

ALDRIN ADVISORY



“A FAMILY AFFAIR: HOME AND SCHOOL REMAINING FOCUSED ON LEARNING... CHILD-BY-CHILD”

January 7, 2011

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Volume 8 Number 5

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

MRS. GIST'S MESSAGE	1
DR. ALDRIN VISITS ALDRIN	2
ADVANCED ACADEMIC PROGRAM REFERRALS!	2
SOL CALENDAR	2
DID YOU KNOW?	3
PLEASE REMEMBER	3
INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURES	4

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ Martin Luther King Jr., Day (No School) - January 17
- ◆ Second Quarter Ends—January 28
- ◆ Student Holidays—January 31 & February 1
- ◆ Progress Reports Sent Home—February 10
- ◆ President's Day (No School) - February 21

 Please see back page for
Inclement Weather Procedures


Happy New Year to the Aldrin Family



A healthy and joyous New Year to all Aldrin students, parents, and staff!! It's hard to believe that the first semester will end on January 28th. Thank you for your part in making our first semester so successful. Following teacher workdays (and no school for your children on January 31 and February 1) our third academic quarter will begin. I am positive that the next few months of the teaching and learning process will be productive, meaningful, and successful for all Aldrin teachers and your children.

Your child will receive the second quarter Progress Report on Thursday, February 10. Please use this report to gauge effort and achievement thus far this year. Compliment your child where it is warranted and consult your child's teacher if questions need answering.

Dr. Aldrin Pays Surprise Visit and Schedules Another

On December 21st, Buzz Aldrin was in the Washington area and paid us a surprise visit. It was a casual affair, with Buzz visiting as many classrooms as he could and meeting as many children as time would allow. Children and staff were delighted to see him. He had such a delightful time with us

Working together, we will make a difference for your child.

Several parents and students have asked me when we are going to start the Principal's Recognition Program this year. Traditionally, it has returned in January and I am awaiting Mr. Marinoff's return to begin the program for this year. Mr. Marinoff and I are delighted to be able to recognize Aldrin children for their accomplishments and I'm sure that this year, as in past years, we will delight in celebrating our children for their achievement and/or marked improvement in language arts, mathematics, science/technology, character development, and cafeteria manners as well as art education, music education, physical education, and as patrols.

Watch for more updated information as this program gets underway.

that he asked to celebrate his 81st birthday right here at "his school." As a result, we are planning a birthday celebration assembly on January 20th for him. All Aldrin children will be invited to attend. As you can imagine, we will have limited seating and need to make this a student-only assembly.

ENTRIES FOR THE
2010 – 2011 YEARBOOK
COVER DESIGN ARE DUE
FRIDAY, JANUARY 14

YOUR CHILD'S ENTRY COULD
BE ON THE 2010-2011
ALDRIN YEARBOOK COVER SO
PLEASE ENCOURAGE HIM/HER
TO CONSIDER USING THEIR ART
TALENTS TO DESIGN THE YEAR-
BOOK COVER.

YOUR CHILD WILL RECEIVE A
COMPLIMENTARY YEARBOOK IF
HIS/HER DESIGN IS SELECTED.

THE THEME IS

"HAND IN HAND WE ALL
LEARN".

HAVE YOUR CHILD SEE MRS.
HARRIS FOR DETAILS OR VISIT
HER 24-7 BLACKBOARD SITE

[HTTP://](http://www.fcps.edu/DIS/gt)

[FCPS.BLACKBOARD.COM/](http://www.fcps.edu/DIS/gt)

[WEBAPPS/PORTAL/](http://www.fcps.edu/DIS/gt)

[FRAMESET.JSP](http://www.fcps.edu/DIS/gt) AND LINK TO

HER ALDRIN ART STUDIO

COURSE.

REFERRALS for FULL-TIME ADVANCED ACADEMIC PROGRAM (AAP) PLACEMENT—LEVEL IV (Grades 2–7)



Parents/guardians of students not in the second grade screening pool may initiate the full-time AAP (Level IV) screening process by completing and submitting an *AAP Level IV Referral Form* to the local school principal no later than February 4, 2011. No late referrals will be accepted. Second grad-

ers **not** in the pool and all third through seventh graders are screened only by referral. Forms are available on the AAP website <http://www.fcps.edu/DIS/gt> and in the *Parent Information Packet* available at the local school. For additional information contact: Mrs. Lewis, Advanced Academic Resource Teacher at Christine.Lewis@fcps.edu or 703-904-3800.

STANDARDS OF LEARNING CALENDAR (SOL's)

Here is the SOL calendar for this school year. Please check to see when the SOL's are scheduled for your child's grade. As usual, please make every effort to not schedule any appointments during the

testing window. Official parent letters will go home prior to testing (note that the fifth grade writing tests are scheduled for the first week in March) but I hope that publishing the schedule now will help with your planning.

Test	Grade	Date	Testing Times*	Make-Up Dates
Writing Test (Multiple choice)	5	3/8*	9:30 - 11:30	3/9*
Short Paper Test	5	3/10*	9:30 - 11:30	TBD
<u>Week 1</u>				
Reading	5	5/17	9:30-11:30	5/18-5/27
Reading	3	5/17	9:30-11:30	5/18-5/27
Math	3	5/18	9:30-11:30	5/19-5/27
Reading	4	5/18	9:30-11:30	5/19-5/27
Social Studies	4	5/19	9:30-11:30	5/20-5/27
Math	5	5/19	9:30-11:30	5/20-5/27
Reading	6	5/20	9:30-11:30	5/23-5/27
<u>Week 2</u>				
Math	4	5/24	9:30-11:30	5/25-5/27
Math	6	5/24	9:30-11:30	5/25-5/27
Science	5	5/25	9:30-11:30	5/26-5/27
Social Studies	3	5/25	9:30-11:30	5/26-5/27
Science	3	5/26	9:30-11:30	5/27
Social Studies	6	5/26	9:30-11:30	5/27

*Note: 5th Grade SOL Writing Dates are mandated by the Virginia Department of Education. All fifth graders across Virginia will take the writing test on the same date(s).



Congratulations

to

**Valerie
Aber**

Fairfax County
Public Schools
December
News Liaison
of the Month



DID YOU KNOW?

All parents received a copy of the 2009 *Student Responsibility and Rights Grades K-12* handbook (Regulation 2601.23P) at the start of the school year or when their child entered Aldrin ES for the first time, if arriving after the start of school. The following are excerpts from page 9 of that handbook:

School attendance is required by law as outlined in the Code of Virginia.

In FCPS, absences and tardies are addressed by individual interventions with progressive consequences for students.

Unexcused absences and tardies result when a child is absent from or late to school and the parent or guardian does not have prior knowledge, consent and/or legitimate reason.

Justifiable absences (and tardies) include those due to illness of the student, death in the family, medical or dental appointment, personal religious obligations, or other reasons acceptable to the principal (**Note** - at Aldrin, family vacations are consistently viewed as unexcused absences).

Whenever any student accumulates a total of five unexcused days of absence in a school year, the school will refer the student to the attendance officer, and a plan to resolve the non attendance will be developed (**Note**—at Aldrin letters are sent home for unexcused absences or tardies in excess of five. If attendance does not improve, a conference is held between the parents, principal, and the school social worker. This occurs prior to making a referral to the attendance officer.)

If further unexcused absences occur in the school year, the attendance officer will file a complaint with the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court as described in Section 22.1 of the Code of Virginia.

Specific details concerning *Responsibility for Attendance* are provided in FCPS Regulation 2234. The link is:

<http://commweb.fcps.edu/schoolboardapps/numericindex.cfm>

PLEASE REMEMBER

YOUR CHILD WILL NOT BE MARKED TARDY IF ARRIVING BY SCHOOL BUS. If your child is assigned to ride a school bus, please utilize that school bus whenever possible. This will help to reduce the number of cars in the Kiss and Ride line and will ensure that your child does not receive an unexcused tardy.

STUDENTS CAN BE DISMISSED FROM CARS BEGINNING AT 8:55 AM. Student Patrols and one staff member will be available to open your car door and ensure that your child enters the school safely. Please have said all good-byes and have your child's backpack in a convenient spot to make their exit from your car as efficient as possible.

STUDENTS MUST BE IN THEIR CLASSROOMS NO LATER THAN 9:15 AM EACH SCHOOL DAY. This will require each child to enter the building no later than 9:12 AM.

STUDENT PATROLS MUST LEAVE THEIR KISS AND RIDE POSTS BY 9:10 so only one staff member will remain causing the Kiss and Ride line to move more slowly. If you must use Kiss and Ride, please allow yourself plenty of time to get through the line so your child will be on time to school. This is especially important during times of inclement weather.

STUDENTS ARRIVING AFTER 9:15 AM WILL RECEIVE AN UNEXCUSED TARDY. If your child will be exiting your car after 9:15 AM, you should park your car and accompany your child to the office to explain why he/she is late to school and so that your child can receive a tardy pass.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR EFFORTS TO HAVE YOUR CHILD IN THEIR CLASSROOM NO LATER THAN 9:15 AM.



HEALTHY CORNER

WHAT TO DO ABOUT THE FLU

WASH YOUR HANDS

Wash your hands often, scrubbing your hands together for 20 seconds with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hands cleaners are also effective.

COVER YOUR COUGH

Cover your mouth when coughing or sneezing, or cough into your upper sleeve, not into your hands.

STAY HOME IF YOU'RE SICK

The Fairfax County Health Department (FCHD) recommends that students or staff with influenza-like symptoms (fever with a cough or sore throat) stay at home and out of school until at least **24 hours** after they are free of fever, or signs of a fever without the use of fever-reducing medicines.

If students have flu-like symptoms, they should not participate in any school activities, in school-aged child care (SACC) or be out in the community except to seek medical care.

If a child appears to have an influenza-like illness when he or she arrives at school, a parent or guardian will be notified and asked to pick up the child.

Parents should ensure that their emergency information is up to date and that they pick up their children when notified.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION--PLEASE KEEP FOR REFERENCE! Aldrin Elementary 2010-2011 Inclement Weather Procedures

Please keep this chart in a convenient location in the event school hours are adjusted due to inclement weather or other emergency situations.

If Schools . . .	Monday	Tuesday - Friday
<p>Close for the Day</p> <p>A public announcement will be made by 5:30 a.m. on local radio and television stations and www.fcps.edu.</p>	<p>All day, after-school, and evening classes <u>and activities</u> (including PTA and community/recreation use) are cancelled. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extracurricular activities • Interscholastic contests • Team Practices • Field Trips • Adult/Community education classes • School-Age Child Care (SACC) centers are closed. 	<p>All day, after-school, and evening classes <u>and activities</u> (including PTA and community use) are cancelled. This includes:</p> <p>Extracurricular activities Interscholastic contests Team Practices Field Trips Adult/Community education classes</p> <p>School-Age Child Care (SACC) centers are closed.</p>
<p>Open Two Hours Late</p> <p>A public announcement will be made by 5:30 a.m. on local radio and television stations and www.fcps.edu.</p>	<p>School Office opens on time for staff.</p> <p>School begins at 11:15 a.m. and will <u>NOT observe Monday early-closing schedule</u>. School closes at 3:55 p.m.</p> <p>Breakfast program and field trips are cancelled.</p> <p>SACC will open by 8:00 a.m., when possible.**</p> <p>Morning Preschool (special education) classes are cancelled.</p> <p>Full day Preschool Autism (PAC) classes start two hours later than the regular schedule.</p> <p>Afternoon Preschool (special education) starts on the regular Tuesday-through-Friday schedule.</p>	<p>School Office opens on time for staff.</p> <p>School begins at 11:15 a.m.</p> <p>Breakfast program and field trips are cancelled.</p> <p>Normal closing time at 3:55 p.m.</p> <p>SACC will open by 8:00 a.m., when possible.**</p> <p>Morning preschool (special education) classes are cancelled.</p> <p>Full-day Preschool Autism (PAC) classes start two hours later than the regular schedule.</p> <p>Afternoon Preschool (special education) starts on the regular Tuesday-through-Friday schedule.</p>
<p>Close Two Hours Early</p> <p>A public announcement will be made by 10:30 a.m. on local radio and television stations and www.fcps.edu.</p>	<p>Decision and Announcement by 10:30 AM.</p> <p>School closes at 1:55 p.m.</p> <p>SACC will stay open until the children are picked up.</p> <p>After-school and evening classes and activities cancelled.</p> <p>Morning Preschool (special education) classes are dismissed at approximately 11:00 a.m.</p> <p>Full-day Preschool Autism (PAC) classes are dismissed @11:15 am.</p> <p>Afternoon Preschool (special education) classes are cancelled.</p>	<p>Decision and Announcement by 10:30 AM.</p> <p>School closes at 1:55 p.m.</p> <p>SACC will stay open until the children are picked up.</p> <p>After-school and evening classes and activities cancelled.</p> <p>Morning Preschool (special education) classes are dismissed at approximately 11:00 a.m.</p> <p>Full-day Preschool Autism (PAC) classes are dismissed @1:45 PM.</p> <p>Afternoon Preschool (special education) classes are cancelled.</p>

Parents are urged to make arrangements **NOW** for the care of their children when schedule changes are made. Children should know where to go if a parent will not be home.

**Every effort is made for SACC to open before 8:00 a.m. BEFORE you bring your child, please call the SACC Center (703-904-3860) to make sure it is open.

In every case of a schedule change, tune in to cable Channel 21 (Cox Communications, Verizon, and Reston Comcast Cable customers only), or check www.fcps.edu.