



**Flora M. Singer
Elementary School**

S e a T u r t l e s

The Sea Turtle Times

Flora M. Singer Elementary School
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Aaron McKinley, Assistant Principal Aaron_A_Mckinley@mcpdmd.org

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
This week	10/16	10/17	10/18 No PreK Class	10/19
Next Week	10/23 Book Fair 4th Grade Field Trip	10/24 Book Fair 5th Grade Field Trip	10/25 Book Fair	10/26 Book Fair

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*****5th Grade Parents*** Middle School Magnet Consortium (MSMC) Lottery**

[The Middle School Magnet Consortium \(MSMC\)](#) is made up of three schools – Argyle, Loiederman, and Parkland middle schools – each of which offers an innovative and challenging magnet curriculum. Argyle focuses on digital design and development; Loiederman offers a creative and performing arts focus; and Parkland provides students the opportunity to explore math and science through aerospace technology and robotic engineering. **Apply by November 3rd** using this form: <http://bit.ly/choiceMSMC>

Admission is based upon a Choice process open to all Montgomery County students who are currently in Grade 5.

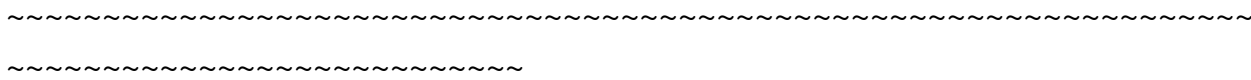
MSMC 2023-2024 Timeline

- MSMC Parent Presentation
 - [English Presentation](#)
 - [Presentación en español](#)
- **October 11, 2023-** Open House at Argyle Middle School 6 pm
- **October 18, 2023-** Open House at Parkland Middle School 6 pm
- **October 25, 2023-** Open House at A Mario Loiederman Middle School 6 pm
- **November 3, 2023-** MSMC Choice Form Deadline
- **Mid January 2024-** Notification of Round 1 results
- **February 9, 2024-** MSMC Round 2 Choice Form Deadline
- **Mid March 2024-** Notification of Round 2 results

Resources

- All Grade 5 students in MCPS can apply to attend an MSMC school.
- **In Consortium students** who live in area for **Brookhaven, Georgian Forest, Harmony Hills, Sargent Shriver, Strathmore, Viers Mill, Weller Road, and Wheaton Woods** should use this link to complete their MSMC Choice Form <https://bit.ly/inMSMC> (this case sensitive link will open in mid-October)
- **Out of Consortium students** should use this link to complete their MSMC Choice Form : <http://bit.ly/choiceMSMC> (this case sensitive link will open in early October)
 - Out of Consortium students MUST be logged into their MCPS Google

Account for the MSMC choice link (above) to open. ([How to apply- video](#))
([Cómo aplicar-video](#))

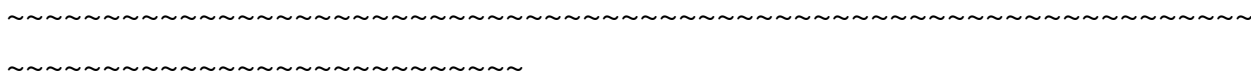


Kids Helping Kids Food Drive

UPDATE: We've extended the in person food drive. Donate all month! Last week we collected 125 lbs for Manna. We would love to get to 300 lbs!

The 5th Grade Group, Flora's Friends, is gearing up for the ***Kids Helping Kids Food Drive!*** Each year we partner with the local organization, Manna, to support families in Montgomery County who experience food insecurity.

All month you can click [here](#) to make a monetary donation to Manna OR donate items to our food drive at Flora Singer Elementary School. Send your child with shelf stable items to be collected in the main entrance. **Our goal is 300 pounds!** Please take a moment to make sure the items you donate are not expired. Here are the most needed items.



Novel Writing Club

NaNoWriMo (National Novel Writing Month) Club is a **free** extracurricular activity offered to Flora Singer students in **2nd through 5th grade**. NaNoWriMo is a national program in which students are challenged to write an entire novel in just one month! NaNoWriMo Club boosts self-confidence and helps students improve their writing skills (especially creative writing) and practice time management and working toward a goal. Plus it's fun!

Club meetings will be **Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8:15-9:00 in the media center from October 24-December 5.**

Questions? Please contact club sponsor Mrs. Whitney at lauren.e.whitney@mcpsmd.net or see the permission slip [here](#).

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Supply List and Bus Routes

Here is a link to our student supply list:

- [FMS ES - School Supply List - FY 23-24.pdf](#)
- [FMS ES - School Supply List - FY 23-24 - SPANISH.pdf](#)

A limited number of supplies and backpacks have been donated by local organizations and the PTA. If your Flora Singer student is in need of school supplies or a backpack, please complete the following form.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeoDVIRxsvns60Te4RXEAINQolCpjbEXeM5LHfSOS27cmtaEw/viewform?usp=sf_link

Here is a link to the general education bus routes:

- [SINGER ES - 770 - REG ARR.pdf](#)
- [SINGER ES - 770 - REG DEP.pdf](#)

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Breakfast and Lunch

Meal prices will be \$2.55 for lunch. Our breakfast program is free to all students and available in the classroom every morning.

Students in Maryland who qualify for reduced-price meals will not be charged for breakfast or lunch. Families can apply online now so that benefits will be in place when school starts. Families can access the online application by visiting www.myschoolapps.com/. Please remember a new application must be completed for any family requesting assistance this school year.

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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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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.

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School Cash Online

Montgomery County Public Schools has transitioned to a new online payment system called SchoolCash Online as its preferred method of payment for school-related fees such as fundraisers, field trips, obligations, etc.

SchoolCash Online helps parents/guardians and community members pay school-related fees safely, quickly, and easily. SchoolCash Online will help increase efficiency and security at schools by making payments directly into schools' bank accounts and eliminating the need for teachers to handle money. In addition, once registered, you will be immediately informed about school activities!

Powered by KEV Group, SchoolCash Online is the industry leader in the management of school fees. The new system puts all of the school-related fees online for purchase so users can make purchases online using a credit card or e-check. A processing fee will be included on all items available for purchase, regardless of the type of payment used on SchoolCash Online or at the school.

Parents/guardians can register now at - <https://mcpsmd.schoolcashionline.com/>

SchoolCash Online also offers a 24/7 customer support desk that can be reached by online inquiry or by calling 1-866-961-1803.

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Important First Quarter Dates:

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|-------------------------|---|
| ● Tuesday, August 22 | Virtual Town Hall for Parents-7:00 p.m. on Zoom |
| ● Friday, August 25 | Open House from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. |
| ● Monday, August 28 | First Day of School for students (9:25 a.m. to 3:50 p.m.) |
| ● Monday, September 4 | Labor Day – No school for students |
| ● Tuesday, September 12 | Primary (K, 1, and 2) Back-to-School Night 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. |
| ● Tuesday, September 19 | Intermediate (3, 4, and 5) Back-to-School Night 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. |
| ● Friday, September 22 | Early Release-Dismissal starts at 1:15 p.m. |
| ● Monday, September 25 | No School for Students |
| ● Thursday, October 5 | Fall Picture Day – Individual Portraits Only |
| ● Thursday, October 5 | 1 st Marking Period Interims are distributed |
| ● Monday, October 9 | Professional Day-No school for students |
| ● October 23-October 27 | Book Fair |
| ● Tuesday, October 31 | Fall Festival Parade and Parties starting at 2:30 p.m. |

- Wednesday, November 1 Professional Day-No school for students
- Monday, November 13 Fall Picture Day Re-takes
- Monday, November 20 Half Day- Dismissal starts at 1:15 p.m
- Tuesday, November 21 Half Day-D dismissal starts at 1:15 p.m
- November 23, 24 & 25 Thanksgiving - No School for Students

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REQUEST CHROMEBOOKS FOR HOME USE

The home use device is to be kept at home. Requesting the device implies consent of use in accordance with MCPS policy (IGT-RA) and acknowledgement that the Chromebook, software, and issued peripherals are owned by MCPS.

Please use this **form** to request a chromebook for home use.

User Responsibilities for Computer Systems, Electronic Information, and Network Security can be found online. Montgomery County Public Schools retains the sole right of possession of the Chromebooks. The Chromebooks are loaned to students for educational purposes for the academic year. MCPS administrative staff retain the right to collect and/or inspect Chromebook hardware or software at any time including via electronic remote access.

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TREX School & Community Recycling Program

The drop-off box for plastic bags and film has returned to its site within the main entrance hall!

DO NOT CONTAMINATE WITH TRASH. Clean plastic bags and film only.

Thank you so much for supporting our sustainability initiatives at Flora Singer Elementary School. I am both an art teacher and the chairperson of our Sustainability Committee at FSES. We have been participating in the TREX school recycling challenge since 2018.

I am working on setting a new schedule and routine for our new earth helpers. Students will help collect, weigh, and track our plastic film recycling efforts this year. OUR GOAL IS 1000 POUNDS OF PLASTIC.

*** IN SEARCH OF... parent volunteers to help drop off collection bags at local grocery stores once a week.

Please directly email Mrs. Gracias at natalie_ramirez@mcpsmd.org

Learn more: [TREX School & Community Recycling Program](#)

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Interims in Quarter 1

Each quarter that your child is in MCPS, you will receive an interim progress report halfway through the term in Parent VUE. Interim grades are given to inform you how your child is progressing towards mastering standards. Interims will be posted on ParentVUE on 10/5, or mailed home if you are not registered at this time.

For the 1st quarter you can expect to see less grades on your child’s interim than other quarters, especially in the subjects of reading and writing. This is because we are establishing reading and writing routines through our curriculum Benchmark Advanced.

Additionally, In Kindergarten, students are still adjusting to the school and classroom and learning routines. Because of this you will see very few grades on your child's Kindergarten interim report in October.

By report card distribution in November you will see grades in all subjects for your child.

If you have any questions about grading and reporting procedures in MCPS or at Flora Singer, please feel free to reach out to our Staff Development Teacher Angela Martin at [Angela L Martin@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Angela_L_Martin@mcpsmd.org).

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FREE Parent/Caregiver Workshop

"Understanding Your Child's Brain Development"

10/17/23

Presented by Calmer Schools

The English and Spanish versions of the workshop will be presented separately on the same night. Exciting news--There will be a giveaway of \$300 dollars in gift cards at each workshop!

- [Parent Workshop Flier English](#)
- [Parent Workshop Flier Spanish](#)

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NEW OCTOBER PTA NEWSLETTER!

The [new PTA newsletter dated October 15, 2023](#) is out! Read on to learn about this month's activities!

The 2023 Flora Singer Book Fair is right around the corner, starting October 20th! It's an exciting celebration of reading with hundreds of books to discover. We are looking for volunteers to help with this incredible event. Please sign up here: <https://bit.ly/SingerBookFairVolunteer2023>

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