



Magnolia Trace Elementary

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



December NEWS HOUND PTA NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Guardians,

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 2- 3rd Grade Dibels MOY
December 3- 2nd Grade Dibels MOY,
Lighthouse Meeting 4-5
December 8- Numeracy Testing 3rd,
Anti Bullying Karate 4-5
December 9- Numeracy Testing 2nd,
Anti Bully Karate 4-5, STEM Club 4-5
December 10- Anti Bullying Karate 4-5
December 11- Ambassadors visit the
School Board Meeting
December 15- Marching Maggies 4-5
December 16- Terrific Leader 9:30,
Faculty Christmas Luncheon
December 17- 2nd Grade Bookworm
Buddies 8:15-8:45
December 18- 3rd Grade Bookworm
Buddies 8:15-8:45, Choir Concert 2:00
December 19- Half day of School;
Dismissal at 12:51
December 20-January 5- Winter Break
January 6- School Resumes

Thank you for another great month of launching excellence at MTE. Our STEM night was a huge success. Thank you to our STEM committee, Northshore Robotics, FHS Robotics, STPSB Starlab, St. Tammany Parish Mosquito Abatement, Lakeshore High students, Fontainebleau Junior High Students, and all the families that took part in our STEM Day. I would also give a tribute to our Veterans. All those who have served our country and have provided us with the opportunities that we get are truly appreciated.

I am extremely grateful for our teachers and staff who have shown dedication and love for our students, that is exceptional. Three months in a row we have received attendance awards from the district for our employees being at school. Our students' learning and safety is our priority and I could not be prouder of our team. Thank you, families, for getting students to school. With the amount of content that is covered it is very important for students to attend school. We do understand illnesses do occur and we ask when this happens if you send a doctor's note or a parent's note stating the child is ill. This will count as excused absence.

We are welcoming a new Music Teacher this month. Mrs. Ganucheau has retired, and Mrs. Hotard will be our new music teacher! She is an experienced music teacher, and we are super excited about welcoming her to our team. In the short three weeks of December, we have a lot of state and district Midyear assessments happening. It is important for students to come to school for these three weeks. December 19th is half day for students and will be our end of nine weeks celebration day. It is hard to believe we are almost halfway through the school year. I feel like we are just starting. If I could encourage anything for this holiday season it would be to spend time with your families, hug your children tight, and take time to appreciate and embrace this time you have with them. Thank you again for all you do. We are truly blessed with the best community!

Sincerely,
Jamie Breaux
Principal

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Season's Greetings!

This year is coming to an end, but our Maggies have an exciting December ahead of them! It's the end of 2025 and we already have a semester of school under our belts!

We have a busy December: the Teacher Holiday Luncheon (Thank you to all our class sitters, we couldn't do it without you!), and a Celebration Day. We have some great events planned for the second half of the year such as Cultural Arts Day, the Boosterthon Fun Run, Water Day, and Teacher Appreciation Week.

If anyone is interested in getting more involved, it's not too late! We would love to have you. We are currently looking for new Board members to assist with the upcoming events. Also, if you think you might be interested in being part of Magnolia Trace's PTA Board and would like more information, please reach out! Email magnoliatraceelementarypta@gmail.com with any questions or interest!

I hope everyone enjoys the rest of December and can spend lots of time with family over the break!

Warmest wishes to you and your family this holiday season!

Chanelle Smith

PTA President 2025-2026

Magnolia Trace Elementary

Magnolia Trace
2025- 2026
PTA Executive Board

President – Chanelle Smith
Secretary – Sarah Dunne
Treasurer– Kourtney Chavis
VP of Promotions– Brittany Joiner
Board Member– Sherri Toucheque



Scan the QR code for
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and More!



JOIN THE PTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS!

Join the dedicated group of making MTE great for our kids!

Interested? Email magnoliatraceelementarypta@gmail.com



Second Grade



Our second graders totally sleigh! They have been hard at work and we couldn't be prouder of the leaders they are becoming! This month we are focusing on Habit 4 of "Think Win-Win." Students are practicing this by using their problem solving skills when communicating with others. Our students are seeking solutions in situations where everyone who is involved benefits. We encourage our students to collaborate with others.

In ELA, we will begin unit 4, "The Job Hunt", in skills. Students will continue the writing process of drafting, editing, and publishing. Students will learn different vowel sounds and spellings and apply these skills when writing. Students will continue to work with singular and plural nouns. They will also work with action verbs, to be verbs, and verb tenses. In Knowledge, students will hear stories about Cycles of Nature in Domain 6. Students will compare and contrast the life cycle of a butterfly and a frog.

In Math, students will be continuing Module 2. Students will continue to use properties of operations, the relationships between numbers, and place value understanding to add and subtract within 200. They will apply these operations to represent and solve word problems.

In Science, students will become glue engineers. Students are challenged to create glue for use at their school that meets a set of design goals. Students discover that by mixing ingredients together, it's possible to create a mixture that takes on some of the properties of its ingredients.

In Social Studies, students will continue to learn about the beginnings of America. We will discuss topics about North America's First Peoples, The Thirteen Colonies, From Colonies to Independence, and Washington, D.C.

As a friendly reminder, don't forget to check your child's yellow take home folder daily! Students should also complete math homework and fluency reading each night to practice.

We are excited for all that December will bring! Believe in your s-ELF!



Third Grade



November sure was a busy and exciting month! A huge thank you to Mrs. Marcks' and Mrs. Colon's classes for their informative and touching Veterans Day presentations! They did a beautiful job honoring those who serve our country.

Throughout the month of December, third grade students will be busy discovering a deeper understanding of multiplication and division. Please encourage your child to practice multiplication and division facts each night. Recognition of these facts will foster mastery of more advanced concepts. Students will also begin learning about area of shapes.

In Science, we will continue being wildlife biologists to discover why organisms within a species have trait variations. Students will investigate inherited traits and those that result from the environment.

In, Social Studies, we will continue to learn about how America continued to grow. We will focus on westward expansion, including The Oregon Trail and Transcontinental Railroad. We will also discuss the role that Native Americans played in the expansion of America.

In ELA, third graders will continue to read a variety of stories about unlikely friendships and make connections between the texts. As the holidays approach, it's the best time of the year to celebrate the joy of the season with our school family!

The choir concert will be on December 18th. Students will have a half day on Friday, December 19th. Students will return to school after winter break on Tuesday, January 6th.

We wish everyone a very happy holiday and a safe and happy New Year!

STUDENT CORNER

STEM NIGHT

STEM night is fun and it teaches you about:
Science , Technology, Engineering, Mathematics

MTE Stem night had tower-building. I built the tallest tower but all the other towers were so cool. They made big curves.

The circuit station was hard with all the supplies you needed to make the fan work. I liked everyone's build and they all tried different strategies.

The robotics was cool. I do not know how to even work it because there were a lot of controls.

The creation station was awesome! My friend made a frog with all the details. I made a big cube that was like 5 inches.

I hope everyone enjoyed STEM night as much as I did! Also, thanks to everyone that helped with the STEM night.

Written By: Ben Breaux



MTE VETERAN'S DAY PROGRAM

The Veterans' Day program was on November 11 and was perfect. I personally think it was very nice. Our students from Ms. Marck's and Ms. Colon's classes performed. They performed patriotic songs. The gym was decorated in red, white, and blue.

Who are veterans? Veterans are people who served our country. MTE students invited their family members who served in the military. If you did not have a veteran you stayed in your classroom and would go on Google Meet. Classes watched the program. I loved it and I hope you did, too! Thank you, Veterans!!!

Written By: Amelia Byrd

MRS. SMITH'S ARTICLE

Mrs. Smith is a good teacher. Mrs. Smith is hard working for students, giving easy suggestions and strategies. One way is that she always wants to help students improve. Mrs. Smith teaches students math and science. Mrs. Smith's classes are her class and Mrs. Marck's class.

Mrs. Smith has rules:

Do not get out of your seat without permission.

Use the hand signals on the wall on the right hand side.

Show respect to students and teachers.

All of Mrs. Smith's rules are important but the most important rule is to be kind to your community. Mrs. Smith was doing this when she was helping with STEM night. Thank you, Mrs. Smith!

Written By: Ben Breaux



LIBRARY: CHECK IT OUT!



We will be enjoying some holiday stories in the library during the month of December. Please encourage your child to read and discuss what they're reading with you. I have been fortunate enough to read with several students in the library lately. Many of them are excited to read. They are becoming stronger independent readers and love to model reading with an adult or reading buddy. The value of reading with your child is priceless! We have many new book titles in the library. My hope for the New Year is to expose children to many new books and authors they are not aware of.

"There is more treasure in books than in all the pirate's loot on Treasure Island." - Walt Disney

Thank you so much,

Julie Kuylen and Joanne Santos

Magnolia Trace Library



MUSICAL NOTES

Introducing Mrs. Audrey Hotard - Magnolia Trace Music

Hello Magnolia Trace parents and students! My name is Audrey Hotard. This is my third year teaching music and I am so excited to get to know your students and continue their musical journey this year. My own love of music began in second grade when I was a student at Madisonville Elementary, so it is incredibly special to now share that same spark and joy with your children.

We have a wonderful year of music-making ahead, and I can't wait to see all the creativity, growth, and excitement that will fill our classroom. One of our biggest highlights this month will be the Christmas Program on December 18th at 2 PM —I can't wait to share this magical performance with you!

I'm looking forward to an amazing year together!

COACH'S CORNER

We have been using our movement skills, learned earlier in the year, in activities and games. We are now practicing manipulative skills, such as, striking, kicking, throwing, and catching.

Before most classes, we do exercises. Ask your child to demonstrate a few. I can see the students getting stronger already.

Coach Dusang
Physical Education Teacher



Hey there Students, Family, and Friends!

December is here & that means holiday season is upon us! As this holiday season approaches I encourage everyone to find new ways to show kindness and gratitude at home, at school, and in the community. I am blessed to be a part of each of your student's lives and have loved seeing each of them grow throughout these few short months. Thank you for all you do for our kiddos at home, they are very special to us!

We are now working on habit #4: Think Win-Win. Here is a list of books for families that can be read at home in order to learn more about goal setting and making a plan! We hope you try one of these at home.



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

Reminder: We will be highlighting students and their families Leader in Me in the community on bulletin boards displayed in the main hallway. As we work throughout the year we would love your contribution to our boards. Our boards are filling up quickly, make sure to turn in the colored Habit Forms to be displayed on the board. If you need more forms let your student's teacher know and we will get them for you.

-Mrs. Jordan



November 2025 Terrific Kids



Renad Alkasaji
 Jameson Carroll
 Caroline Bailey
 Blake Charpentier
 Wyatt Newman
 Blake Schwalenberg

Clare Blanchard
 Beau Thornton
 Khloe Matthews
 Sophia Hernandez
 Luke Pennison
 Emma Olson

Ayla Campbell
 Lucy Leibfritz
 Sylvie Lees
 Lillie Grace Mason
 Aiden Vice
 Abigail Jimenez

Magnolia Trace Presents: 12 Days of Christmas Spirit Days



Students must wear their school uniform each day with the accessories listed for that day

Thurs 12/4

Holly Jolly Holidays

- Wear red accessories

Fri 12/5

Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree

- Wear green accessories

Mon 12/8

Candy Cane Christmas

- Wear red & white or candy cane accessories

Tues 12/9

Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas

- Wear holiday accessories

Wed 12/10

Mad About Plaid

- Wear Christmas flannel/ plaid accessories

Thurs 12/11

It's a Whoville Whobilation

- Wear accessories of the characters from How the Grinch Stole Christmas

Fri 12/12

Santa Claus is Coming to Town

- Wear Santa hats/ accessories

Mon 12/15

May Your Day be Merry & Bright

- Wear light accessories/ light up accessories

Tues 12/16

All Aboard the Polar Express

- Wear comfy pajamas

Wed 12/17

Jingle Bell Rock

- Wear jingle bell accessories

Thurs 12/18

Let's Get Tacky

- Wear tacky sweaters/ accessories

Fri 12/19

Reindeer Games

- Wear reindeer accessories & your mansion color shirts/ accessories





DECEMBER MTE LUNCH MENU

Vegetarian option, vegetable, fruit and choice of milk offered daily.

DECEMBER 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p>1. Red Beans & Rice, w/ Texas Toast All Day</p> <p>2. Breaded Chicken Sandwich, Fries All Day</p>	<p>1. Cheesy Chicken Quesadilla w/ Fixings and Ranchero Beans All Day</p> <p>2. Cheesy Nachos w/ Ranchero Beans All Day</p>	<p>1. Spaghetti & Meat sauce, Green Beans, Fresh Baked French Bread All Day</p> <p>2. Corn Dog, Fries All Day</p>	<p>Manager's Choice All Day</p> <p>1. Gumbo with Rice All Day</p> <p>2. BBQ Chicken Sandwich with Fries All Day</p>	<p>1. Garlic Mozzarella Cheesy Bread, Seasoned Corn All Day</p> <p>2. Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza, Seasoned Corn, Marinara Sauce All Day</p>
<p>1. Chicken Tenders, Mac & Cheese & Fresh Baked Roll All Day</p> <p>2. Grilled Cheese, Fries All Day</p>	<p>1. Beef Tacos with Fixings, Ranchero Beans, Cinnamon Breadstick All Day</p> <p>2. Beef Burrito w/ Fries All Day</p>	<p>1. Cheesy Beefy Mac, Green Beans, Fresh Baked Roll All Day</p> <p>2. Crispy Chicken Drumsticks, Fries All Day</p>	<p>1. Christmas Lunch; Turkey Roast w/ Gravy & Mashed Potatoes and Traditional Side All Day</p> <p>2. Hamburger/ Cheeseburger, Fries All Day</p>	<p>1. Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza, Seasoned Corn, Marinara Sauce All Day</p> <p>2. Garlic Mozzarella Cheesy Bread, Seasoned Corn All Day</p>
<p>1. Breaded Chicken Sandwich, Fries All Day</p> <p>2. Chicken Nuggets w/ Mac & Cheese, Fresh Roll All Day</p>	<p>Manager's Choice All Day</p> <p>1. Red Beans with Rice All Day</p> <p>2. Fish Sticks with Fries All Day</p>	<p>1. Spaghetti & Meat sauce, Green Beans, Fresh Baked French Bread All Day</p> <p>2. Corn Dog, Fries All Day</p>	<p>1. Steamed Chicken & Veggie Dumplings, Seasoned Carrots, Fresh Baked Roll All Day</p> <p>2. Hamburger/ Cheeseburger, Fries All Day</p>	<p>1. Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza, Seasoned Corn, Marinara Sauce All Day</p> <p>2. Garlic Mozzarella Cheesy Bread, Seasoned Corn All Day</p>

DECEMBER BREAKFAST MENU

DECEMBER 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Pancake w/ Sausage on a Stick All Day	1 Egg w/ Grits & Toast All Day	2 Flaky Schoolmade Biscuit w/ Sausage All Day	3 Schoolmade Muffin All Day	4 Egg & Cheese Biscuit All Day
Cheesy Egg & Sausage Sandwich All Day	8 Egg w/ Grits & Toast All Day	9 Flaky Schoolmade Biscuit w/ Sausage All Day	10 Toasty Cheese Sandwich All Day	11 Egg & Cheese Biscuit All Day
Pancake w/ Sausage on a Stick All Day	15 Breakfast Egg Scramble All Day	16 Flaky Schoolmade Biscuit w/ Sausage All Day	17 School Made Beignets All Day	18 Egg & Cheese Biscuit All Day