

Monday's Letter  
May 11, 2009

# Ark Community Charter School

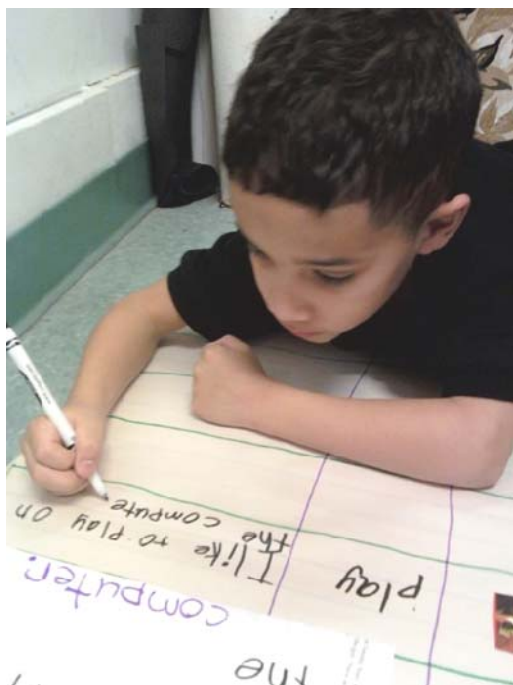
Dear Members of the ACCS Community,

Last week we received the results of the NYS English Language Arts (ELA) test. In case you haven't heard, **we outperformed the Troy School District by 13.6 points.** Our overall school score for grades 3-8 was 77.6% compared to Troy's 64.0%. We are offering your beautiful children a rigorous academic program that prepares them for high school, college and life beyond school.

This week I am meeting with parents who are concerned about options for middle school and the opening of a new charter school in Troy. **Please join me on Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. in the school dining room to discuss your concerns and to hear about future plans that we are exploring.** Your children love being here in this amazing school environment and we want to do everything possible to keep them here with us while helping you identify options to Doyle Middle School. The new charter school in Troy is not your only option for middle school.

Congratulations to all of our peacemakers! On Friday, May 15 at 11:30 we will honor them at a special lunch. Our peacemakers for April are: **Chardanay Grier (G5), Deegan James (G4), Devante Harris (3A), Ducilia Harris (K2), Elijah Vautrin (G6), Nisha Bradley (K1), Sameko Walker (1A), Shalil Holmes (G5), Sherwin Maxwell (2B) and Shy'Leah Riggsbee(1B).**

*Mary Theresa*



## Celebrating the English as a Second Language Class

Many of our students come to the Ark speaking a language other than English. This class finds the students who need specialized help to thrive in an English school environment. Lessons focus on phonics, vocabulary development, and writing skills.



# Celebrating the AIS Teachers and Students

The Academic Intervention Services(AIS) teachers work with students to strengthen reading and math skills. In English Language Arts, students are taught strategies to become successful readers and writers. Students work on vocabulary, comprehension, phonics, phonemic awareness, and fluency. In math, students use hands-on manipulatives to help them better understand what they are learning.

**This year students have worked very hard in AIS. We are very proud of you all!**

## Becoming Successful Writers



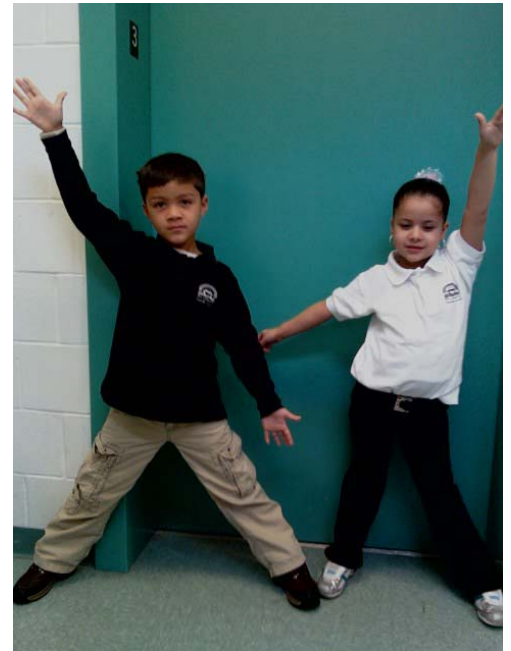
Sauda is a 5th grade student. In this photo she is working on a Venn Diagram comparing and contrasting music of the past and present.



As you can see this 2nd grade student, Tiarra, is working hard. She is doing a sorting activity. She is sorting words by the short **I** and long **I** sound. Through this activity learning occurs.

## Acting While Learning

Sometimes English language learners comprehend “action verbs” more when they are acted out. Therefore an acting lesson was created.



*Dancing/Bailando*



*Standing / Parado*

*Sitting/Sentado*

Here, students act out some “action words”. They were then asked to use the verbs in sentences.

## Playing While Learning

These two students are both named Elijah. Here they are playing a vocabulary word game where they must match each word to its correct meaning. An activity like this is a fun and an engaging way to learn vocabulary words.



## Math World in AIS



**Aleshia is a student who loves math! She is working very hard on a multiplication challenge! Keep up the hard work!**

## Math with Mrs. Narkiewicz

Mrs. Narkiewicz works with a group of 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders on math skills by playing a dice game with coins. The object of the game is to win with the least number of coins, but the highest value. In order to win, the students need to count by 5, 10, 15 and 50; convert coins into equivalent amounts, calculate change, as well as add, subtract, multiply and divide. It's a popular game that the students request often and a fun way to practice math skills!



## April Attendance Stars

### Kindergarten:

☆ Jaleel  
 ☆ Johnathan  
 ☆ Shamati  
 ☆ Na'ilah  
 ☆ Justis  
 ☆ Angel  
 ☆ Marc  
 ☆ Angelina  
 ☆ Jasmine  
 ☆ Jahayra  
 ☆ Jada

### First grade:

☆ Jahiem  
 ☆ Caleb  
 ☆ Joshua  
 ☆ Takeil  
 ☆ Genay

☆ Precious  
 ☆ Zalayah  
 ☆ Sierra  
 ☆ Zainab  
 ☆ Sameko  
 ☆ Arianna

### Second grade:

☆ Jazmin  
 ☆ Jatae  
 ☆ Chanze  
 ☆ Luis  
 ☆ Abbaas  
 ☆ Ambrayia  
 ☆ Shaylie  
 ☆ Terry  
 ☆ India  
 ☆ Willima  
 ☆ Sherwin  
 ☆ Moriah

### Third grade:

☆ Doranni  
 ☆ Yasmin  
 ☆ Jasier  
 ☆ Tiana  
 ☆ Davine  
 ☆ Aleshia  
 ☆ Frank  
 ☆ Brianna

### Fourth grade:

☆ Yairiliz  
 ☆ Deegan  
 ☆ Kevin  
 ☆ Malcolm  
 ☆ NyJawaun  
 ☆ Kyle  
 ☆ Charles

### Fifth grade:

☆ Erica

☆ Chardanay  
 ☆ Shierra  
 ☆ Randy  
 ☆ Veronica  
 ☆ Akwe  
 ☆ Sauda

### Sixth grade:

☆ Elijah  
 ☆ Kelsey  
 ☆ A'Niya  
 ☆ La'Aja  
 ☆ Dra'saad

# Let's Welcome Mark to ACCS!

Mark G. was registered on May 7th, by his mother for Ms. McLoughlin's 3rd grade class. He began today, Monday, May 11. He is the brother of Alexis in Ms. Kathie's 4<sup>th</sup> grade and Henry in Ms. Hope's Kindergarten. Let's remember what it feels like to be the new kid on the block and make him feel welcome when you see him in the halls.

## ACCS Calendar

### For LUNCH this week, Ms. Kim is serving:

Monday: Chicken Nuggets Mashed Potatoes  
Garden Salad Fruit Milk

Tuesday: Scrambled eggs Ham Toast  
Fruit Milk

Wednesday: Taco Salad Beans  
Fruit Milk

Thursday: Sloopy Joes Corn Fruit Milk

Friday: Baked Ziti Green Beans  
Fruit Milk

Wed, May 13

5:30pm Grades 3-6 Parent  
Meeting—  
Planning for  
Middle School

Fri, May 15

11:30am Special Lunch for  
April Peacemakers

Wed, May 20

FIELD TRIP: G1  
Howe Caverns

Fri, May 22

NO SCHOOL

Mon, May 25

NO SCHOOL

Fri, May 29

All School Morning  
Meeting