprep.org.

***February Builders Theme: I Am a Builder When I Befriend Others**

The word befriend is from the old world that literally means to be a friend by offering help or support. There are some specific skills needed to truly befriend others, such as empathy, respect, and tolerance. One of the most important traits is plain old-fashioned kindness. Here are some ways to help reinforce kindness in our families:

1. Make caring for others a priority.

Too often, parents prioritize their children’s happiness and achievements over their children’s concern for others. Children need to learn to balance their needs with the needs of others, whether it is passing the ball or deciding to stand up for a friend who is being bullied.

Here are some things to try to help make caring for others a priority:

- Instead of saying, “The most important thing is that you are happy,” say, “The most important thing is that you are kind.”
- Make sure that your child always addresses others respectfully, even when they are tired, distracted, or angry.
- Emphasize caring when you interact with others, including spouses, teachers, and store clerks.

2. Provide opportunities to practice.

Children who have a habit of performing acts of kindness and expressing gratitude are more likely to be helpful, generous, compassionate, and forgiving, as well as happy and healthy. Learning to be caring is like learning to play a sport or an instrument. It requires daily repetition!



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Try the following opportunities to practice kindness:

- Do not reward your child for every act of helpfulness. Expect them to help around the house, with siblings, and with neighbors. Only reward your child for uncommon acts of kindness.
- Make gratitude a daily ritual at dinnertime, bedtime, in the car, etc.

3. Expand your child's circle of concern.

Almost all children care about a small circle of their families and friends. Our challenge is help them learn to care about those outside that circle, such as the new kid in class or someone from a different culture.

Here are some suggestions on how to expand your child's circle of concern:

- Ensure your child is friendly and grateful to all of the people in their lives, such as a bus driver or a waitress.
- Encourage your child to care for those who are vulnerable, like comforting a classmate who was teased.
- Use a newspaper or TV story to encourage your child to think about hardships faced by children in another country.

***Builders of the Month**

Congratulations to our Builders of the Month for January. The following students were great examples of working diligently:

Avenly Barton	Ashlynn Blackburn	Kamesha Carter	Harlee Christensen	Braden Dinkel
Alex Hardy	Evan Jones	A.J. Leon	Evey Lingwall	Alex Medina
Jordan Morgan	Milaidy Pineda	William Richards	Matthew Williams	

Valentine's Day Policy

Everyone has done such a great job of keeping our school free of treats! We will make Valentine's Day an exception to this rule. Please read the guidelines below on our Valentine's Day policy.

We focus on the builders theme of befriending others during the month of February. We challenge the students to show they care by encouraging good deeds for others all during the month.

In regards to Valentine's Day, PARENTS DO NOT NEED TO PROVIDE VALENTINES OR TREATS. If students wish to exchange valentine cards or treats, they may within the following guidelines:

- All of his/her classmates must be included in the giving. The teacher will provide the number of students upon request.
- Any treats given must be able to be placed in a backpack and taken home (i.e. no doughnuts, cupcakes, cookies—only wrapped treats like a piece of candy.)
- Students will be instructed to place any cards or treats they receive into their backpacks to be taken home and enjoyed there.

Lost and Found

If your students are missing any items, please check the Lost and Found by February 14th. After the end of the school day on the 14th, all remaining items will be donated to charity.



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Bus and Parking Lot Safety

Safety at our APA campus is very important to us. Please review the following policies regarding school bus and school parking lot safety:

- Please be aware that driving past any part of a school bus when flashing-red lights are displayed, even on school grounds, is against the law. This includes all parents, staff, and visitors driving or parking vehicles in the front parking lot of the school where the bus zone is located. The only exception to this law is when designated Operation personnel (who are wearing a reflective safety vest) can safely guide you past the buses. Please use the upper (south) parking lot or the bottom (north) parking lot to avoid the bus loading/unloading area.
- Please do not pick up or drop off students in the bus loading/unloading area before or after school. Carpool pick-up and drop-off is located behind the school (east side) and in the north parking lot. The only exception is midday kindergarten pick-up and drop-off.
- If at any time you choose to park in a stall in the front parking lot and buses begin staging for loading or unloading, you will need to wait to move your parked vehicle until the buses have departed, turned off their flashing-red lights, or Operation personnel are available to safely guide you past the buses. This could be up to a 20-minute wait. To avoid delays, do not park in this area before or after school. Instead, use the upper (south) parking lot or the bottom (north) parking lot.
- Do not move the traffic cones or the red chain located at the entrance to the front parking lot. If the chain is blocking the entrance, vehicles are not allowed in. This is not to inconvenience anyone, but rather, it is to ensure all our children are safely maneuvering around the school buses in the bus loading/unloading area. The school buses have large blind spots and weigh around 16 tons; therefore, they are very dangerous to walk around. Please contact our Operations Director, Mr. Wilson, for exceptions for entrance.
- Please use parking stalls. Do not park on any of the red curbing on school grounds, even if you are only going to be a minute. This includes after-school hours. The red curb is reserved for buses, emergency vehicles, and service/delivery vehicles only.
- Please observe the 5 mph speed limit on school grounds at all times. Obey all parking and driving signage on school grounds. Be aware, alert, and obey the staff directing carpool traffic.

Thank you for your cooperation with these very important safety rules and policies. Together we can work to ensure the safety of all APA students, families, and staff. We look forward to a safe and successful second half of the school year!

***Spelling Bee**

Congratulations to all of our schoolwide Spelling Bee finalists:

Nora Allen	Wylie Barlow	Brody Gunnell	Peyton Gunnell	Talita Hansen
Lyla Jensen	Zachary Knight	Jayse Lewis	Evaleigh Mourtgos	Adam Nielson
Diego Pazmino	Gloria Reategui	Gary Roberts	Kade Shillingburg	Hi'i Taula
Paisley Youd				

Our 1st-3rd grade schoolwide winners are:

First place: Evaleigh Mourtgos

Second place: Paisley Youd

Our 4th-8th grade schoolwide winners are:

First place: Gary Roberts

Second place: Talita Hansen



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Vision Screening

We will be conducting vision screenings for all students on February 12th, 2020, at the Salem campus. The students will be given a distance vision test to see if they can see at a 20/30 level. We will notify you of the results of the test. If a student fails, you will receive a referral letter with more instructions. If you do not wish for your child to participate in the screening program, please request an exemption form from the nurse at nurse@apamail.org.

Vision screening is not a substitute for an eye examination by an eye care specialist, and it is important that your child see an eye care specialist once a year to evaluate eye health.

We need a lot of parent volunteers to assist with vision screenings. A short 5 minute training is provided, and this is a great way to get in your volunteer hours! This is not a volunteer opportunity that will work to bring small children.

Please contact Karen Thelin at kthelin@apamail.org or nurse@apamail.org with questions. If you are available to volunteer, sign up with this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A054DA9AA2BA2FD0-salem1>. Thank you, wonderful parents!

***Ambassadors**

We had such a fun time with our 9th grade students at the dance. They were fabulous dancers and were willing to participate. It was a fun evening with some games and dancing. A special thanks to our 8th grade boys who came to dance as extras. We could not do it without your willingness to help.

In preparation for our Capitol trip, we will be holding a parents' meeting on February 12th, 2020, at 12:30 pm for anyone wanting to be a chaperone. This will give you the information volunteers will need in order to help students complete their legislative packets. The Capitol trip will be February 13th, 2020. If you are interested in volunteering as a guide for our trip, please contact Mrs. Denning at ldenning@apamail.org. We appreciate our parent volunteers in all they do to make our events successful.

Service Opportunities

During the month of February, we are going to be focusing on random acts of kindness. As we do this, we would love for you to share your successes with your family. You can also send Mrs. Denning pictures and a story. She would love to share each of your random acts of kindness.

CHALLENGE for the WEEK

Make packets of card items for kids in a hospital to make their own Valentine's cards.

Upcoming Events

The following are our upcoming events. Please contact Mrs. Denning if you wish to help with these events:

- 7th-9th Grade Capitol Trip on February 13th, 2020.
- 7th-8th Grade 70's Flashback on February 27th, 2020.
- 5th-6th Grade Galaxy Quest on March 11th, 2020.
- 7th-9th Grade Top Hat and Tails on March 26th, 2020. This event will focus on preparing for the Balls.
- Family Waltz Night on March 27th, 2020. Families will be able to learn the waltz to prepare for the Balls.