

2017

REMINDERS

May 31st -- Smart Start Awards
9:15 am

May 31st -- Kindergarten & First Grade
9:45 am

May 31st -- Second through Fourth
11:00 am

June 1st -- Fifth Grade Completion Ceremony
10:15 am



Amelon Elementary School
Ms. Duke
Principal
eduke@amherst.k12.va.us
434-528-6498 (office)
434-929-1547 (fax)

Hello Amelon Families, we are at the end of another Amelon Elementary School year. In ways, we hate to see the year end, but realistically, we know, all good things do come to an end. The Amelon Family feels great about the year we had and are already in the planning stages for 2017-2018. Below are two dates of importance:

- **Open House/Registration: Thursday, August 10, 2017, 1:00 – 7:30 pm**
- **First day of school: Monday, August 14, 2017**

A complete ACPS 2017-2018 calendar can be found on the last page of this newsletter and on the division website:

http://www.amherst.k12.va.us/documents/calendars/17-18_School_Calendar.pdf

We maintained a focus of protecting our instructional time this year and with our unofficial, incomplete, preliminary configurations, improvement was made in our SOL ratings. More information will be given upon the Virginia Department of Education's release of our total school's assessment official final scores.

Amelon's school website will be updated over the summer, so please continue to check it out. You can bookmark our site: <http://amelon.amherst.k12.va.us/> .

During the summer, please send me e-mails with any comments, suggestions, or questions.

Ms. Duke
eduke@amherst.k12.va.us

Special Project: Amelon Playground Revitalization! Gamma Iota Omega Chapter of **Alpha Kappa Alpha** Sorority, Incorporated in partnership with Madison Heights Lowes and 84 Lumber will provide noted additions to our playground.



- picnic tables
- PK-1 Grade Jungle Gym
- industrial trash cans
- benches
- shade tree



AMELON BULLDOGS ARE...

Prepared, **A**ct Responsible, **W**ork hard, and **S**how Respect!

Mrs. C. Copp
Amelon Assistant Principal



Summer Break is here! It is a well- deserved break for our students and gives them an opportunity to do many different things. We wish everyone a happy and safe summer filled with memorable experiences.

We would like to recommend that every child continues to read and write during the summer months. This helps children continue to grow with reading skills and is a healthy habit to instill a love of reading. Reading aloud to your child is so beneficial no matter what their age. Try reading a novel together, reading a chapter each day, or select several books from the same author. Children enjoy learning about the characters or writing style of different authors.



We have a wonderful resource in Amherst County, The Public Library.

There are several activities planned throughout the summer and they are all free!

The Summer Reading Program kick off is June 12 from 10:00-12:00 featuring a petting zoo at the Madison Heights Branch. Fun activities continue throughout the summer such as:

- Story Time on Tuesdays 10:30-11:30
- Lego Day
- Tie-Die Everything
- Let's Go Fly a Kite
- Lizard Larson

Please contact the Madison Heights Library for more information at 846-8171 or visit their website.



Cheers to another wonderful year at Amelon Elementary!

We wish our fifth graders the best as they move on to middle school and look forward to seeing our returning students in August.

Mrs. L. Walker
Amelon School Counselor



My Dear Amelon Family,

It is with mixed emotions that I write this letter to you. I have feelings of excitement, sadness, and even a little fear, because I will not be returning as Amelon's School Counselor next year. My husband and I have decided to move to Colorado. We are looking to go somewhere different than anywhere either of us has ever lived before, and Colorado seems like a good place to have that adventure.

Amelon is my first school as a School Counselor and it will always hold a special place in my heart. I have so enjoyed my time here and can hardly believe it's been four years! Watching our students grow and learn has been an amazing experience. I have had the privilege to get to know many of our older students well and see them progress not only academically, but socially, and to see the first day jitters of our younger students change to excitement as the year moves forward.

Many of my favorite memories are simple ones - the first grader who said, "Mrs. Walker, I can read that" and did instead of waiting for me to read from the board during a guidance lesson, the fourth grader who stopped me in the hall to say that his idea from our brainstorming session helped solve his problem, the child who wrote me a note saying she made up with a friend, and all the smiles and waves while walking through the halls. Other memories are of the laughter and, sometimes, shouts of excitement during special events at Amelon. I don't think I will ever forget the sheer enjoyment on the faces of the students who tried (and were sometimes successful) dunking me in the dunking booth at Field Day during my first year. Nor will I forget the reaction we got when Ms. Duke narrated our skit during an SOL Pep Rally while Mrs. Copp sat behind me acting as my arms while I "prepared" for a day of school - she brushed my hair, fed me cereal, and to the students' delight, brushed my teeth. It has brought me joy to watch our students proudly show off their work, perform in the Talent Shows and chorus performances, play sports, and get involved in so many other things at Amelon because I saw the joy it brought to them.

I thank you for welcoming me into Amelon four years ago and entrusting me with your children. I wish you well, and now, instead of saying goodbye, I leave you with this:

THERE ARE NO GOODBYES
FOR US. WHEREVER YOU
ARE, YOU WILL ALWAYS
BE IN MY HEART

MAHATMA GANDHI

With love,

Leslie Walker

AMHERST COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



2017-2018 SCHOOL CALENDAR

ACPS annual calendar begins July 1, 2017 and will end June 30, 2018.

JULY 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	H	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	NH					

AUGUST 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		NH	NH	NH	NH	5
6	T	DPD	T	OH	T	12
13	FD	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

SEPTEMBER 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	H	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	I	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

OCTOBER 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	GP	14
15	ST	17	18	19	R	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

NOVEMBER 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	DPD	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	I	21	H	H	H	25
26	27	28	29	30		

DECEMBER 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	H	H	23
24	H	H	H	H	H	30
31						

JANUARY 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	H	H	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	GP	TI	13
14	H	16	17	R	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

FEBRUARY 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	I	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	TI	24
25	26	27	28			

MARCH 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	GP	ST	17
18	19	20	21	R	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

APRIL 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	H	H	H	H	H	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	I	K	K	TI	28
29	30					

MAY 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	GP/R	26
27	H	T	DPD	31		

JUNE 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Calendar Key:	
FD	First Day of School
H	Holiday
NH	Staff Development - New Hires
ST	Site Based Staff Develop. Activities/Teacher Planning Day + Schools Closed for Students
T	Teacher Planning Day + Schools Closed for Students
TI	Teacher Planning Day/Schools Closed for Students/Inclement Weather Make-up Days + Students Attend
DPD	Division-wide Staff Development/Teacher Planning Day + Schools Closed for Students
GP	End of 9 Week Grading Period
OH	Open House - 1 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.
I	Interim Report Distribution
R	Report Card Distribution
K	Kindergarten Registration Day

Monthly Breakdown of Days:		
	Teaching Days	Staff Dev/TCI
Aug.	14	5
Sep.	20	0
Oct.	21	1
Nov.	18	1
Dec.	14	0
Jan.	19	1
Feb.	19	1
Mar.	21	1
Apr.	15	1
May	19	2
June	0	0
TTD		13
PD		7
Total	180	20

School Hours:	
Elementary	
Students	8:05 to 3:45
Teachers	8:30 to 4:00 (7 hours 30 minutes)
TA	8:45 to 3:45 (6 hours 30 minutes)
Middle & High	
Students	7:40 to 2:45
Teachers	7:30 to 3:00 (7 hours 30 minutes)
TA	7:40 to 2:40 (6 hours 30 minutes)