



Magnolia Trace Elementary

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



May NEWS HOUND PTA NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Guardians,

What an amazing year 2023-2024 has been. It is hard to believe I am typing my last principal letter for the year. We have grown so much this year. Our students have been rock stars. In the month of April we finished many of our end of the year assessments. Our third graders completed the LEAP test and our teachers are continuing to fine tune student learning to prepare our Maggies for the next grade.

May will be filled with end of the year celebrations like Water Day, 3rd grade celebration, 2nd grade Camp Learn A lot, Tours and classroom festivities. We are nearing the end of our home stretch. We know Spring is here and Summer is approaching. Kids are wanting to be outside and enjoying time with family and friends. We ask that you keep sending students to school. Summer is around the corner and we need to keep moving forward with our learning while we have this time with our students. This summer, Phase II of construction should be complete as well as our new playground. The plan is to start next year with a finished building and new playground. Look for updates as we near the beginning of the year.

In May we celebrate our teachers. Teacher appreciation week May 6th - 10th is a precious time for our teachers. It is a week that they are reminded about the daily impact they make on their students' lives. Our teachers are amazing and they work extremely hard to give every student the best education possible. They are present, nurturing, and loving. They meet at least two times a month to collaborate on how to continue student growth and their own professional growth. They work tirelessly during the week to prepare lessons and are managing many things at once throughout the day. Many people say well at least they have the summer off. In reality, they are preparing for the next year, going to conferences, and taking well deserved time to decompress and think of what is coming up in the next year. Some even work summer school. Considering teachers spend their evenings and weekends during the year getting ready for each week the summer time gives them time to be refreshed and renewed for the new year. I am super grateful for all of our teachers. Their heart and love for students is inspirational. I encourage you to write a note to your child's teacher or teachers to let them know how amazing they are to you and your child. Those simple things mean the world to teachers.

I would like to give a special shout out to Mrs. Dami Ownby our 23-24 Teacher of the Year. Her dynamic teaching style and way of reaching each student every day is nothing short of admirable. To be named teacher of the year in a group of amazing teachers that we have at Magnolia Trace Elementary is truly an honor. I am proud of Mrs. Ownby and all of our teachers for the work they do each day.

I wish all families a great month of May and an awesome summer! It is an honor and privilege to work with an amazing community of people.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Breaux
MTE Principal

Upcoming Events

- May 1st - Math EOY Benchmark/Faculty meeting 7:45/Sports Club
- May 3rd - School Lunch Super Hero Day/Cafeteria Celebration day
- May 7th - Ambassador Meeting
- May 8th - Terrific Kid, Fire Drill, Lighthouse practice/Nurse Celebration Day
- May 9th - Teacher Luncheon 1:30
- May 10th - 3rd grade visits/Blood drive
- May 13th - Incoming 2nd grade student visit morning
- May 14th - Incoming Parent meeting 5:30 pm
- May 17th - Water Day/Speech Pathologist Day
- May 20th - Violin Concert FJH - 6 pm
- May 21st - 3rd grade celebration - Choir Concert 10 Am
- May 22nd - Ambassador and Lighthouse recognition ceremony
- May 23rd - 1/2 day students Last day of school
- May 24th - Teacher Last day

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Happy May!

I can't believe this is the last edition of the News Hound for this school year. This year has flown by. Only a few more weeks of school left and then the summer fun begins! It has been an amazing year that was filled with so many fun PTA events. We are thankful for a great year with our fabulous leaders who light the way!

We can announce that we made \$31,179 from Boosterthon! That helps us purchase needed items for the school such as new headphones to be used in the classroom, STEM equipment, and other curriculum supplies necessary to enrich the education of our little Maggies. We also raised about \$1,300 with our Square 1 Art program. Thank you to all the families who support the PTA and some of the awesome events coordinated by PTA!

In the month of May we will celebrate our Teachers and Staff during the week of May 6-10, so be on the lookout for flyers and posts on Facebook. We will also be assisting with Water Day and the Third Grade picnic. Our last General PTA meeting will be held on May 14 along with Incoming Parent Night. We will vote in the new Executive Board at this time. We hope to see you there!

Last but not least, THANK YOU so much to the team of Executive Board members – Tonya Deville, Sheri Olsen, Christine Childress, Kaitlin McCaulley, and Clare Katner. The countless hours they've poured into this school cannot be matched! They lead with their heart and make decisions with the students as their priority.

I hope you all have a fabulous and safe summer filled with family, friends, vacation, and learning!

We have one family event in the works that may happen over the summer so check Facebook periodically as it will be posted there! Keep on reading and exploring!

With Gratitude,
Caitlin Ness
PTA President



Sign up here!

MTE.PTBOARD.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.

Second Grade

Can you believe that we are in the last month of school? It will be a whirlwind of activity these last few weeks. We have already celebrated Easter parties and Field trips to Honey Island Swamp. We have more fun planned for the month of May with a water day and end of school year fun activities.

In reading, we are tackling our last unit with great stories of immigrants and important figures in history. Text features, story structure, author's purpose, and understanding the main topic and key details of a text will still be spiraled throughout these last few weeks. Our writing topic will focus on writing a letter.

In math, we are continuing with learning about repeated addition, the foundation to multiplication. In this Module, we will focus on repeated addition, arrays, and making equal groups. Please continue to practice math facts with your child.

In science, we are learning about changing landforms and what causes the changers. In Social Studies, we will discuss what factors influence where Americans work and live.

Continue to keep checking your child's take home folders for upcoming events for the end of the year. Let's finish strong. We have almost third graders!



Third Grade

We can't believe we are already in our last month of the school year! We are looking forward to making the most out of our last few weeks. Our third graders did an amazing job during the LEAP 2025 testing week. We are so proud of each of our students. They will be spending the last month of school getting ready for the middle school transition.

In math, they will be collecting and displaying data with line plots and graphs. They will also be finishing up the Reading Guidebook unit learning about Cajun Folktales. In social studies, they will learn about how digital technology has impacted America. In science, students will finish up learning about weather and climate.

All of the third grade teachers will be sad to see our "Top Dogs" leave MTE, but we know they are ready for middle school!



MUSIC NOTES

We have reached the end of the year! This month we will be having an end of the year review. We will also be learning about different styles of music. Our "This Is America" musical will be on May 21st at 10am. It has been a wonderful year of music and it has been a pleasure teaching our children at MTE!



Loving my job,

Norma Ganucheau

Norma.Ganucheau@stpsb.org



Library -Check it out!

We have enjoyed your child this year. It is our hope that he/she will continue to read for the remainder of this school year and during the summer to instill a love of reading.

Congratulations to our 2nd graders who will soon be 3rd graders. You will now be MTE leaders. 3rd graders, we will miss you, but we know that you will continue to read exceptional books at your new middle school.

Don't forget to check out the summer reading program at the St. Tammany Parish Public Library. This is a great time to get a library card if your child does not already have one. Barnes and Noble also has a summer reading incentive program.

"Reading is to the mind, what exercise is to the body." — Joseph Addison



Happy Reading,

Julie Kuylen and Joanne Santos

Magnolia Trace Library



Coach's Corner

Neighborhood swimming pools are opening and everyone is excited to jump in. Swimming is a great no impact exercise that can provide a cardio workout and a total body workout. Even if the kids are not swimming laps, the resistance of the water as they play, can build muscles.

Unfortunately, there are many dangers at a pool. Always be aware of the depth of a pool so you don't dive in the low water or jump into water that is too deep for an inexperienced swimmer. Children, even good swimmers, should always have adult supervision. And don't forget the sun block.

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!!!



MAY MTE LUNCH MENU

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
OFFERED DAILY: Vegetarian Option, Vegetable, Fruit and Choice of Milk				
		1	2	3
		Spaghetti & Meatsauce, Green Beans, Fresh Baked Breadsticks OR Chicken Sandwich, Tots	Hamburger Steak, Candied Sweet Potatoes, Fresh Baked Roll OR Sloppy Joe, Fries	School Made Flatbread Pizza, Marinara Sauce OR BBQ Chicken Sandwich, Tots
6	7	8	9	10
Breaded Pork Chop Patty, Mashed Potatoes, Steamed Carrots OR Chicken Sandwich, Tots	Beef Tacos, Fiesta Black Beans, Salsa, Fresh Baked Cinnamon Breadsticks OR Beef Burrito	Chicken Fettuccine, Steamed Broccoli, Fresh Baked Roll OR Sloppy Joe, Sweet Potato Fries	BBQ Pulled Pork, Sweet Potato Fries, Coleslaw, Fresh Baked Roll OR Turkey Melt, Sweet Potato Fries	Hot Dog w/Chili, Tots OR Hamburger, Tots
13	14	15	16	17
Chicken Tenders, Macaroni and Cheese, Steamed Carrots OR Chicken Sandwich, Tots	Chicken Tacos, Fiesta Black Beans, Salsa, Fresh Baked Cinnamon Breadstick, OR BBQ Pulled Pork Sandwich, Tots, Roasted Chickpeas	Meat Sauce, Spaghetti Pasta, Moxed Vegetables, Garlic Breadstick OR Turkey Melt, Fries	Fried Catfish, Baked Potato, Cole-slaw, Fresh Baked Roll OR Chicken Sandwich, Tots, Fiesta Black Beans	Hot Dog w/Chili, Tots OR Hamburg-er, Tots
20	21	22	21	
Breaded Pork Chop Patty, Red Beans, Candied Sweet Potatoes, Biscuit OR Turkey Melt, Tots	Pulled Pork Nachos, Corn,Salsa OR BBQ Chicken Sandwich, Tots	Chicken Gumbo, Potato Salad, Rice, Breadstick OR Chicken Sandwich, Tots	Hamburger, Tots OR Hot Dog w/Chili ,Tots	

MAY MTE BREAKFAST MENU

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1	2	3
		Flaky Biscuit w/Shaved Ham Chilled Fruit, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk	Choice of, School made muffin OR Toaster Pastry w/Toast, Chilled Fruit, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk	School made cinnamon roll, Chilled Fruit, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk
6	7	8	9	10
Hot breakfast pizza, Chilled Fruit, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk	Choice of Breakfast Eggs w/Grits & Toast, OR Toaster Pastry w/Toast, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk	Flaky Biscuit w/Shaved Ham Chilled Fruit, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk	Choice of Breakfast Burrito OR Toaster Pastry w/Toast Chilled Fruit, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk	School made beignets, chilled fruit, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk
13	14	15	16	17
Dutch waffles, Chilled Fruit, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk	Choice of Breakfast Eggs w/Grits & Toast, OR Toaster Pastry w/Toast, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk	Flaky Biscuit w/Shaved Ham Chilled Fruit, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk	Choice of, School made muffin OR Toaster Pastry w/Toast, Chilled Fruit, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk	School made cinnamon roll, Chilled Fruit, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk
20	21	22	23	
Hot breakfast pizza, Chilled Fruit, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk	School made beignets, chilled fruit, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk	Cereal w/ Toast, Chilled Fruit, Chilled Fruit Juice, Cold Milk		

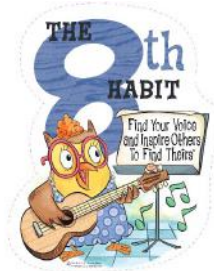
Have a great summer!



We have made it to the end of the school year... Give yourself a pat on the back, you deserve it! It has been an amazing year of learning and growing. A word that comes to mind when thinking of this year is PERSEVERANCE. Perseverance means to continue working toward a goal despite encountering obstacles. I feel all of our students have persevered through the year not only academically but socially and emotionally as well. The students have continued trying and never gave up. People who demonstrate perseverance have a positive attitude or "growth mindset". They also stay focused on their goals and continue to work toward them. As we end this school year I encourage you and your students to continue to grow and persevere through any obstacle life throws your way.

Our final Habit is **Habit 8: Find Your Voice and Inspire Others to Find Theirs!** This habit is one of my personal favorites as it is one I try to work on each and every day with our students. People who have found their voice focus on expanding their circle of influence, being trustworthy, building trust, blending the voices of others, and creating a common vision. They align goals and systems and empower others.

Great achievers express their voice by developing their vision, passion, and conscience. They recognize, respect and create meaningful opportunities for others to express their voices.



Check Out the Habit 8 Book List:

Can I Play Too? by Mo Willems

Speak Up by Miranda Paul

Speak Up by Rebecca Burgess

Abdul's Story by Jamilah Thompkins-Bigelow

Have a safe & fun Summer! --- Mrs. Jordan

PTA Volunteer of the Month

Volunteer of the Month – April

April's Volunteer of the Month is Tonya Deville. Tonya works tirelessly on all the things throughout the year and is available whenever someone needs help. She was in charge of Cultural Arts day this year, but her work does not stop there. Thank you Tonya for everything you do for PTA and our little Maggies!

Volunteer of the Month – May

May's Volunteer of the Month is Christine Childress. Christine is in charge of our Awards and other contests. She will be presenting Awards in May, she is present at every meeting, and she is one of our expert decorators, always willing to lend a hand when needed. Thank you Christine for everything you do for those around you!



Wyatt Sellers
Lilly Hernandez
Margaret Hutson
Emma King
Camden Heintz
Emma Swell
Blakely Jenkins
Eloise Bennett
Adyson Olsen
Slayton Shane
Anthony Bradshaw



Emma Barnum
Kole Mouton
Lexi Depascual
Trinity Monk
Jayceon Scott
Reese Collins
Soren Ledig
Sam Babb
Chance MacDonald

May

Upcoming Restaurant and Fundraising Nights



Lagos Mexican Restaurant
Wednesday, May 15
4-9:00 pm

Student Spotlight

3rd Grade Field Trip to IMMS
By: Reese Collins

The third grade field classes went on a field trip to the Institute for Marine Mammal Studies. IMMS is in Gulfport, Mississippi.

There were several fun areas and exhibits to visit. The sting rays were in a large pool where we could pet them. The bird enclosure was cool because we got to feed the birds. At the museum, we could read facts on screens and there were smaller pools with other sting rays, starfish, crabs, and sea urchins. There was also a place where we watched the dolphin and sea lion show.

IMMS was such a fun place to visit and we learned a lot about marine mammals.



PTA FAMILY FUN

As we approach summer, we think about how the days can be super long! Here's a list of ideas to keep busy this summer! Enjoy!

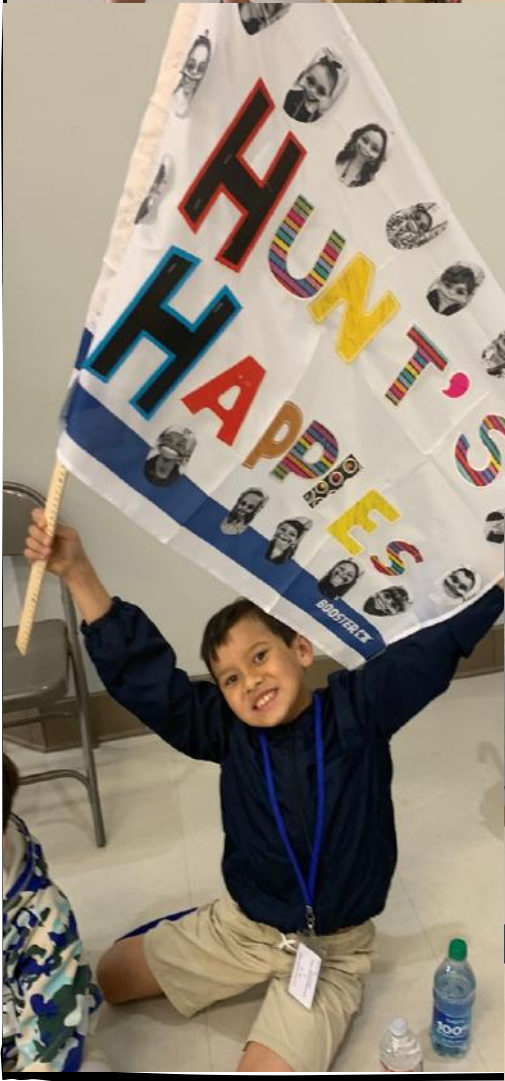
SUMMER

OVER 100 IDEAS!

bucket list



- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ■ Make Tie-Dye Shirts | ■ Visit National Monuments | ■ Build a Sand Castle |
| ■ Catch Fireflies | ■ Make Root Beer Floats | ■ Ride a Ferris Wheel |
| ■ Run Through Sprinklers | ■ Collect Seashells | ■ Make Fresh Lemonade |
| ■ Play Marco Polo | ■ Go Camping | ■ Play On a Slip-N-Slide |
| ■ Homemade Ice Cream | ■ Color with Sidewalk Chalk | ■ PJ Movie Day |
| ■ Drive-in Movie Theater | ■ Go on a Nature Walk | ■ Make Friendship Bracelets |
| ■ Have a Water Balloon Fight | ■ Bonfire & S'mores | ■ Make a Blanket Fort |
| ■ Stargaze | ■ Visit a Water Park | ■ Start a Blessings Jar |
| ■ Have a Picnic | ■ Fly a Kite | ■ Play Tag with Friends |
| ■ Visit a Nursing Home | ■ Buy from Ice Cream Truck | ■ Ride your Bike on a Trail |
| ■ Play at the Park with Friends | ■ Watch the Sunrise at Beach | ■ Go Minigolfing |
| ■ Blow Bubbles | ■ Eat Breakfast for Dinner | ■ Jump in Puddles |
| ■ Eat Watermelon | ■ Make Wishes on Dandelions | ■ Plant Vegetables |
| ■ Read at least 10 Books | ■ Visit a Zoo | ■ Write a Soldier a Letter |
| ■ Watch Fireworks | ■ Have a Pillow Fight | ■ Paint Pet Rocks |
| ■ Dance in the Rain | ■ Go Swimming | ■ Donate to Animal Shelter |
| ■ Play Frisbee | ■ Eat too many Popsicles | ■ Family Game Night |
| ■ Watch the Sunset at Beach | ■ Climb a Tree | ■ Make Homemade Pizza |
| ■ Roast Marshmallows | ■ Plant Flowers | ■ Go Bowling |
| ■ Visit a Farmers Market | ■ Help Cook Dinner | ■ Make Handprint Art |
| ■ Play Hide and Seek | ■ Host a Scavenger Hunt | ■ Go Cloud Watching |
| ■ Make Homemade Playdoh | ■ Do a Science Project | ■ Have a Water Gun Fight |
| ■ Have a Slumber Party | ■ Play Messy Twister | ■ Play Bingo |
| ■ Finger Paint | ■ Random Act of Kindness | ■ Make Suncatchers |
| ■ Eat a Snow Cone | ■ Attend Free Kids Art Class | ■ Jump on a Trampoline |
| ■ Make Recycled Crayons | ■ Learn Origami | ■ Go Fishing |
| ■ Visit Mom or Dad at Work | ■ Bake Cookies for Neighbor | ■ Bury a Time Capsule |
| ■ Play Dodge Ball | ■ Make Homemade Slime | ■ Drink a Slurpee |
| ■ Make Paper Bag Puppets | ■ Attend Free Kids Workshop | ■ Go Rock Hunting |
| ■ Go to the Library | ■ Make a Bird Feeder | ■ Start a Summer Journal |
| ■ Watch a Thunderstorm | ■ Wash the Family Car | ■ Play Capture the Flag |
| ■ Make Story Stones | ■ Make & Sail Paper Boats | ■ Go to Chuck E Cheese |
| ■ Play Flashlight Tag | ■ Go to Childrens Museum | ■ Visit an Aquarium |
| ■ Make Sponge Water Bombs | ■ Write a Story & Illustrate It | ■ Go Kayaking |







MTE STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Dami Ownby
2nd Grade



- 8th Year at Magnolia Trace
- 13 Years in Education
- Dream Vacation: Beach and Mountains
- Favorite Restaurant: Habanero's
- On weekends I like to: Relax with my family
- I cheer for: Geaux Saints!

I became an educator because I want to make a positive impact on children to encourage a love of learning.



MTE STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Gail Marcks
3rd Grade ELA



- 6 Years at Magnolia Trace
- 19 Years in Education
- Dream Vacation: ANY gorgeous beach!!!
- Favorite Restaurant: Nan's
- On weekends I like to: Read and Swim
- I cheer for: Saints and Bears

I became an educator because I've always wanted to be a teacher and encourage learners!



MTE STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Casey Gleason
Teacher of the Gifted



- 11 Years at Magnolia Trace
- 29 Years in Education
- Dream Vacation: An extended trip around the world-including all 7 Continents
- Favorite Restaurant: Sal N Judy's
- On weekends I like to: *Be with family & friends * Watch Sports *Sleep
- I cheer for: The Saints

I became an educator because I knew wanted to work with people and I enjoyed working with children. I had a desire to make a positive impact on the world and I loved thinking, learning, and coaching. I chose education as a PROACTIVE path that would integrate my passions.



MTE STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Sharon Barney
2nd Grade



- 9 Years at Magnolia Trace
- 41 Years in Education
- Dream Vacation: Alaska
- Favorite Restaurant: Times Grill
- On weekends I like to: Go to Times, garden, sleep
- I cheer for: The Saints

I became an educator because I like to see their light bulb go off. I have and I will work my hardest and do the best I can so that it shows that it is good to be teaching.



MTE STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Jamie Breaux
Principal



- 3 Years at Magnolia Trace
- 18 Years in Education
- Dream Vacation: Glacier National Park
- Favorite Restaurant: Copelands, Felix's
- On weekends I like to: go hiking, do community service, visit family
- I cheer for: SLU Lions, Magnolia Trace, and our FHS Learning Community

I became an educator because it's the best job! My heart is seeing and communicating the fights I see in others so they can shine their light in this world.



MTE STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Julie Kuylen
Librarian



- 8 Years at Magnolia Trace
- 14 Years in Education
- Dream Vacation: Greece
- Favorite Restaurant: Albasha
- On weekends I like to: read and watch Netflix
- I cheer for: people who need encouragement

I became an educator to help people see their true potential.

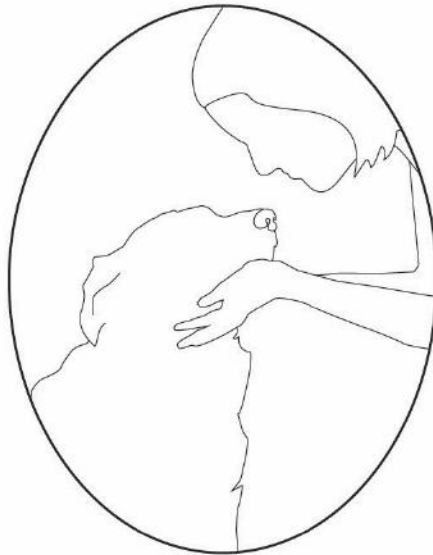
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**MONDAY - FRIDAY
8AM-5PM**

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