**Halloween Parade and Annual Walk**

We’re looking forward to Monday, October 31st when we’ll celebrate both our annual A-SPAN “Walk to End Homelessness” and our Halloween parade. Students who are participating in the Halloween festivities should bring their costumes to school in a clearly labeled bag.  In light of the recent “scary clown” sightings throughout the United States, we are requesting that students **do not** dress as “scary clowns” or any character that depicts violence.  All fake weapons are **not** permitted during the Halloween festivities.

The parade will begin at 1:45 pm.  Please see details below:

1. The parade will be led by a police escort and the Wakefield High School Marching Band.
2. We will depart the playground, go through the teacher parking lot and the parade route is as follows:
	1. left onto South Quincy Street
	2. right onto 13th Street South
	3. right onto South Pollard Street
	4. right onto 16th Street South
	5. right onto South Quincy Street
3. Upon returning to the school, we will proceed to the track area in the rear school yard where we will introduce the representatives from A-SPAN, Scott Miller and Amanda Mark, who will share brief comments. Then Wakefield High School marching band will play several songs before our Randolph students return to their classrooms between 2:30-2:40pm.

Parents are invited to come and watch the festive parade where we’ll proudly display signs, banners, costumes, laughter and friendship!

***Students that did not turn in a signed permission slip, or whose parents opted out of the walk will remain in the library during the parade and join their classmates at the track when the parade is finished.***

**Speaking of Halloween Fun…**

Please keep in mind the following Halloween safety tips provided by the National Safety Council:

1. Travel in groups – Parents, older brothers and sisters, or a designated parent in a neighborhood should accompany all preschool and elementary school-aged trick-or-treaters. There’s safety in numbers, and a group of children and parents will make the outing even more festive. Carry a flashlight and insist children walk.
2. Stay in your area – Trick-or-treat only at the homes of people you and your friends know. Knock only on doors where a light, and perhaps Halloween decorations, indicate trick-or-treaters are welcome.
3. Prepare your costumes carefully – If possible use fire-resistant materials. Be sure costumes are large enough for a sweater or coat underneath, if needed – but not so large or long that children might trip. Choose light colors and use reflectorized tape as trimming so that motorist can see the masqueraders in the dark. Use Velcro fasteners for capes and neckwear to avoid ties around the neck. Shoes should be comfortable and appropriate for children; high heels, for example, can lead to falls and sprained ankles. Sharp objects should not be part of a costume. Never allow a child to carry a real weapon.
4. Avoid masks – They must have eye, ear, and nose openings large enough to ensure good vision, hearing, and ventilation. Wigs, beards and headgear also shouldn’t impair hearing and sight. If possible, skip masks and use face paint. Just be sure makeup or face paint is labeled “Made with U.S. Approved Color Additives,” “Laboratory Tested,” “Meets Federal Standards for Cosmetics,” or “Nontoxic”. Teach your child to follow the manufacturers’ instructions for applying and removing makeup.
5. Inspect the treats – Reinforce with your child that a look wrapper or broken seal may indicate that someone has tampered with or contaminated the treats. Wash fruits and slice them into bite-size pieces to make sure they contain nothing inedible.

**We’re Collecting Labels and Box Tops!**

We’re joining hands with the PTA for the “Labels for Education” program. Campbell Soup labels, Lipton’s Chicken products and “Box Tops” (Pillsbury, Betty Crocker, General Mills cereals and Giant) are being collected to earn educational materials for our classrooms. Please send your labels to school. We will have collection boxes in our Community Room. Help us “nibble and much” our way to new school materials.

**PTA – SAVE THE DATE**

The next PTA Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 1st from 7:00-8:00 pm. Join us to learn more about the Gift and Talented identification process.

**After School Enrichment (ASE) Programs**

We are very excited with the great response we had to our fall session of After School Enrichment (ASE) programs. Due to the significant number of permission slips received, we will use a lottery system to determine the club(s) your child may attend. Final arrangements are being made this week and confirmations will be sent home on Monday (10/31/16) regarding which program(s) your child has been registered for. Our goal is to make sure that each child is able to attend at least one program of his/her choice. ASE programs will begin the week of November 7th and end the week of December 12th. ASE programs will not meet on Early Release Wednesdays or school holidays.

**APS Go Parent Survey**

APS Go! is a community-wide, school-driven process that raises awareness and provides incentives, information and encouragement related to walking, biking, transit, car/vanpooling and school busing. APS Go! is a part of the school district’s efforts to proactively assess the needs of the community, respond to growth and demand, and develop forward-thinking transportation programs. The information collected as part of the survey will be used to update and measure progress on the APS Go! comprehensive, long-term Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Plan for APS. For more information on APS Go! please visit [www.apsva.us/aps-go](http://www.apsva.us/aps-go)<<http://www.apsva.us/aps-go>> The Parent Survey is intended for parents of APS students in grades Pre-K through 10. It includes 21 questions and should take less than 10 minutes to complete. The online survey is available at: <http://sgiz.mobi/s3/APS-Parent-Survey-2016>. Paper copies of the survey will be available in the main office.

**Fridays are**

**Spirit Days!**

Please remember to wear your Randolph t-shirts or blue and yellow clothing to show your school spirit!

**Randolph Elementary Sign-in-Procedures**

**What is the same?** It has been the practice at Randolph Elementary School that all non-Randolph Staff sign-in and get a visitor pass when coming into the building. This applies for other APS Staff, contractors, maintenance, parents, volunteers, afterschool program partners and all other visitors when the main office is open. Visitors should also sign-out in the main office when leaving the building.

**What has changed?** In the past all parents were to sign- in/out with a pen in a notebook kept in the office and complete a yellow visitor sticker to be worn while at school or on the school grounds. Although the expectation for parents has always been to sign in, the process for doing this is changing. Randolph is one of 3 Arlington Schools to have received the new electronic sign-in system. We are just beginning to enter names into this new system. Your patience is greatly appreciated as we work together to make this transition as smooth as possible. It is the expectation that **all** parents/visitors register in the computer with a photo ID (driver’s license, passport, military id or other state or government issued photo ID). Once in the system you will not need your ID to check in for subsequent visits, but if you have it the process will be quicker. Parents who **do not** have state or government issued will be able to continue to check in by hand until school-issued parent ID’s are provided.

**What is coming?** APS is working with the vendor of the system to allow APS to issue parent ID’s to make the sign-in process easier for all. We will keep parents posted when we have this capability. In the meantime, again, parents without ID will be able to enter the school using handwritten stickers and the sign-in book as before. We continue to invite all parents to join us at Randolph and look forward to seeing you at school.

**Upcoming Events:**

**October 28**: Pre-K students to Burke Pumpkin Patch, 9:30am – 1:30pm

**October 28:** Grade 3 field trip to Botanic Garden, 9:45-11:45am

**October 28**: Grade 5 field trip to Planetarium, 10:30am – 12:00pm (Eskenas/Freeland)

**October 28**: Grade 2 field trip to Planetarium, 12:30-2:00pm (LeVault/Ryan)

**October 28**: Halloween Sock Hop, 6:00-8:00pm, Gym

**October 31**: Grade 4 field trip to Planetarium, 9:15-10:45am (Reichenbaugh)

**October 31**: Halloween and Walk to End Homelessness Neighborhood Walk, 2:00pm

**November 1**: PTA Meeting, 7:00pm, Library

**November 3:** Battle of the Books, 6:30-8:00pm, Cafeteria

**November 6**: Daylight Savings Time (**TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK 1 HOUR**)

**November 7**: Grades 3 & 4 Technology Night, 6:00-7:30pm, Cafeteria

**November 7**: Monday Morning Mom’s Club, 8:30-9:30am, Library

**November 7**: After School Enrichment Programs begin (Nov. 7-Dec. 15)

**November 8**: ELECTION DAY (**No School for Students** - Teacher Planning Day)

**November 9:** Grades 2 & 5 Technology Night, 6:00-7:30pm, Cafeteria

**November 11:** Veterans Day Holiday (**No School for Students and Staff**)

**November 14:** Monday Morning Mom’s Club, 8:30-9:30am, Library

**November 15:** Grades 4 & 5Math on the Job, 6:30-8:00pm

**November 16:** Grade 2 field trip to Brookdale Arlington, 10:15-11:45am

**November 16**: Randolph Runners Race, 3:15, Track

**November 18**: Grade 2 Musical, 2:00pm, Gym

**November 21**: Monday Morning Mom’s Club, 8:30-9:30am, Library

**November 23**: Thanksgiving Break (**Holiday -** **No School for Students and Staff**)

**November 24**: Thanksgiving Break (**Holiday -No School for Students and Staff**)

**November 25**: Thanksgiving Break (**Holiday -No School for Students and Staff**)

**November 28**: Monday Morning Mom’s Club, 8:30-9:30am, Library

**November 28:** Grade 4 field trip to Kennedy Center, 9:30am – 12:00pm

**November 29**: Picture Day Make-Ups, Gym

**November 30**: Principal’s Coffee, 8:15-9:15am, Library