This week

11/7
Schools Closed for Professional Day

11/8
Schools closed for Election day

11/9

11/10
Bus Evacuation Drills

11/11
International Parent Coffee—9:45 a.m. in the Staff Lounge

Next Week

11/14

11/15

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Fall Portrait Retakes

11/18
International Parent Coffee—9:45 a.m. in the Staff Lounge

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Next Week

School will be closed on Monday, November 7th for a professional day and on Tuesday, November 8th for election day.

PTA Meeting

I have attached an edited copy of the slides that I shared at last Tuesday’s PTA meeting. Please see the link below. We discussed several important topics, including emergency procedures. We also discussed some recent disciplinary incidents at school.

I want to highlight what you can do at home to help our entire school community:

- Talk to your children about making safe choices at school:
  - Stay with the adults
  - Follow procedures
  - Report dangerous behavior
  - Express frustration in healthy ways
- Consider using scenarios to probe their thinking about how they would respond in a dangerous situation
- Encourage your children to trust their feelings—if they think something is wrong, tell somebody
- Reporting is not snitching—be an upstander not a bystander

[https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1L-rD3NFK-gyJert9mtAsnXqF4Ad-LY_RobWbJyhoDg/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1L-rD3NFK-gyJert9mtAsnXqF4Ad-LY_RobWbJyhoDg/edit?usp=sharing)

Kids Helping Kids Food Drive
Thank you for your generous donations. Flora Singer Sea Turtles donated 95 pounds of food and raised $237.55!

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**Singer Needs Group**

Our next social gathering will be on Sunday, November 20th at 2:00 pm at the playground at Wheaton Regional Park. For those who have not been there, this is a big playground with lots of different types of play equipment for kids with different abilities. Please wear Flora Singer spirit-wear or purple clothing so that we can find each other easily.

For the winter months, we will meet online with an invited speaker rather than having a social gathering.

Please contact Chris Reynolds at singerneeds@singerpta.org with questions or if you have a good idea for a speaker!

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**Remembrance and Reconciliation Month**

The Commission on Remembrance and Reconciliation was established by the Montgomery County Office of Human Rights in 2019 to promote a better understanding of its history and legacy of African Americans in the county.

In response, Montgomery County Public Schools will observe Remembrance and Reconciliation Month by supporting local Emancipation Day celebrations, providing schools with age-appropriate lessons on local historic African American communities, and virtual changemaker workshops for students and their families in English and Spanish on November 15 - 17, 2022. Register here to attend a changemaker workshop.

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**Report Cards**
Below are links to the 2022-2023 Report Card examples for each grade. Copies are available in English, Spanish, French, Portuguese and Vietnamese.

**Grade K-5 Progress report Card 2022-23 (English)**

Languages: español / 中文 / français / Português / 한국어 / tiếng Việt / እንወስተኛ

Your child’s report card will be in Synergy on 11/14 you will receive a hard copy in the days following from the school as well.

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**Tutoring in MCPS**

Free Tutoring Available to All MCPS Students

- **FEV Tutor**
  
  More information in English and Spanish
  
  Offers tutoring without cameras for students in grades 3-12 who learn best without a camera.
  
  To set up tutoring: mcps@fevtutor.com

- **Tutor Me Education**
  
  More information in English and Spanish
  
  To set up tutoring: MCPS@tutormeeducation.com or 240-618-2549

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**Bus Drills**

We will hold bus evacuation drills on Thursday, November 10th. We want to ensure that all students know how to safely evacuate the bus in the event of an emergency. All students will participate in bus evacuation drills, even if they don't ride a bus to school, as school buses are used for field trips.
**Kids Heart Challenge**

The Kids Heart Challenge is currently underway! We will be raising money for the American Heart Association and completing Finn’s Challenge. The Kids Heart Challenge will end on Flora M. Singer Day, which will be Tuesday, November 29th. Please see this form for the most recent information:

[Kids Heart Challenge Nov 4 Parent Email.pdf](#)

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**Holiday Help for Thanksgiving and December Holidays - Holiday Giving Project**

***Thanksgiving Registration is Closed***

***Late Registration Deadline for December Holidays - November 16th***

If you and your family are in need and would like to be referred for possible assistance for the holiday season, please complete the referral form to provide the required information. Resources are limited: please apply only if you and your family are truly in need. While a referral is not a guarantee of assistance, the Project helps as many families in need as donations allow.

The Holiday Giving Project has provided Thanksgiving and December holiday assistance to low-income households for over 30 years. A network of social workers, school counselors, and human service professionals refer families in need of assistance. Local non-profits, faith-based organizations, and public agencies serve Holiday Giving recipients, as donations are available.

**Click Below to Complete the Request Form**

[https://forms.gle/7Z89WpK7Uk24cWbX6](https://forms.gle/7Z89WpK7Uk24cWbX6)

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**Arrival and Dismissal**

Arrival begins at 9:00 am. Students may enter the building at that time and go to line up. Kindergarteners and 5th graders go to the gym. Everyone else goes to the lunch room. **Do not drop your child off prior to 9:00 a.m. They will be unsupervised.** Dismissal begins at 3:50. You may arrive prior to 3:50 to wait for dismissal. Kindergarteners are dismissed through the doors by the gym. Walkers, car riders and
bus riders are dismissed from the front doors. Parents must contact the main office before 3:00 p.m. with any dismissal changes for the day.

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Personal Body Safety Lessons

Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) is taking an active role in the prevention of child abuse and neglect through early prevention and intervention education. During the week of (date), our school counselor and classroom teachers will be presenting lessons on the topic of child abuse and neglect. The lessons are known as Personal Body Safety Lessons and their purpose is to help students to:

- Develop knowledge, decision making skills, and behaviors which promote safe living in the home, school, and community;
- Learn skills for self-protection and identifying child abuse and neglect;
- Learn skills for asking for help for self and others and practice reporting to a trusted adult; and
- Engage in positive and appropriate interactions with peers and adults.

If you have any questions or concerns about the topics that will be covered, please contact an administrator, your child’s classroom teacher, or a school counselor.

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Immunizations and Medications

It is very important that your child is up-to-date on his/her immunizations. If you are not sure, please check with your doctor. The state law mandates that children not be admitted to school without the proper immunizations. Medications must be brought to school in the original container by an adult along with MCPS Form 525-13 (Authorization to Administer Prescribed Medication) completed by your physician. Medication will not be administered without proper authorization. Please contact our Health Technician if you have any questions.
School Lunch Application and SchoolCash Online
Please see this document. It outlines how to apply for free and reduced-priced lunch & for SchoolCash Online. Breakfast is free for any Flora M. Singer Elementary student who would like it. However, lunch is no longer free for everyone. The full price is $2.55 per lunch.

PTA Update

NOW OPEN: Spiritwear Store
Do you need some Singer Swag in your wardrobe? Looking for a holiday gift for your Flora Singer Sea Turtle? Visit the online Singer Spiritwear Store to purchase t-shirts, shorts, hats and other items. The store closes Sunday November 13th and purchases will arrive by mid-December. Every purchase raises funds for the PTA which are used to support the students and staff at Flora Singer.

Equity & Inclusion Books
Help us support the school’s initiative to add equity, inclusion, and representation-themed books to each classroom library. Please consider contributing at any grade level where there remains a need. Books can be sent in backpack mail to Mr. Payne's attention.

Kindergarten  
First Grade  
Second Grade  
Third Grade  
Fourth Grade  
Fifth Grade

Holiday Meals
Grocery gift cards are being collected for distribution to our families who could use extra holiday support. We suggest gift cards in denominations of $25 each. And we find Giant, Aldi and Target the most utilized grocery access points. Cards can be sent to the counselors via backpack mail or dropped off at any of the winter coat collection points.