

THE PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2023

Dear Parents,

We are now halfway through the first quarter of the school year, and we have settled into our routines and procedures for learning this school year. There is a lot of teaching and learning going on! When we (Mr. Glaspie and Mrs. Bosnic) visit classrooms, we see children very engaged in their learning, through small group and whole group instruction. Our teachers also use a variety of equitable practices to ensure that each child has multiple opportunities to participate in class.

As we implement our curriculum this year in math, reading, and writing with Eureka Math and Benchmark Advance, respectively, we also are providing quality instruction through our Art, Music, and Physical Education Classes. Each student receives instruction in these three areas weekly. Students are also receiving instruction in emotional/social well-being, science, and social studies.

We have completed our MAP testing at grade levels Kindergarten through Fifth. The MAP testing is MCPS district testing that assesses students in reading and/or math, three times per year. Please see the various MAP tests below:

MAP-P: Assesses math performance in grades Kindergarten-Second

MAP-M: Assesses math performance in grades Three-Five

MAP-R: Assesses reading performance in grades Three-Five

We are currently completing our MCPS reading testing in Kindergarten through Second Grades, and the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment in Kindergarten, which are administered 1:1 or in small groups.

We are excited to welcome back our parent volunteers. Parent volunteers must complete one module, Recognizing Child Abuse and Neglect. We have sent out information on how to access these modules. Party planners, up to 4 parents, are permitted to help and attend our Fall Classroom Parties on November 3rd.

All family members attending the classroom parties must show a photo identification and sign in at the main office. They do not need to complete the volunteer module.

We are excited about our upcoming Gibbs PTA Fundraiser, the Boosterthon. This fundraiser will take place from October 18th to October 26th, culminating in a Fun Run on the Soccer Field (weather permitting).

Please note the important dates below.

Thank you so much for all of your support and have a great month!

Kimberly Bosnic, Principal

Andrew Glaspie, Asst. Principal

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Important October Dates!

October Important Dates:

3rd: PTA Meeting, 6pm in the Gibbs Media Center (childcare of school-age children is provided by Global Children's Center)

4th: Walk To School Day

5th: Interim Progress Reports are Available on Parent Vue Synergy

9th: No School for Students! Professional Day for Teachers

12th: Fire Drill, 9:45 a.m.

13th: Pink Out Day! (Wear pink)

16th: Bus Evacuation Drill, 9:45 a.m.

18th-26th PTA Boosterthon Fundraiser

24th: PTA Caffeine Bar for Staff

25th: No PEP/Prekindergarten Classes

26th: Boosterthon Fun Run; Flyer Distribution Day

27th: Grade 5 Field Trip to Strathmore Music Center, 11:20 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

30th-Nov. 3rd: Mental Health Awareness Week

31st: End of Marking Period 1

