



Magnolia Trace Elementary

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



February NEWS HOUND PTA NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to the 2025 New Year! January has been a busy and epic month with our snow days. This is the part of the year that seems to go very quickly with the holidays and the fast pace of activities. Students are growing and embracing new learning each day. We have just completed our middle-of-the-year testing and teachers will be looking at this data to see how they can adjust lessons and individual small groups for students. We are in the midst of teacher observations and evaluations. Our teachers are phenomenal and consistently keep perfecting their craft through professional learning committees, daily collaboration and reflection. We appreciate all they do! It is encouraged that students come to school and vacations are planned during the days we are not in school. The teachers are covering important information and it is difficult to catch the students up when they miss multiple days. Please be cognizant of this as we move further into the spring semester.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- Feb 1 - Black History Month Begins
- Feb 3 - Boosterthon Kick-Off
- Feb 4 - Principal Meeting
- Feb 5 - Counselor Day; Ambassador Meeting 4-5 p.m.
- Feb 6 - Faculty Meeting 7:45 a.m.; Leadership Meeting
- Feb 11 - Sports Club Meeting
- Feb 12 - Crossing Guard Appreciation; PTA Meeting 9 a.m.
- Feb 13 - SRO Appreciation Day
- Feb 14- Boosterthon
- Feb 17 - Fire Drill
- Feb 18 - Faculty Meeting 7:45 a.m.
- Feb 19 - K-Kids Outreach
- Feb 20 - Lighthouse Meeting
- Feb 24-28 - Drop Everything and Read Week
- Feb 26 - Ambassador Meeting 4-5 p.m.
- Feb 27 - Cultural Arts Morning—1:30 Marigny Mardi Gras Parade
- Feb 28 - Spirit Day and Spirit Awards

In February, we are excited about our Cultural Arts Day! We will be covering another country and having a few guest presenters. We will also be joining in with Marigny's Mardi Gras Parade on February 27. In addition to Cultural Arts day, we are celebrating Black History month. Our committee has developed fun and informative activities to celebrate leaders who have made an impact on our country. Our spring Book Fair will also take place this month. We encourage students to keep reading. Our school-wide fundraiser, Boosterthon, will also be happening. From Feb 3-14 we will be incentivizing students to raise as much money as possible so we can set up our motor rooms and sensory rooms. These are rooms that students will have access to during rainy day recess, when they may be anxious and need some calming, and for instructional breaks. We appreciate any support that can be given.

As a school we are focusing on reading fluency and mathematical content. We want students to be able to show proficiency in grade level math content. This includes explaining how they solve the problem and/or why is a certain answer to a problem correct or incorrect? By explaining their answers, students are demonstrating they understand mathematical concepts. In regards to student reading fluency, we want students' rate of reading to increase along with their accuracy. This will increase by students reading more frequently. Encourage students to read books they enjoy so it can be a fun learning experience for them! Also encourage students to read aloud!

In want to extend my appreciation to all of you for your continuous support. Our school is an amazing place to work, grow, and learn. We are very proud of our students, faculty, and staff. We are blessed to work in a community that collaborates, supports one another, and strives to find the best in every child. I am humbled every day by the work that happens here. If you ever have any concerns, praises or feedback it is always welcomed. Please feel free to email me at Jamie.breaux@stpsb.org. I thank you again for your support as we work together to educate every child every day.

Sincerely,
Jamie Breaux
MTE Principal

Hi, Maggie Families!

It's February already! January was a great month for us. It was a little chilly with our sneaux vacation, but what an exciting time for all of our students!

Cultural Arts Day is coming up! We have some informative and hands-on stations planned to learn about Great Britain! We will be looking for volunteers shortly so be on the lookout for a signup on our Facebook page. We would love to have your help with this fun day!

In December, PTA held the Reflections art contest. There were several school-level winners that will be treated to Cookies with the Principal where their work will be showcased. Some scored high enough to move on to the State competition. As soon as we hear those results, we will announce the exciting news! Thank you to our judges and great job to all the students who entered!

As we near the end of the year we are beginning to look at filling positions for the PTA Board next year. If you are interested in volunteering, please email me at magnoliatraceelementarypta@gmail.com. We can discuss various positions, large and small, and can find something that fits your needs. If you know anyone from Marigny coming to MTE and think they would be a great addition and are ready to be involved, please share this information with them. It is such a rewarding position!

Mardi Gras break is coming up. Once we get back, we will have a busy March, April and May. We look forward to a fabulous end to the school year!

Laissez Les Bons Temps Rouler!

Caitlin Ness

PTA President 2024-2025
Magnolia Trace Elementary



Magnolia Trace
2024 - 2025
PTA Executive Board

President – Caitlin Ness
VP of Fundraising – Sheri Olsen
VP of Programs—Ariel Heintz
Secretary – Kaitlin McCaulley
Treasurer—Amanda Brady

Our VP of Awards position is available.
If interested, please email us at
magnoliatraceelementarypta@gmail.com



Click here for more info and to
see what's going on with MTE PTA!



Our students recognized in January:

Reese Guzman
Preston LeBlanc
Colston Coyle
Kinsley Viola
Nadhia Chirnos
Cecelia (Cece) Schaefer
Adaline Gordy

Olivia Buttone
Penelope Mayeux
Canton Couvillion
Coco Jones
Jaxon Fletcher
Eloise Bennett

Bowen Williams
Miles Sanford
Mason Landry
Bennett Ellison
Adyson Olsen
Emma Elliott
Lucy Fremin

Second Grade

January was so much fun in second grade! We had a great time going to see the play, *You Go, Goddess*, at Fontainebleau High School. Our students were so well-behaved and really enjoyed the performance! This month we can't wait to celebrate and learn more about Black History Month.

In our Reading Unit, we learned about westward expansion during the 1800s. Our students learned why pioneers were willing and eager to endure hardships to move westward and about important innovations in both transportation and communication during that period, which greatly increased the movement of people westward. This month, our next domain will introduce students to the largest group of animals on Earth. Students will learn the characteristics of insects, the life cycles of insects, how insects can be categorized as solitary or social, and how insects are viewed as both helpful and harmful. These topics will help us build the foundation for later learning this year and in other grades.

In Math, we finished up our module on shapes and time with fraction concepts. This month, we will begin our next module where our students will deepen their understanding of addition and subtraction while working within 1,000. They will reason about place value, properties of operations, and the relationship between numbers as they choose efficient strategies to solve problems.

This month in Social Studies, students will describe the founding of the United States and basic principles of the Constitution. They will define democracy and identify founders who helped write the Constitution. Students will study the three branches of government and learn about our government leaders' responsibilities while also learning about the importance of civic virtues.

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

Third Grade



Third graders are looking forward to a fabulous February! For Valentine's Day, students may bring UNLABELED Valentine cards/treats. Individual names do not need to be written on each card. Each teacher will decide how and when their Valentine exchange will take place.

In math, students will explore fractions. Students will understand that fractions are part of a whole. They will also place fractions on number lines. Please continue to have your child practice their math facts! Students can work at home on Reflex Math.

In ELA, students are reading informational texts to learn about the Louisiana Purchase. Students will express their understanding of the Louisiana Purchase by explaining the events leading up to the acquisition of the territory, and the results of those events. We will be writing about the Napoleon and Jefferson acquisition of the Louisiana Territory and learning about Lewis' and Clark's expedition.

In social studies, students will learn that the United States became an industrial giant. They will explore how inventions changed the way ordinary people lived and discuss how workers formed unions to fight for better pay and working conditions. Finally, students will learn that Theodore Roosevelt put the country on a new course of conservation and preservation to safeguard the nation's resources and natural wonders for future generations.

In science, students will study evidence that plants and animals have traits inherited from their parents. They will also discover that traits can be influenced by the environment. Students will be able to explain that in a particular habitat some organisms can survive well, some survive less well, and some cannot survive at all.

We hope that each student continues to remain focused and always do their best work as we progress through the school year. **LEAP Testing takes place April 2, 3, 4, 7, and 8.** Please do not schedule any trips or appointments for your child this week if at all possible.

MUSIC NOTES

Students will be learning about patriotism this month. We will be singing many patriotic songs and learning about their origins. We are also starting a new musical, "Superheroes".

Loving my job,
Norma Ganucheau

LIBRARY: CHECK IT OUT!



It is such a treat to watch your child grow as a reader this year. The students were excited to shop the final book fair of the school year, which was Monday, February 3- Friday, February 7.

In January, students were given their final reading level in the library, while working in close collaboration with their classroom teacher. The library reading level is based on each student's DIBELS test scores. This is your child's independent reading level. They are also encouraged to become active patrons of their public library and check out other book and levels of interests.

Students will continue getting one "free choice" day each month, which will allow them to select a book outside of their reading level. Our main goal is to continue to build on their reading foundation and love for books.

Happy Reading,
Julie Kuylen and Joanne Santos
Magnolia Trace Library
julie.kuylen@stpsb.org

"There are many little ways to enlarge your world. Love of books is the best of all."

- Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis

COACH'S CORNER

In P.E, we have been working on our throwing, catching, and kicking skills. We have practiced the correct motions and have used the skills in games. Since we have been playing games lately, we have also had plenty of discussion about "good sportsmanship". It's not always the easiest thing for young children to understand, but we are working on it

Unfortunately, a lot of jackets get left in the gym. The students come in wearing a jacket, get hot while we are playing, and leave without grabbing their jacket. I make it a point to mention "grab your jackets from the stage", but it is not always heard. If a jacket is forgotten I usually leave it on the stage for the owner to return. Also, parents, please help your children remember which days they have P.E. and make sure they wear appropriate shoes. Boots are dangerous to run around in and damage the gym floor.

Coach Dusang

ART: WATTER'S WORLD





Catching Up with the Counselor

February: a month of love and kindness. Throughout the month of February, the students will learn all about self-love, affirmations, kindness, and confidence. There will be a fun and interactive affirmation display up for the students and faculty to participate in, so stay tuned for that! I encourage you all at home to practice affirmations for yourself, whether you are a parent/guardian or a student. An affirmation a day keeps the negativity away!

National School Counseling Week is February 3rd-7. This is a week to learn all about aspects of the school counselor's role. This year's theme is **School Counseling: Helping Students Thrive**.

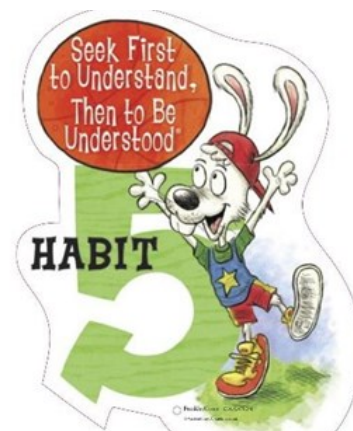
A little about my work: School counselors are employed in public and private schools to help students reach their full potential; we are actively committed to helping students explore their abilities, strengths, interests, and talents as these traits relate to career awareness and development. We help parents focus on ways to further the educational, personal and social growth of their children, and we work with teachers and other educators to help students explore their potential and set realistic goals for themselves. School counselors seek to identify and utilize community resources that can enhance and complement comprehensive school counseling programs and help students become productive members of society. Comprehensive developmental school counseling programs are considered an integral part of the educational process that enables all students to achieve success in school.

Hello, Habit 5: Seek First to Understand, then to be Understood. When practicing this habit really listen to what others are saying and sit back and think about their words. This habit helps us step out of our own shoes and into someone else's. We all want to be heard so practicing patience and truly listening to what someone is saying rather than just waiting your turn to speak is beneficial

Mrs. Jordan 

Check out the Habit 5 Book List:

Veronica Knows Best by Nancy K. Robinson
The Name Jar by Yangsook Choi
Walk Two Moons by Sharon Creech
Rules by Cynthia Lord
Are You My Mother? by P.D. Eastman
It Looked Like Spilled Milk by Charles Shaw



Johnny's
Pizza House®

PIZZA NIGHT



Magnolia Trace Elementary

JOIN US!

Tuesday, February 18th
4:00pm - 8:00pm

104 Lake Dr, Covington, LA 70433

15%

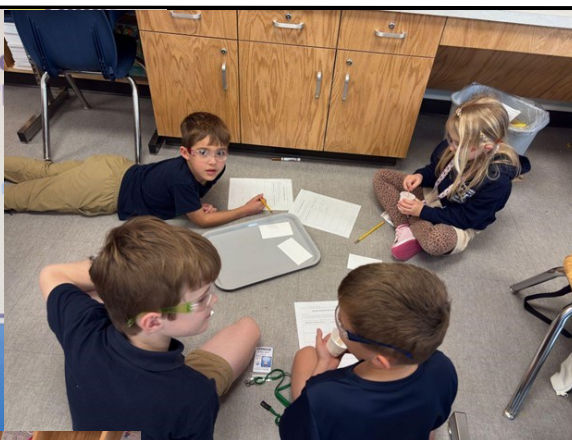
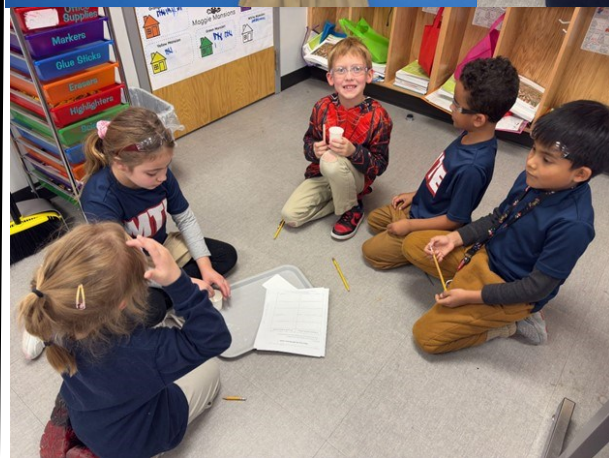
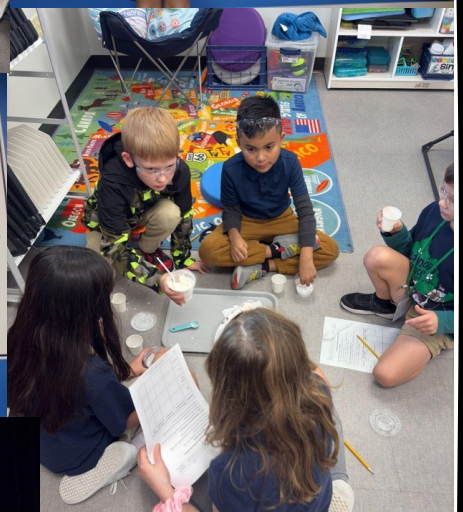
Of all sales will go directly to the school!



Volunteer of the Month



January's volunteer of the month is Alicia Sykes! Alicia has been such an integral part of Magnolia Trace. She works closely with the room representatives, helps to coordinate Trunk or Treat, helps with social media, and is in charge of our Boosterthon Fun Run! Thank you for giving so much time and energy to the PTA. We love having you on our team!



Student Articles



MAGNOLIA TRACE ELEMENTARY TEACHER

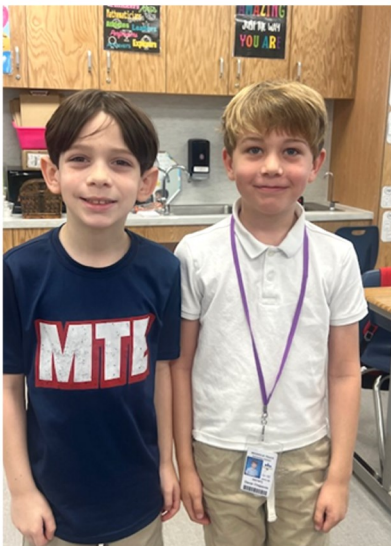
Mrs. Chotto is a kind teacher. She has been teaching for 17 years. She loves to help students reach their goals and to feel successful in and out the classroom. Mrs. Chotto is a fun and loving teacher. We are grateful to have her at MTE.

Written by: Sophia Hernandez

ALL ABOUT MTE'S LIBRARY

My first time at MTE library was great! It was so much bigger with more books. The thing I like about the library is they have more books that are interesting. Each class has a certain day they get to spend in the library and pick out a book. We all have one week to read the book that we picked. We turn it back in and pick a new book every week. Wednesday is my favorite day because I get to go to the Library.

Written by: Ben Breaux



MAGGIE STUDENT OSCAR CHAPPUIS

Oscar Chappuis is a great student because he listens in class. He works in class quietly and answers questions. Oscar always gets stuff done when a teacher tells him to. He helps others by cheering them up when they are having a bad day. Oscar is always kind.

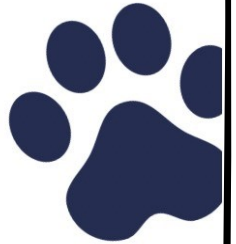
Written by: Roman Rohr.

FEBRUARY MTE LUNCH MENU

Vegetarian option, vegetable, fruit and choice of milk offered daily.				
3	4	5	6	7
Crispy Chicken Sandwich with Tator Tots OR Dill Turkey Nuggets with Mashed Potatoes	Manager's Choice Hamburger Steak, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy OR Meatball Sub and Tots	Pork Nachos with Fixings, Steamed Corn OR Hamburger/Cheeseburger, Fries	Chicken Fettucine with Steamed Broccoli OR Sloppy Joe, Fries	Corn Dog with French Fries OR Hamburger/Cheeseburger, Fries
10	11	12	13	14
Red Beans and Rice, Steamed Spinach with Buttery Biscuit OR Hot Dog, Fries	Beef Burrito with Seasoned Corn OR Cheesy Nachos with Fixings, Steamed Corn	Cheesy Beefy Mac with Green Beans OR Hamburger/Cheeseburger, Fries	Chicken Jambalaya with Mixed Veggies OR Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Fries	Hamburger/Cheeseburger, Fries OR BBQ Pulled Pork Sandwich, Fries
17	18	19	20	21
Dill Turkey Nuggets with Mac & Cheese and Steamed Carrots OR Chicken Sandwich, Fries	Beef Tacos with Fixings, Seasoned Corn, Cinnamon Breadstick OR Hamburger/Cheeseburger	Shepherd's Pie with Fresh Roll OR Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Fries	Manager's Choice Beefy Mac and Jambalaya, Vegetables	Baked Potato Supreme with Chili OR School-made Flatbread Pizza, Fries
24	15	26	27	28
Dill Turkey Nuggets with Steamed Broccoli and Fresh Roll OR Hamburger/Cheeseburger, Fries	Beef Tacos with Fixings, Ranchero Beans, Cinnamon Breadstick OR BBQ Pulled Pork Sandwich, Fries	Spaghetti and Meat Sauce, Green Beans, Fresh Baked French Bread OR Meatball Sub, Fries	Chili Cheese Fries, Fresh Baked Roll OR Hot Dog, Fries	School-made Flatbread Pizza, Marinara Sauce OR Sloppy Joe, Fries

FEBRUARY MTE BREAKFAST MENU

Fruit, fruit juice, cereal with toast and choice of milk offered daily.				
3	4	5	6	7
Pancake Poppers	Eggs with Grits and Toast OR Toaster Pastry with Toast	Flaky Biscuit with Sausage	Breakfast Egg Scramble OR Toaster Pastry with Toast	School-Made Cinnamon Roll
10	11	12	13	14
Hot Breakfast Pizza	Eggs with Grits and Toast OR Toaster Pastry with Toast	Flaky Biscuit with Sausage	School-Made Muffin	School-Made Beignets
17	18	19	20	21
Chocolate Swirl Pastry	Eggs with Grits and Toast OR Toaster Pastry with Toast	Flaky Biscuit with Sausage	Breakfast Egg Scramble OR Toaster Pastry with Toast	School-Made Cinnamon Roll
24	25	26	27	28
Warm Donut	Eggs with Grits and Toast OR Toaster Pastry with Toast	Flaky Biscuit with Sausage	Hot Breakfast Pizza	School-made Beignets



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