



Magnolia Trace Elementary

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



April NEWS HOUND PTA NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Guardians,

A big thank you to our entire community. We met our 25,000 goal for Boosterthon! The funds raised will go to our school STEM Lab and other materials to enhance our students learning experience. We enjoyed having our parents cheer our friends on and the kids had fun running their hearts out. It is amazing to witness and be part of the love and support in our community. Our 3rd nine weeks celebration for overall good school behavior was our Talent Show. Students did an amazing job stepping out in front of a large crowd to show us their talent. Next nine weeks celebration will be our water day!

We are now in our fourth nine weeks. This nine weeks we are fine tuning all the learning we have been doing for the year. We are going to be having end of the year assessments, LEAP testing and fun activities to wrap the year up. It is important that students come to school this month so they do not get behind on their studies. We ask that if possible all doctor appointments and outside appointments be done during Spring break. LEAP week April 17th- 24th it is very IMPORTANT to get students to school on time, rested and fed. This will help the students perform at their best level. We simply want to encourage students to do their best. As a parent and guardian we ask that you all tell your students encourage words and affirm that they are smart, capable and will do great!

Our current habit that we are learning about is Sharpen the Saw. We are learning how to keep a good balance and fine tune some of our skills sets. We encourage students to play outside when they can, discover their gifts, and embrace all learning experiences. Self-reflection and growth are all part of sharpening your saw. We are so proud of our students and the growth they have already shown. We would love for you to continue to share how you are practicing the habits at home. Students will be given another set of habit forms to share what you all are doing at home. As always if you have any questions or concerns feel free to email me at jmie.breaux@stpsb.org.

Sincerely,
Jamie Breaux
Principal, MTE

Upcoming Events

- April 8th -9:30 Crisis Meeting
- April 9th - EOY Dibels/Ambassador Meeting
- April 10th -MANDATORY Faculty meeting
- LEAP training/ Terrific Kids/ Fire Drill/
- SWEDL meeting/Sports Club
- April 11th - PTA general Meeting LEAP
- Overview (3rd grade teachers encouraged to attend)/Librarian Day
- April 17th - April 23rd - LEAP Testing
- April 24th - Secretary's Day
- April 27th - Elections at MTE

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Happy Spring, Maggie Families!

March was a fun month! We celebrated National Reading Month and PTA provided all students with bookmarks and popsicles for their Drop Everything and Read time on Friday! We also ran our hearts out at the Boosterthon Fun Run! The kids really enjoy the experience of Boosterthon because of the focus on fitness, leadership, and character. The run is the best part – they dance, skip, hop, and run 30-35 laps to high-energy music. I do want to share that I know we met our goal of \$25,000, which is fabulous, but we'll have final numbers to report in our next newsletter. Huge thank you to everyone who participated and donated. We couldn't have done it without you. I can't believe it is now April and we only have a short while left in school this year.

Staff Appreciation week is coming up in May – our planning begins now for a week-long celebration of their dedication to MTE and the education and lives of our children. Be on the look-out for donation and volunteer opportunities. If you would like to help us plan and execute this week, please reach out to me through email or Facebook! We would love to have some additional help.

We've had a great year so far, and I can't believe there are only 2 months of it left! We are currently looking for volunteers to serve on Executive Board and Board of Directors for the 2024-2025 school year. Please be on the lookout for information coming home soon! If you are interested, or know someone who is, please email me. It is so rewarding for not only us, but for our children and school as well. Everything the PTA does makes in impact on students' lives at MTE!

Sincerely,

Caitlin Ness

MTE PTA President

magnoliatraceelementarypta@gmail.com

**Magnolia Trace
2023 - 2024
PTA Executive Board**



Sign up here!

MTE.PTBOARD.COM



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.

Second Grade

Our second graders are looking forward to an amazing April. We are very excited about our upcoming field trip to the Honey Island Swamp Tour. The students are trying their best while working hard. The teachers are enjoying watching the students grow and use their new knowledge as they continue in the progress of learning.

In the beginning of April, students will discover knowledge about the Human Body: Building Blocks and Nutrition in reading Domain 10. This domain first covers concepts regarding cells and how cells form the building blocks of life on Earth. Students will learn how collections of cells form tissues, and tissues form organs, and finally how organs work within the various body systems. Students will hear about the digestive and excretory systems. They will learn the fundamental parts and functions of these two body systems. Finally, this domain focuses on the importance of good nutrition and how to eat a well-balanced diet.

In our ELA Skills lessons, students will begin Skills Unit 6, the reader for this unit will include stories about the War of 1812. Students will continue to work with alternative and tricky spellings of common sounds. Adverbs will be introduced and they will work on identifying complete and incomplete sentences.

In math, students will continue to work in Module 5 working with problems involving all types of measurement and money. Students apply their knowledge of coin values, place value strategies, and the properties of operations to find the value of a group of coins or bills. They will learn to work with various types of units within the contexts of money, length, and data. Next, we will begin Module 6 which is Multiplication and Division Foundations. Students will count and solve problems with equal groups of objects. Students will organize equal groups into rows and columns to create rectangular arrays. As they compose and decompose arrays, students will gain foundations for multiplication.

In our science class we will begin in Unit 3 discussing changing landforms. Students will use models to investigate how wind and water can cause changes to landforms. They will learn that landforms made of solid rock undergo small-scale changes, and that over time, these changes add up to big changes.

Thank you for all your support and help in your child's education!



Third Grade

Third graders are looking forward to an amazing April! We have lots of interesting things to learn in all subjects.

In Math, we will progress through our last module which covers geometry, measurement, and data. Students will tell the time to the nearest minute and use linear models to solve and represent elapsed time word problems. They will also recognize perimeter as an attribute of plane figures and solve real-world and mathematical problems involving perimeter. Lastly, students will represent and interpret data by using scaled picture graphs, scaled bar graphs, and line plots. Please continue to practice multiplication and division fluency. Students have access to Reflex and Frax from home using their student login information.

In ELA, students will finish their study of The Louisiana Purchase and begin the Cajun Folktale Unit. Students will read folktales to learn how storytelling can be entertaining as well as educational. Students will develop an understanding of Louisiana history and culture as well as character and theme development. Students will express their understanding by writing their opinion about the main character's actions.

In Social Studies, students will continue to learn how our nation changed laws to form a more perfect union. They will learn about Women's Suffrage and the Civil Rights Movement. Later in April, students will learn how our nation continues to advance including how communication breakthroughs and digital technology affect people in their daily and work lives.

In Science, students will gather evidence and analyze weather patterns. They will look for location-based patterns in weather as they figure out if it's possible to design solutions that can prevent damage from hurricanes and other natural hazards.

LEAP Testing will take place from April 17th - 23rd. Please make sure your child arrives to school on time, and please do not schedule appointments during this time.



MUSIC NOTES

This month we are investigating different styles of music and their corresponding instruments:

- Jazz and the saxophone
- Celtic and the fiddle
- Blues and the guitar

If your student is in the Musical, please have them practice at home and work on acquiring their costume.

Loving my job,

Norma Ganucheau

Library -Check it out!

This month in the library, your child is learning how to navigate our online catalog – Destiny Discover. He/she can determine their desired book and then locate it in our library. We are excited about getting more shelving units in the library. This allowed us to add hundreds of new books to our non-fiction collection. Students will be focusing on how to navigate through the Dewey Decimal System in the library.

If you have any questions feel free to email me at Julie.kuyen@stpsb.org

"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more you learn, the more places you'll go."— Dr. Seuss



Happy Reading,

Julie Kuylen and Joanne Santos

Magnolia Trace Librarians



Coach's Corner

With the weather changing for the better, it is a great time of year to explore a wonderful resource available to us in St. Tammany Parish, the Tammany Trace. This railway turned to bike path is 31 miles long, running from Covington to Slidell. It has several trailheads along the way and plenty of beautiful scenery. So air up those bike tires and get to pedaling.

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!!!

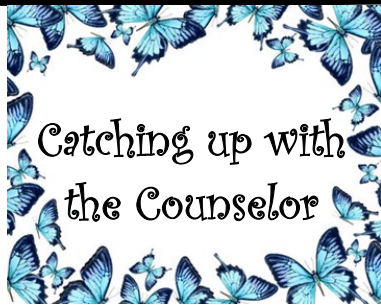


APRIL MTE LUNCH MENU

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
OFFERED DAILY: Vegetarian Option, Vegetable, Fruit and Choice of Milk				
SPRING BREAK				
8	9	10	11	12
Chicken Tenders, Green Peas, Fresh Baked Breadstick OR Hamburger, Tots	Fish Sticks, Baked Potato, Baked Beans, Fresh Baked Roll OR Fish Sandwich, Fries	Chicken Fettuccine, Steamed Broccoli, Fresh Baked Roll OR Turkey Melt, Tots	Pulled Pork, Candied Sweet Potatoes, Creamy Cole Slaw, Fresh Baked Roll OR Chicken Sandwich, Tots	Hot Dog w/Fixings, Tots, Roasted Chickpeas, Brownie OR Hamburger, Fries, Roasted Chickpeas, Brownie
15	16	17	18	19
Chicken Sandwich, Sweet Potato Fries OR Chicken Tenders, Sweet Potato Fries, Texas Toast	Pork Nachos with Fixings, Steamed Corn OR BBQ Chicken Sandwich, Tots	Spaghetti & Meatsauce, Green Beans, Fresh Baked Breadsticks OR Hamburger or Cheeseburger, Tots	Gumbo, Steamed Rice, Potato Salad, Texas Toast OR BBQ Pulled Pork on Bun, Tots	Hamburger or Cheeseburger, Tots, Roasted Chickpeas, Fruit Crisp OR Hot Dog w/Fixings, Tots, Roasted Chickpeas, Fruit Crisp
22	23	24	25	26
Chicken Tenders, Macaroni & Cheese, Steamed Carrots, Texas Toast OR Hamburger or Cheeseburger, Sweet Potato Fries	Beef Burrito, Ranchero Beans OR Chicken Sandwich, Tots, Ranchero Beans	Turkey Roast, Steamed Rice, Gravy, Steamed Carrots, Fresh Baked Roll OR Fish Sandwich, Tots	Jambalaya, Green Peas, Texas Toast OR Turkey Melt, Fries or Tots	Hamburger, Fries, Rice Crisp Treat OR BBQ Pulled Pork on Bun, Fries, Crisp Rice Treat
29	30			
Breaded Pork Patty, Creamy Red Beans, Biscuit OR Hot Dog w/Fixings, Tots, Red Beans	Chicken Taco, Corn, Fresh Baked Cinnamon Breadstick OR Hamburger or Cheeseburger, Tots			

APRIL MTE BREAKFAST MENU

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
SPRING BREAK				
8	9	10	11	12
Choice of Breakfast Pizza OR Cereal w/Toast, Chilled Fruit, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk	Choice of Breakfast Eggs w/Grits & Toast, OR Toaster Pastry w/Toast, Raisins, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk	Choice of Flaky Biscuit w/Shaved Ham OR Cereal w/Toast, Chilled Fruit, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk	Choice of, School Breakfast Burrito OR Cereal w/Toast OR Toaster Pastry w/Toast, Chilled Fruit, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk	Choice of School Made Beignets OR Cereal w/Toast, Chilled Fruit, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk
15	16	17	18	19
Choice of Dutch Waffle 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/Ham OR Cereal w/Toast, Chilled Fruit, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk	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
22	23	24	25	26
Choice of Breakfast Pizza OR Parfait/Fruit Smoothie, 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/Ham 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
29	30			
Student Choice of, Donuts or, 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			



While the saying goes “April Showers Bring May Flowers”, we are aiming to have a month filled with sunshine & POSITIVITY.

This month marks the beginning of Spring. A time of renewal! I’m looking forward to all the new and exciting things this month is sure to bring. In March, the school counseling program continued with classroom guidance lessons and individual meetings with students. In classroom guidance, students participated in social emotional lessons on friendships, inclusion, and acts of kindness. I encourage each of you along with your students to complete one random act of kindness a week.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Be on the lookout for blue pinwheels in the front of school that show a visual representation of our jobs to always keep our students safe

The next Habit is **Habit 7: Sharpen the Saw!** This is a great habit to practice as it includes all aspects of ourselves and promotes balance. Balance is best with Habit 7 and here are some areas and ways to focus on balancing out ourselves and all we do:

Physical- Body

- Exercise and od physical activities together
- Clarify or clarify expectations and goals

Mental- Mind

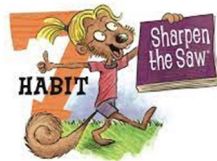
- Share and discuss ideas
- Write/keep a journal

Emotional- Heart

- Love and affirm one another
- Relax together
- Build relationships of trust

Spiritual- Spirit

- Renew commitments
- Clarify directions and goals



Check Out the Habit 7 Book List:

The Carrot Seed by Ruth Krauss
Bread and Jam for Frances by Russell Hoban
The Snowy Day by Ezra Jack KEats
Jabari Jumps by Gaia Cornwall

--- Mrs. Jordan

PTA Volunteer of the Month

Congratulations to Alicia Sykes! Alicia is the chair of MTE’s largest fundraiser- Boosterthon! She works tirelessly every day during the duration of this event to get it started, keep things organized, pass out prizes, and she has created a wonderful team of volunteers! Alicia is also our Room Rep Coordinator so she was in charge of all room rep communication and organizing



Hannah Ortiz
Kylin Gerkin
Yen Dang
Harrison Hines
Olive Turnage
Sierra Shaffer
Andrew Rostron
Arya Adair
Braylon Wells
Oliver Stagno
Ella Bergeron



Ellis Doyle
Hailey Beard
Silas Shane
Camille Hebert
Ivy King
William Harrison
Luke Dupuy
Everette Surette
Camden Delchamps
Hadley Russell
Julian Olguin
Natalya Moss
Ellie Charouleau

April

Upcoming Restaurant and Fundraising Nights



Sonic
Wednesday, April 24
4-8:00 pm

Student Spotlight

MTE Sports Club
By: Reese Collins

Magnolia Trace Elementary School started a Sports Club this year. There have been over 100 students attending the meetings. So far, basketball, soccer, baseball/softball, and track are the sports we have done. During the basketball meeting, we worked on shooting, dribbling, rebounding, and passing. For soccer, we practiced passing, shooting, and dribbling. At our baseball/ softball meeting, we practiced catching, hitting, and base running. Our last March sports club meeting was about learning and practicing track and field skills.

It has been fun hanging out, exercising, and playing sports with our teachers and friends. The future meetings will be on April 10 and May 1.

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

How to Add Mindfulness to Your Child's Day

By Meghan Crowley from *Our Children* magazine

Many adults are able to recognize feelings of anxiety, stress and frustration, but when children and teenagers experience these emotions, they are often less equipped to deal with them.

As we as parents and caregivers work to manage and reduce stress in our everyday life, we should help our children do the same. Mindfulness is often taught in schools to help students navigate their feelings and emotions and you can also practice mindfulness at home to reduce stress and anxiety.

Although the idea may seem abstract at first, weekly practice and modeling can help your child learn how to manage their thoughts, feelings and emotions. It will also help bond your relationships and provide more moments for open conversation.

Here are a few activities you can do as a family to adopt mindfulness into your daily routine.

The Mind Jar Snow Globe

Help your children avoid emotional blizzards with this mindfulness practice. First, have them imagine their thoughts and worries are like snowflakes being shaken in a snow globe. Guide them in breathing slowly and visualizing their negative feelings falling down.

As the snowflakes begin to rest on the ground, so too settles their mind. Finally, enjoy spending a mindful minute to remember and imprint these feelings of positivity and serenity.

Listening to the Rain

Simple sounds like rain drops falling through the trees can be calming and relaxing. This mindfulness practice uses a guided meditation to clear your head and bring awareness to your surroundings. Whenever your child appears overwhelmed or agitated, try listening together to audio of falling rain.

Rainbow Walk

Helping children become aware of what's going on around them at any particular moment can help strengthen their focus and calm their mind. Provide them with time to really explore their environment, noticing the details of their surroundings, indoors or outdoors. Ask them to make a list (verbally or on paper) of objects they see, and have them organize them by color, so that they make their own version of a rainbow.



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS 2024-2025

- ✓ I want MTE to be one of the best schools in Louisiana.
- ✓ I want my child to have a great school year – to learn and to have fun!
- ✓ I want to help decide how PTA advocates and what programs they support.
- ✓ I want all Maggies at MTE to be successful!

If the above statements resonate with you, then help PTA help the school! Parent involvement is critical for a successful school, so volunteer to be a PTA Executive Board member. Dedicated teachers, staff, AND parents help make MTE a great school, it's rewarding, it's important, and it's even fun!

We are currently seeking nominations for the Executive Board of Magnolia Trace Elementary PTA. The Executive Board consists of a President, VP of Membership, VP of Cultural Arts, VP of Awards, Secretary, and Treasurer.

All positions are open and accepting nominations. Those selected by the Nominating Committee to each position will serve one-year terms, with a term limit of no more than two consecutive terms in the same Board position.

Interested candidates can email the nominating committee chair at tkdeville21@gmail.com by April 19. Please list the position you would like to be considered for as well as a brief description of why you would be a good candidate. Please also include a contact number.

President:	Serves as leader of and key contact for PTA, presides over all PTA meetings, coordinates the work of the association, acts as a liaison between MTE PTA and the State PTA, serves as ex-officio on all committees, appoints chairpersons for committees.
VP of Fundraising:	Coordinates all fundraising activities and assumes responsibilities assigned by the Executive board. Works as the lead contact to the chairpersons of fundraising activities. Performs duties of the President in absence.
VP of Programs:	Coordinates all PTA programs, such as Cultural Arts day, Celebration days, STEM Night, etc., and works as the lead contact to the chairpersons of programs. Assumes responsibilities assigned by the Executive board.
VP of Awards & Events:	Coordinates all awards such as the National PTA Reflections program and any contests created by the state PTA or school PTA. Acts as the lead contact to the Room Representative coordinators, Trunk or Treat, and helps manage Social Media. Assumes responsibilities assigned by the Executive board.
Secretary:	Records all business transactions at each Executive, Board, and General PTA meeting, and presents the minutes for approval. Maintains the calendar of events for the PTA. Maintains correspondence for PTA meetings and items due. Assumes responsibilities assigned by the Executive board.
Treasurer:	Be responsible for and have custody of all funds. Make disbursements as properly authorized. Be present at all PTA events where money will be collected. Assure that PTA best practices are followed with regards to funds. Prepare financial reports for all PTA meetings.



BOARD POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Looking to be involved, make friends, and help our school?

LOOK NO FURTHER!

MTE PTA has many Board Positions available. Members of the Board will help run our events and programs and work closely with the Executive Board. Some positions will involve time spent in school, others can be done from home.

Please reach out to sign up or if you have any questions about the available positions.

magnoliatraceelementarypta@gmail.com

Grandparents & Special Friends Week
Celebration Days
Library Volunteer Coordinator
Hospitality
Staff Appreciation

STEM Night
Trunk or Treat
Volunteer Coordinator
Newsletter
Restaurant Nights







MTE STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Katie Lamonte
3rd Grade Math,
Science, Social Studies



- 8 Years at Magnolia Trace
- 8 Years in Education
- Dream Vacation: Cruise around all the French Polynesian
- Favorite Restaurant: Texas Roadhouse
- On weekends I like to: Hang out with my family outside, cook, relax and recharge by reading or watching movies
- I cheer for: LSU, Saints

I became an educator to be a positive influence in the lives of little ones and inspire them to believe in themselves and celebrate all their successes.



MTE STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Joanne Santos
Librarian Aide



- 9 Years at Magnolia Trace
- 9 Years in Education
- Favorite Restaurant: Coffee Rani
- On weekends I like to: Read, garden, play with my granddaughter
- I cheer for: Inter Miami Barcelona FC

I became an educator because I love working with children.



MTE STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Danielle Barrosse
MHP



- 5 Years at Magnolia Trace
- 6 Years in Education
- Dream Vacation: Spain/ Europe
- Favorite Restaurant: El Rancho
- On weekends I like to: Read on my Kindle
- I cheer for: Tigers

I became an educator to help kids!



MTE STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Carolyn Valentin
2nd Grade



- 10 Years at Magnolia Trace
- 18 Years in Education
- Dream Vacation: Australia and New Zealand
- Favorite Restaurant: Habaneros
- On weekends I like to: spend time with my family
- I cheer for: Florida Gators, Tampa Bay Rays

I became an educator because I value a lifelong love for learning. I find joy in witnessing those "light bulb" moments when students grasp new concepts. I also just really love working with kids!



MTE STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Melissa Ogden
Speech Therapist

- 10 Years at Magnolia Trace
- 17 Years in Education
- Dream Vacation: Greece, Italy Tour
- Favorite Restaurant: Chick Fil A
- On weekends I like to: attend my children's sporting events
- I cheer for: Anyone that needs it



I became an educator/SLP because I want to help students to become confident expressing themselves and to help them become the best version of themselves.



MTE STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Tammy Woods
Custodian

- 26 Years at Magnolia Trace
- Dream Vacation: Disney world
- Favorite Restaurant: Chipotle, Mandeville Seafood
- On weekends I like to: go to birthday parties, picnics at the park, bowling and basketball games
- I cheer for: the kids and my MTE family



I became a custodian because I like to keep the school beautiful.

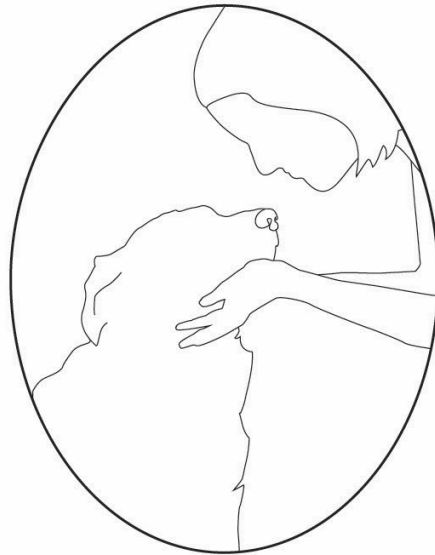
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674-0777

**MONDAY - FRIDAY
8AM-5PM**

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS!



Neal Dog Grooming Salon
(985) 206-5032

BECOME A NEWSLETTER SPONSOR!

Advertise to over 400 Maggie Families!

White Maggie: \$75.00 Your company's logo to appear in a business card size ad

Yellow Maggie: \$150.00 Your company's logo to appear in a 1/4 page ad

Red Maggie: \$300.00 Your company's logo to appear in a 1/2 page ad

Blue Maggie: \$500.00 Your company's logo to appear in a full page ad

SIGN UP HERE!

