



Galway Chronicle



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Our Vision: Galway Elementary School will empower students to be valued, productive members of a global society.

The Galway Pledge : We pledge to respect one another, to be trustworthy and fair. We will care about each other, and be good citizens. Above all else, I will take responsibility for my actions, in a quest to build a better you...and a better me.

Principally Speaking: “Parent Conferences”

We notice and appreciate all of the extra time and effort you are putting in at home to support virtual learning. From the first day of school, I saw and heard parents sitting next to their children trying to help them navigate the new online learning platform. We know how much of a strain this is causing, and we appreciate all that you are doing to make conducive learning spaces at home.

November 23 and November 24 are designated as parent-teacher conference days. Parents will hear about their child’s strengths and the teacher’s plan to address any needs. Teachers will also want to hear any concerns you have. Students in grades 3-5 lead their own conferences while sharing a portfolio of work.

Here are a few tips to help you get the most out of your conference:

Before the conference

- ◆ Ask your child how he/she feels about school.
- ◆ Ask your child if there is anything that he/she wants you to talk about.
- ◆ Tell your child that you and the teacher are meeting to help her/him
- ◆ Make a list of topics you want to talk about or questions such as:
 1. What does my child do well and what does he/she struggle with? Can you give me examples?
 2. Does my child participate in class?
 3. How is my child doing socially and emotionally? Are you concerned about them in any way?

During the conference

- ◆ Be on time (or early) for the meeting.
- ◆ Stay calm during the conference.
- ◆ Ask the most important questions first.
- ◆ If your child receives special services such as ESOL or special education support, ask about your child’s progress in those classes.
- ◆ Ask for explanations of anything you don’t understand.
- ◆ Ask your child’s teacher for ways that you can help your child at home.

After the conference

- ◆ Talk about the conference with your child.
- ◆ Talk about the positive points, and be direct about concerns.
- ◆ Tell your child about any plans you and the teacher created.
- ◆ Keep in touch with the teacher during the school year

“Connecting Home and School makes us a Great Community of Learners.”



UPCOMING EVENTS

November 18

Report Cards Distributed
Principal’s Tea & Talk 6:30-7:30 pm

November 19

Food Distribution 4:00 pm

November 23

Spirit Week-Sports Day
Early Dismissal-11:30
Parent Conferences

November 24

Spirit Week-Thankful Day
Early Dismissal-11:30
Parent Conferences

November 25

Spirit Week-Pajama Day
Native American Literacy Day
Early Dismissal-11:30

November 26-27

Thanksgiving Break-Schools Closed





Principal's Tea & Talk

November 18 6:30-7:30 pm

"Where there's tea, there's hope" Arthur Wing Pinero



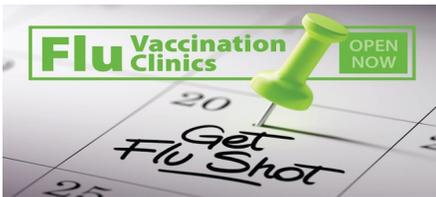
PARENT PREFERENCE SURVEY

The Parent Preference Survey launched Nov. 11 and the responses will play a critical part in our planning for the return of students. We understand this is a difficult decision to make given that details on what in-person learning will look like are yet to be determined. MCPS is asking parents to make a selection now because the number of students who want to return and other information shared through the survey will help inform the design of the in-person instructional model, the number of school buildings we can open and scheduling. This [one-page guide was developed](#) to help parents determine what works best for their specific family circumstances.



Families can expect to receive more information about their school-specific plan and instructional model in January.

FLU SHOTS



Montgomery County health officials are urging all residents to get a flu vaccination, with two upcoming County-operated clinics providing shots specifically for **children ages 6 months to 18**. Those clinics will be held **Saturday, Nov. 21**, at the **Dennis Avenue Health Center** in Silver Spring.



Get ready for **Galway Spirit Week** for **November 23, November 24** and **November 25**. Let's go Galway Lions!!!



Monday, November 23-Sports Day - share a picture, wear a shirt that shows your favorite sport, a jersey from your favorite team, or favorite team colors.



Tuesday, November 24-Thankful Day-show a picture or share something that you are thankful for!



Wednesday, November 25-Pajama Day-you can wear your favorite (school appropriate) pajamas.

Did You Forget?

Dear Parents:

You may have forgotten to sign up for ParentVUE!

ParentVue is the brand new, powerful, single location for all information about how your child is doing in school. ParentVUE is also a new tool we use to stay connected with you.

When you are logged into ParentVUE you can:

- See your child's schedule.
- Check your child's grades (and report card).
- Check your child's assignments.
- Send a message to your child's teacher.
- Update your contact information

Soon, you will even be able to see a report on Student Service Learning Hours (SSL)!

If you haven't yet activated your account, please be on the lookout for an email and/or a notification via U.S. mail because soon, we will send you a new activation letter. Once you've received your activation letter simply visit www.MCPSParentVUE.org to activate your account.

If you have already activated your ParentVUE account, you will not receive a notification because you are already enjoying the benefits of ParentVUE.

Parent Vue is built on the powerful Synergy platform; 'Teachers put their energy into Synergy, and so should you!'

If for some reason you do not receive your notification in the coming weeks, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Dorothea

Dorothea Fuller, Principal
Galway Elementary



Galway's Read-a-thon

November 9 – 22, 2020



Dear Galway Families!

The **Galway Lions PTA** is excited to announce that we will hold a Read-a-thon fundraiser in November.

Our Read-a-thon is a program that brings students together with family and friends to encourage reading and build literacy skills. The main focus is improving reading skills for each student. The Read-a-thon promises to be a fun, exciting journey for all participants as they begin a **personal reading adventure** that challenges each reader to complete **10 reading sessions** over our 2-week event.

Our Read-a-thon will start on Monday, November 9, 2020.

Within the 2nd Quarter Material Distribution package, your student received a green paper Read-a-thon bracelet as well as a **Read-a-thon information sheet** explaining how you can activate your student's personal Read-a-thon page.

During virtual learning, all parents are eager to support their child's education as best as they can, but also have limited time to do so. The Read-a-thon fundraiser is an easy way to **support your child's reading!** It offers them a safe, virtually-distant, fun activity to participate in with **small prizes to win at different levels while also raising money for our fantastic school!**

By simply **activating your reader's personal page** and using the promotional tools found there, friends and family anywhere in the world can show their support for your reader by making a **donation to our Read-a-thon**. Your involvement in the Read-a-thon will help your child develop a lasting love of reading and every donation will raise money for Galway ES!

We hope each one of you will activate your child's personal page within the next two weeks and are looking forward to getting Galway's 1st Read-a-thon started soon!

Your **Galway Lions PTA** Board 2020-2021