Magnolia Trace Elementary

1405 Hwy. 1088•Mandeville, LA 70448
985-626-8238

January NEWS HOUND

PTA Newsletter

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Our Fall Semester was full of learning and fun. We have exceeded expectations and are looking forward to surpassing even more goals in the Spring. We do request that students attend school. It is imperative for the continuation of our growth that students are here and learning. We discourage family vacations during school days. We encourage you to take those vacations during our vacation days and during the summer so your child is not missing important information.

Students are encouraged to keep reading over the holidays and during the Spring semester. We are working on our school wide goal for reading fluency. We will be introducing our math goal of expressing mathematical reasoning in January. If students reach their goals there will be lots of surprises in store. I would like to thank all teachers, staff, parents, and community members for their continued support. We are embracing the eight habits of highly effective people and it is evident all over our campus. Students are leading the way!

In December we had our Junior Leadership Day that was hosted by Positive Action Community Resources. It was a complete success with close to 80 students in attendance. Our first group of Maggie Managers did an amazing job this nine weeks and we have increased the number of jobs for the third nine weeks. Our Celebration day was a success! All the mansion colors are working hard towards earning points for their colored mansion. We even decorated socks for our local nursing home with some cute Christmas Cards. Keep up the great work. The 2nd nine weeks Ambassadors enjoyed their time listening to Mr. Grant Black Director of Technology in St. Tammany Parish Government and also an afternoon of training by Positive Action Community Resources Leaders. K-Kids filled some families with joy by collecting toys and also by making special cards. Our students and our groups are truly showing what it means to give back to the community.

In January we are looking forward to continuing our professional development. A few of our faculty and staff will be going to Leader in Me Conferences. In addition, we will be conducting Spring observations, middle of the year assessments, and celebrating leaders on our campus. Martin Luther King day is on January 15th. A packet went home for those interested in entering a community contest. We encourage students to participate. We are also looking forward to visiting Fontainebleau High School this month to see a play put on by FHS theater students. Our SWE students will be participating in SWE Elementary Mardi Gras this month as well. We are looking forward to cheering our athletes on in their Winter Olympics.

We have so much to look forward to this month and this school year. Magnolia Trace Elementary is truly the best place to be! Signing off with gratitude and appreciation for the best community ever.

Sincerely,
Jamie Breaux
MTE Principal

Upcoming Events

January 8th – Return to school
January 9th–Terrific Kids 9:30/Ambassador Meeting 4-5
January 11th – Faculty meeting 7:45 /TRT day
January 12th – Report Cards distributed
January 15th – NO School MLK day
January 23rd – Principal and Assistant Principal Celebration Day
January 24th – 100th day of school/K-kids meeting
January 25th – Class Pictures
February 1st – Black History Month
February 2nd – Spring Book Fair Opens until Feb. 8th
February 6th – Ambassador meeting 4-5/Interim Reports
February 7th – Terrific Kids 9:30/Counselor Day
February 8th – Cultural Arts Day

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Happy New Year, Maggie families!

Welcome back to school! I hope you all had a fabulous break and enjoyed special time with your family and friends. I can't believe is 2024…AND we are halfway through school! It has flown by… December was a very busy month for us! The PTA assisted with the celebration day full of fun! We couldn't have done it without parental support. We also hosted a special holiday luncheon catered by The Crab Man! Thank you to all the families who donated desserts, drinks, and volunteered to class sit!

January is a relatively quiet month for us, just a few meetings, however we will turn out focus to our principle fundraiser, Boosterthon. We are looking for a team of 4-5 to help us coordinate these special 10 days in March for our students, completed with the Fun Run on the 10th day. NO PRIOR experience is required! It's fairly simple, it is just busy each day for 10 days. You will have the full support of the Executive Committee and the Boosterthon Chairperson.

Soon we will begin our search for new PTA board members to replace all those moving on to Lake Harbor or Mandeville Middle. It takes many volunteers to make our events come to fruition, so please consider volunteering for MTE PTA in 2024-2025. Grab a friend and join us, it's a great chance to learn more about Magnolia Trace and take part in all the fun events we plan! Feel free to contact me with any questions at magnoliatraceelementarypta@gmail.com.

I can't say thank you enough to everyone who contributes to our wonderful school and PTA. It is only because of you that we can accomplish all that we do!

Cheerfully,

Caitlin Ness

MTE PTA President

magnoliatraceelementarypta@gmail.com

Magnolia Trace
2023 - 2024
PTA Executive Board

President – Caitlin Ness

VP of Membership – Kaitlin McCaulley

VP of Cultural Arts – Tonya Deville

VP of Awards – Christine Childress

Secretary – Clare Katner

Treasurer – Sheri Olsen

Please email us at magnoliatraceelementarypta@gmail.com if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions.

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MTE.PTBOARD.COM

Second Grade

December was a very busy month full of fun and learning for our second graders! Our students had a lot of fun on our Celebration Day! We also had a wonderful time watching MTE's choir performance, as well as learning about various holidays around the world, and taking part in many holiday learning activities!

In our Reading unit, we are learning about the cycles in nature. We will be learning about daytime and nighttime, seasons, plant and animal life cycles, and the water cycle. This will help us build important background knowledge for future learning.

In Math this month, we are learning about shapes and time with fraction concepts. We are building on our part-whole understanding to compose and decompose composite shapes. We will be interpreting equal shares within composite shapes to show halves, thirds, and fourths. We will then apply our understanding of halves and fourths to concepts about time.

This month in Science, we are learning about the properties of materials. Students will have the opportunity to investigate, test, and analyze materials and their properties.

Please continue to work with your child on basic addition and subtraction math facts within 20 each night. In addition, reading nightly with your child helps build his/her confidence, fluency, and enjoyment of reading. Thank you for all of your support at home.

We hope you and your family have a wonderful 2024!

Third Grade

December was a short, but busy school month! We want to thank everyone who helped to make our Celebration Day successful and enjoyable! We hope you and your family had a wonderful holiday break, and we wish you a very happy new year!

3rd graders worked so hard during the first semester! Throughout the month of January, they will explore properties of math operations and investigate the area of figures. Next, they will begin working with fractions, thinking of them as points on a number line. Speaking of fractions, our 3rd graders are halfway to 4th grade! Please encourage your child to continue practicing their math facts using flash cards and fact drills websites. Reflex Math is great for Fact Fluency practice and students can work on it at home, too!

Students will continue to read literary and informational texts to understand the value of companionship, the joy of finding friends in unexpected places, and the importance of building a community of different points of view. They will also express their understanding of these themes by writing essays.

Students will complete the Middle of Year DIBELS Assessment in January. Please continue to have your child read aloud daily so they can reach the school goal of reading 105 words in a minute.

In Social Studies, students will transition from learning about how our nation grew after the Louisiana Purchase and Westward Expansion to how our nation has changed over time. In this unit, we will learn about regional development, slavery, and abolition.

In Science, we will complete our unit on inheritance and traits. We will also begin our unit on environments and survival. In their role as biomimicry engineers, students figure out how the traits of grove snails affect their survival in different environments. They apply that understanding as they explore other organisms, their traits, and the likelihood of survival in different environments.

A couple of reminders for January: 2nd 9 weeks report cards go home on January 12th. There is no school on January 15th for the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

We have so much learning ahead, and we know 2024 will be a successful year for everyone!

MUSIC NOTES

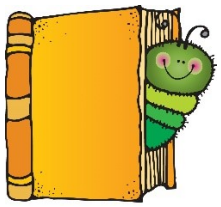
The Holidays are over but I have to give accolades to MTE's Christmas Choir. Our Christmas Program was fantastic! Thanks again Choir for all of your hard work! It sure did pay off! This month we will be learning about the composer Prokofiev, and Peter and the Wolf.

Loving my job,

Norma Ganucheau

Norma.Ganucheau@stpsb.org

Library -Check it out!



We hope that you and your family had a wonderful holiday. We have missed the children. We are ready to get back to reading in our library. Our plan for the month is to expose your child to various books/series in the library. Encourage your child to try something new, just as he/she might try a new food. This can surprise them and they might find a new genre of book that they love reading. We are getting ready for our final book fair of the school year, which will take place Friday, February 2nd – Thursday, February 8th. The children will have an opportunity to create a wish list and preview the book fair the week before it begins. Information will be coming home soon.

"Once you learn to read, you will be forever free." - Frederick Douglass

Happy New Year,

Julie Kuylen and Joanne Santos

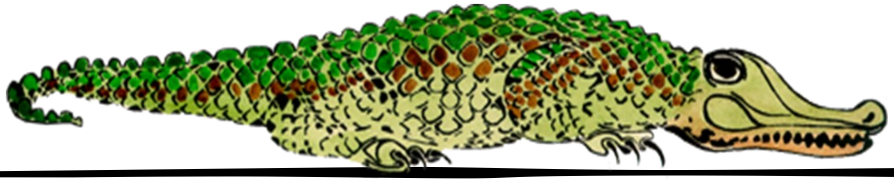
Coach's Corner

Since it gets dark so early and the weather can be a little rough this time of year, it's hard to get out and play. Luckily our area has plenty of facilities that feature rock climbing walls, trampolines, and indoor sports fields. So no excuses, make sure to keep yourself and your children active this new year.

Coach Dusang, Physical Education Teacher

WATTERS WORLD: Art News

Thank you to all my students, you make my life full of joy, laughter, and LOVE!!!



JANUARY MTE LUNCH MENU

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8	9	10	11	12
S, Chicken Sandwich, Vegetarian Option, Tots, Red Beans, Chilled Fruit, Cold Milk H, Chicken Tenders, Red Beans, Cornbread, Chilled Fruit, Cold Milk	H, Pork Nachos with Fixings OR Pork Tacos, Vegetarian Option, Steamed Corn, Chilled Fruit, Cold Milk S, Hamburger or Cheeseburger, Tots, Chilled Fruit, Cold Milk	H, Spaghetti & Meatsauce, Vegetarian Option, Green Beans, Breadstick, Chilled Fruit, Cold Milk S, Pulled Pork on Bun, Tots, Chilled Fruit, Cold Milk	H, Gumbo, Steamed Rice, Vegetarian Option, Potato Salad, Texas Toast, Chilled Fruit, Cold Milk S, Turkey & Turkey Melt Sandwich, Tots, Chilled Fruit, Cold Milk	H, Pig-N-Blanket, Vegetarian Option, Tots, Fruit Crisp, Chilled Fruit, Cold Milk S, Chicken Philly Melt, Tots, Fruit Crisp, Chilled Fruit, Cold Milk
15	16	17	18	19
No School MLK Day	H, Chicken Fettuccine, Broccoli, ChilledFruit, Fresh Roll, Cold Milk S, Hamburger or Cheeseburger, Tots, Chilled Fruit, Cold Milk	H, Hamburger Steak w/ Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Vegetarian Option, Fresh Baked Roll, Chilled Fruit, Cold Milk S, Hot Dog w/Fixings, Tots, Chilled Fruit, Cold Milk	H, Chicken Pot Pie, Vegetarian Option, Roasted Squash & Zucchini, Chilled Fruit, Cold Milk S, Chicken Sandwich, Tots, Chilled Fruit, Cold Milk	H, Hamburger or Cheeseburger, Vegetarian Option, Tots, Rice Crisp Treat, Roasted Chickpeas, Chilled Fruit, Cold Milk S, BBQ Pulled Pork on Bun, Tots, Crisp Rice Treat, Chilled Fruit, Cold Milk
22	23	24	25	26
H, Chicken Tenders, Vegetarian Option, Creamy Red Beans, Biscuit, Chilled Fruit, Cold Milk S, Chicken Sandwich, Tots, Red Beans, Chilled Fruit, Cold Milk	H, Chicken Taco, Vegetarian Option, Corn, Fresh Baked Cinnamon Breadstick, Chilled Fruit, Cold Milk S, BBQ Pulled Pork on Bun, Tots, Chilled Fruit , Cold Milk	H, Chili, Vegetarian Option, Baked Potato, Fresh Baked Roll, Chilled Fruit, Cold Milk S, Hamburger, Tots, Chilled Fruit, Cold Milk	H, Breaded Pork Patty, Vegetarian Option, Potatoes AuGratin, Pork-n-Beans, Cornbread, Chilled Fruit, Cold Milk S, Sloppy Joe on Bun, Tots, Chilled Fruit, Cold Milk	H, School Made Flatbread Pizza, Vegetarian Option, Marinara Sauce, Cookie, Chilled Fruit, Cold Milk S, Hot Dog w/Fixings, Tots, Cookie, Chilled Fruit, Cold Milk
29	30	31		
H, Chicken Tenders, Vegetarian Option, Mashed Potatoes, Fresh Baked Breadstick, Chilled Fruit, Cold Milk S, Hamburger, Tots, Chilled Fruit, Cold Milk	S, Beef Tacos with Fixings, Vegetarian Option, Ranchero Beans, Fresh Baked Cinnamon Breadstick, Chilled Fruit, Cold Milk H, Nachos Supreme, Ranchero Beans, Chilled Fruit, Cold Milk	MAIN LINE, Manager's Choice SECOND LINE: Manager's Choice		

JANUARY MTE BREAKFAST MENU

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8	9	10	11	12
Student Choice of, Fluffy Pancakes, Cereal w/Toast, Chilled Fruit, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk	Student Choice of, Breakfast Eggs w/Grits & Toast OR Cereal w/Toast OR Toaster Pastry w/Toast, Raisins, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk	Student Choick of, Flaky Biscuit w/Sausage OR Cereal w/Toast, Chilled Fruit, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk	Student Choice of, School Made Muffin OR Cereal w/Toast OR Toaster Pastry w/Toast, Chilled Fruit, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk	Choice of School Made Cinnamon Roll OR Cereal w/Toast, Chilled Fruit, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk
15	16	17	18	19
No School MLK Day	Choice of Breakfast Eggs w/Grits & Toast, OR Cereal w/Toast, Raisins, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk	Choice of Flaky Biscuit w/Sausage Patty OR Cereal w/Toast, Chilled Fruit, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk	Choice of Breakfast Burrito OR Cereal w/Toast or Toaster Pastry, Chilled Fruit, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk	Choice of School Made Beignets OR Cereal w/Toast, chilled fruit, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk
22	23	24	25	26
Student Choice of, Mini Pancakes OR Cereal w/Toast, Chilled Fruit, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk	Choice of Breakfast Eggs w/Grits & Toast, OR Cereal w/Toast, OR Toaster Pastry Raisins, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk	Choice of Flaky Biscuit w/Sausage Patty OR Cereal w/Toast, Chilled Fruit, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk	Choice of school made muffin OR Cereal w/Toast or Toaster Pastry, Chilled Fruit, Chilled Juice Cold Milk	Student Choice of, School Made Cinnamon Roll OR Cereal w/Toast, Chilled Fruit, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk
29	30	31		
Choice of Breakfast Pizza OR Cereal w/Toast, Chilled Fruit, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk	Choice of Breakfast Eggs w/Grits & Toast, OR Cereal w/Toast, Raisins, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk	Choice of Flaky Biscuit w/Sausage Patty OR Cereal w/Toast, Chilled Fruit, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk		

Catching up with the Counselor

2024 is here and that means we are ready to set new goals and continue toward success for our old ones! As many people set new goals for the New Year, let's take this opportunity to encourage students to not only set goals but to work toward achieving them. It takes courage to set our minds to reach goals. As we move into the New Year let's encourage courage, confidence, and reaching our goals not only now but as the year progresses.

As we continue to practice Habit #4: here are some thoughts to keep in mind while practicing:

"I want everyone to be successful"
"I do not have to put others down to get what I want"
"When a conflict happens I can look for a third option (mediating option)"
"I believe that we all can win!"

Habit 4 Book List

Charlotte's Web by E.W. White
Out of Left Field by Ellen Klages
Nothing's Fair in Fifth Grade by Barthe DeClements
The Butter Battle Book by Dr. Seuss
The Great Gilly Hopkins by Katherine Paterson
The Rainbow Fish by Marcus Pfister

I have enjoyed these past few months with all of you! I look forward to continued growth and many more memories made here at MTE this year!

--- Mrs. Jordan

PTA Volunteer of the Month

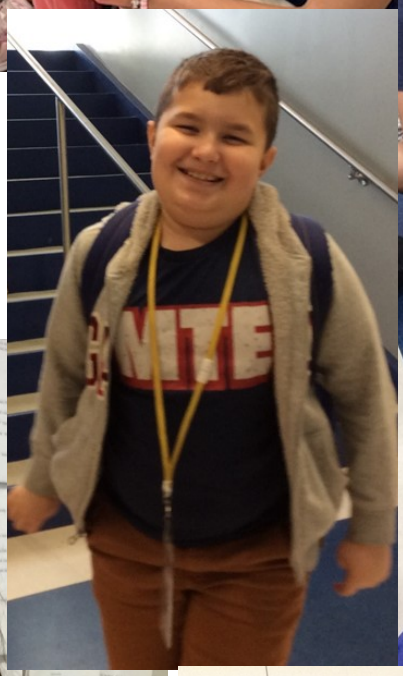
Our volunteer of the month of December is Kaitlin McCaulley. Kaitlin is always volunteering to help in any way that she can. She is the person everyone can count on to be there! Kaitlin set up and coordinated the winter reading challenge with the library, and is in charge of membership for the PTA. Thanks for your dedication to MTE PTA! We love having you on the team!

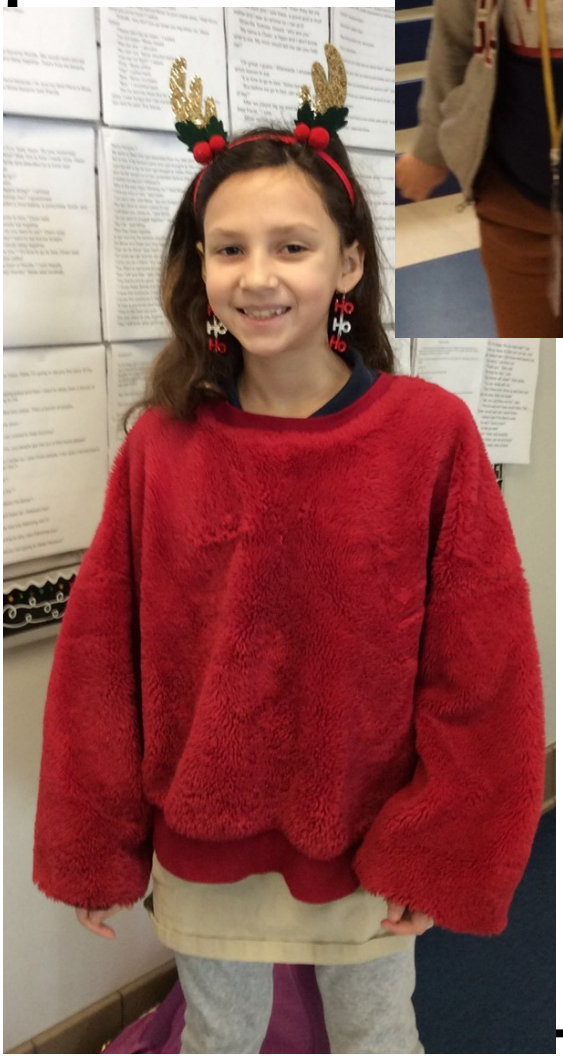
Remas Alkasaji
Sujoy Bhattarai
London Montalbano
Ava Andrews
Jaxon Parchem
Mila Arnold
Rory Moore
Chloe Larson
Grey Blanchard
Raquel Aiena
Milana Guerra

Kiwanis Terrific Kids

Ace Leblanc
Jaxon Parchem
Adelaide Stoll
Justin Wilder
Haya Sheikh
Emerson Gill
Itzy Jackson
Riley Klein
Adalyn Mince
Isabel Acosta
Nolan Shedd

January





MTE STAFF SPOTLIGHT

John Owusu
Head Custodian

4 Year at Magnolia Trace
7 Years in Education
Dream Vacation: Bahamas
Favorite Restaurant: 5 Guys
On weekends I like to: rest

I became an educator because I have a passion for teaching and love to be around kids.

MTE STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Kathy Joffrion
Cafeteria Technician

18 years at Magnolia Trace
Dream Vacation: France
Favorite Restaurant: Peck's Seafood
On weekends I like to: relax and spend time with my family
I cheer for: Saints

MTE STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Miranda Buras
Strings Teacher

12 Years at Magnolia Trace
12 years in Education
Dream Vacation: Disney World or Lord of the Rings tour in New Zealand
Favorite Restaurant:Moba Tea and Treats
On weekends I like to: Play Dungeons & Dragons with my family and friends

I became an educator to spread the love of music and to provide music education to students who do not have opportunities outside of school to learn.

MTE STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Tabitha Breazeale
SWE Para

13 Years at Magnolia Trace
16 years in Education
Dream Vacation: Hawaii
Favorite Restaurant: Caretta's
On weekends I like to: spend time with family
I cheer for: everyone to be successful

I became an educator to be instrumental in a students growth academically and emotionally.

MTE STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Diana Saenz
Bookkeeper

4 Years at Magnolia Trace
Dream Vacation: Hawaii
Favorite Restaurant: Kazoku
On weekends I like to: spend time with family
I cheer for: University of Washington

MTE STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Nicole Cantrell
3rd grade ELA

4 Years at Magnolia Trace
22 Years in Education
Dream Vacation: any beautiful island
Favorite Restaurant: Abita Brew Pub
On weekends I like to: read, shop, sleep, and be with family
I cheer for: Jesus and NOLA Saints

I became an educator to inspire kids, make kids laugh, feel comfortable and happy, and help our future adults.

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS!

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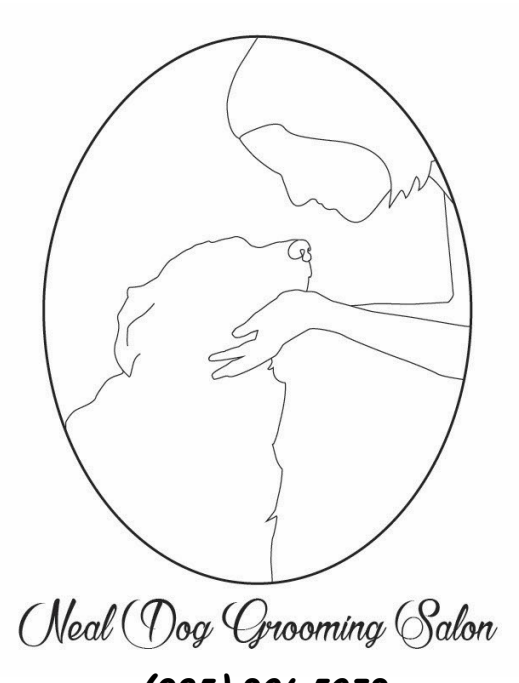

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