

Upcoming Events

There are lots of reasons to celebrate in March. It is Music In Our Schools Month, Women's History Month, and National Reading Month.

March 21 End of 3rd Quarter

March 22 Teacher Workday—No School for students

March 25-29 Spring Break—No School for students

April 1 Professional Learning Day— No School for students

April 2 4th Quarter Starts

April 15 Continuous School Improvement (CSI) Day—No School for Students

April 17 Purple Up Day

April 22-26 DoDEA CAS Summative Assessments 3rd Grade

April 29-May 3 DoDEA CAS Summative Assessments 4th & 5th Grades

May 8

Accelerated Withdrawal Due to Permanent Change of Station (PCS) Orders





The Round-Up

Volume 44 Issue 29

18 March 2024

Dear School Community,

This weekend as we took walks and enjoyed the spring showers, it was rejuvenating to see that spring has sprung. Trees are budding, blossoms blooming, and birds busily flying here and there. We have all been working hard and we're all ready for the pause, Spring Break is almost here. Whether you are traveling or staying close to home, we hope that you will enjoy some time to recharge your batteries, be safe, and spend time with loved ones. Don't forget that Daylight Savings Time starts in Europe on the last Sunday in March, so over the break you'll need to spring forward an hour.

It amazes us to think that this week marks the end of the 3rd quarter. How has so much of the school year already passed? Teachers will be working hard on Friday to input grades and report cards in Aspen. Report cards will then be reviewed and finalized after spring break so that they can be published to parents digitally. We will let you know the exact publication date as soon as it is finalized.

Final After School Clubs—Interest Form

Thank you to our staff for providing students with so many rich after school club opportunities this year! We are releasing our last round of after school clubs today. The link to the interest form is <u>https://freeonlinesurveys.com/s/c8X9B510</u> and it will be open until 15:00 on Tuesday, March 19th. This gives sponsors a chance to organize rosters and reach out to families to confirm participation.

Directorate of Emergency Services (DES) Parade

USAG Stuttgart DES and USO will conduct a spring demonstration of emergency vehicles March 21st which will include a bunny mascot. The parade is slated for 10:30-12noon on Patch Barracks. While this is our lunch timeframe, we are working with our PTA to maximize student participation to the best of our ability. If you do not wish for your child to participate, please reach out to your child's homeroom teacher.

PCSing soon?

Patch ES Chain of Communication

From time to time, parents and other community members may have questions or concerns about our educational programs and services. To ensure continuous open lines of communication, we encourage you to seek resolution at the lowest possible level. Parents & Community have access to all school employees.

Teachers, School Nurse, Counselors, Specialists, and Support Staff Tele: +49 (0)631-7106-7000 DSN: (314) : 483-7000

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Director DoDEA

4800 Mark Center Dr. Alexandria, VA 22350 Telephone: (571) 372-0590 HHHHHHHHHHHHHHH Do you know how to reach our School Advisory Committee (SAC)? SACPatchES@gmail.com As we approach the end of SY 2023-24 and PCS season, please keep the following in mind:

If you are PCSing prior to the Accelerated Withdrawal window, which opens on May 8th, you will need to submit a withdrawal request form to the registrar to receive your student's records to carry to your next location. Without formal withdrawal requests, students remain actively enrolled in the system.

If you are PCSing during the Accelerated withdrawal window, please complete the Accelerated Withdrawal request form and submit a copy of your orders at least 30 days prior to your departure. This needs to be approved by the principal. Your student may have to complete additional assignments to receive full credit for the quarter.

If you are tuition-paying, please ensure that you have paid and submit a copy of payment confirmation to the registrar. If you are unsure of your balance, please reach out the registrar or tuition department (contact information on your invoice) for details.

If you have questions, please reach out to our registrar Ms. George at <u>lakisha.george@dodea.edu</u>.

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The Patch Pulse by Nurse Monica

With a variety of illnesses in the community **handwashing** is the best practice to stay healthy. Even despite handwashing people still get sick and have fevers. Knowing how to measure body temperature and treating fevers is equally important. Measuring temperature by touch, called tactile temperature, is not recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics. Treating fevers with age and size appropriate medications, fluids and rest is important too. For example, never treat a child's temperature with Aspirin.

Here are some resources for fevers:

https://www.uptodate.com/contents/fever-in-children-beyond-the-basics https://www.seattlechildrens.org/conditions/a-z/fever-myths-versus-facts/ https://www.aap.org/en/search/?k=fever

What can you do if your student is sick:

Keep your student home and report the absence to the school. Ideally, if you know the cause of the illness i.e.. Strept, pink eye...etc. it helps the school identify any trends. Do you want to know the criteria for sending students home from school or the parental notification requirements? That information is available on the Patch Elementary School website: https://www.dodea.edu/education/student-services/health-services

Just as hand washing is important to prevent infections, immunizations are important in preventing illnesses. Measles is a vaccine-preventable illness that is making a resurgence because of people forgoing immunizations either because of vaccine hesitation or missed doses because of COVID. The World Health Organization reported there was a 30-fold increase in measles in 2023 in Europe. For example, Austria, United Kingdom, Belgium, and Romania have seen rises in cases. Therefore, before travelling within Europe students should be vaccinated. For additional information you can consult the following links: https://www.who.int/europe/news/item/14-12-2023-a-30-fold-rise-of-measles-cases-in-2023-in-the-who-european-region-warrants-urgent-action

The Patch ES PTA sponsored a fun and exciting fundraiser last week, Cash Wars. Each day Mario and Luigi visited the neighborhoods to collect donations. Daily totals were posted in the Grand Hallway and it was a race to the finish! Thanks to the generosity of PES families, the school goal was exceeded, with a total collection of \$5,676. Wow! In the end, 5th grade raised the most money with \$1380.53, surpassing 3rd grade

PTA who put in a ton of hard work to make this possible!





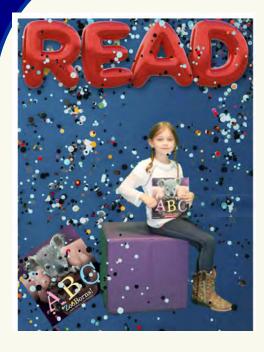


4th and 5th graders have been working hard to hit the learning targets as the 3rd quarter winds down!



This weekend, Ryan N. from 4th grade represented Patch ES at the European PTSA's Regional Spelling Bee in Kaiserslautern, Germany. This event drew students from across Europe in both elementary and middle school to compete for a chance to move to the Scripps National Spelling Bee in May. Ryan demonstrated grit and perseverance, spelling his heart out through the fifth round of competition. Way to go Ryan!





What a fun way to celebrate Read Across America! Thanks to Mr. Andrasko and Mr. Humphreys for working with students to make these READ posters. Students who created bookmarks were entered into a random drawing for the chance to have a green screen experience. The result was these posters which highlight a favorite book from home or the school's collection which students could share with their classmates.

