



Magnolia Trace Elementary

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



February NEWS HOUND PTA NEWSLETTER

Dear Maggie Families,

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 1st- Black History Month Begins

February 2nd-6th- National School Counselor Week

February 2nd- Counselor Appreciation Day

February 3rd- 4pm Ambassador Meeting

February 6th- Boosterthon Fun Run/ Cultural Arts Day

February 9th- Marching Maggies 4pm

February 10th- Lighthouse Meeting 4pm

February 12th- Marigny Mardi Gras Parade 1:30 pm

February 16th-20th- NO SCHOOL
Mardi Gras Holiday

February 24th- Terrific Leader 9:30am

February 25th- Sports Club 4pm

Magnolia Trace Elementary is well into excelling excellence at the beginning of this 2026 school year. Our teachers are growing as educators, and our

students are growing as young learners. Students are continuing to set their goals and reflect on how they can be a leader; they have genius, change starts with them and they are in charge of their own learning. We as a school realize it takes educators, families and our community partnering to provide the best education possible for our students. I am honored and grateful to be part of such a giving and dedicated community.

We are launching our annual PTA fundraiser for our school. We call it our Boosterthon Fun Run.

During this two-week period, we encourage families to register on mybooster.com and donate any amount of funds they are able. These funds will go to technology updates and instructional advancements. We are going to the teachers and asking what they need. It is our hope these funds will provide that for them. The conclusion of this fundraiser will be on February 6th. In conjunction with Boosterthon we will be having our spring book fair. Students will go during their library time to purchase any books Please load any spending money for students on e-wallet. We will also have our Cultural Arts day. Students will be learning about the country of Jamaica. They are going to rotate through stations making flags, playing cricket, tasting Jamaican food, and experiencing the sounds of maracas. This partnership with our PTA provides a day of learning and fun for our kids and is truly a joy to experience. If our school reaches our fundraising goal of \$25,000 we will have a school wide game show hosted for and by our students.

In addition to this big event our student clubs are thriving. Fieldtrips are being organized for the Spring semester as well as our school wide Talent show which will take place in March. Tryouts will be on the Tuesday after Mardi Gras break and the show will be on March 13th. I do want to also let parents know the month of April has many different types of End of Year assessments happening. We will be doing DIBELS testing, numeracy testing and LEAP Testing. If it is possible, please schedule all doctor appointments during a different month. If necessary, it is best to schedule the afternoon part of the day.

As always we appreciate all you do for our school and our students. If you have any questions, praises, or concerns do not hesitate to email me at jamie.breaux@stpsb.org. We hope everyone enjoys and stays safe during their Mardi Gras Holiday.

Sincerely,
Jamie Breaux
Principal -MTE

Table of Contents:

Principal's Pen	1
PTA President.....	2
Grade Level Updates.....	3
What's Happening at MTE.....	4-6
Restaurant Night.....	7
MTE Photos.....	8-9
Cafeteria Menus.....	10-11

It's February already! January was a great month for us.

Cultural Arts Day and our Fun is on February 6th! We have some informative and hands-on stations planned to learn about Jamaica!

In January, PTA held the Reflections art contest. The school-level winners were treated to a Mc Donalds lunch with Mrs. Breaux. 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!

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
the Cheddar Up Group
Page for Member-
ships, Volunteer Sign-
Ups, 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

January was so much fun in second grade! We had a great time going to see the play, *Frozen*, 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 Domain, 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.

In science, we are working on Unit 2. Students have been challenged to create glue for use at our school that meets a set of design goals. The end goal is for students to present an evidence-based argument stating why their glue mixture would solve our school's need for better glue. The students have really had a great time in this unit!

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 Valentine cards and ONLY individually wrapped items that have been wrapped from the manufacturer. 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 discover how America became an industrial nation, and learn about the impacts of industrialization. Students will also discover how Theodore Roosevelt brought about national change, especially when it came to protecting the environment. Additionally, we will celebrate our unique Louisiana culture and Mardi Gras traditions. Students will attend the Marigny Parade on Thursday, February 12th.

In science, 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. Students will also use evidence to construct and support arguments stating that in different climate habitats, organisms can survive or not survive. They will apply this information and use data as evidence that organisms have traits inherited from their parents and variations of these traits exist in groups of similar organisms. Students will also use evidence to explain how the environment can influence these traits.

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 15, 16, 17 and April 20 and 21. Please do not schedule any trips or appointments for your child this week if at all possible.

WATTERS' WORLD



STUDENT CORNER

A GREAT FRIEND

I interviewed my friend Benson. He is in Mrs. Valentin's 2nd grade class at Magnolia Trace. Benson's favorite sport is football and his favorite color is red. His favorite game is Roblox and his favorite thing to do at recess is play basketball. He loves math and PE class. My favorite thing to do with Benson is play video games.



Written By:
Christian McNeil

MEET MS. AUDREY HOTARD

Our boosterthon kickoff was on January 26th. This boosterthon fundraiser is where students get active and raise money through pledges for running laps at our Fun Run. Students and classrooms receive rewards during our boosterthon for donations sent in by families and friends. We also get to watch fun videos each day that teach us lessons. On the day of our Fun Run, we get to go outside with our class in our carline spot to run and each lap is equal to 2 dollars. This year our school is going to purchase technology and instructional material for our classrooms.

Written By: Camille Boughrara



LIBRARY: CHECK IT OUT!

It is such a treat to watch your child grow as a reader this year. The students were excited about the final Book Fair of the year. 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 Dibel's test scores. This is your child's independent reading level. Students are encouraged to become active patrons of their public library and check out other books and levels of interest. Third grade students will continue getting one "free choice" day each month, which will allow them to select a book outside of their reading level. Second grade students are working on earning "free choice" days in the library. Our main goal is to continue to build on their reading foundation and love for books. We have two more Makerspace Station weeks in the library. The week before Spring break and the final week of school.

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

Happy Reading,

Julie Kuylen and Joanne Santos

Magnolia Trace Library julie.kuylen@stpsb.org



MUSICAL NOTES

Happy February MTE parents! Choir auditions are in full swing and will be wrapping up next week. Choir acceptance/permission letters will be sent home the week of February 2nd. The talent show is coming up! Auditions will be held after school on February 24th from 4-5:30. I am looking forward to a very fun and musical Mardi Gras season with everyone!

-Ms. Audrey MTE Music

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 discussions 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
Physical Education Teacher

Catching up with the Counselor

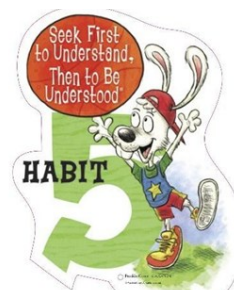
February: a month of love and kindness. Throughout the month of February, the students will learn all about kindness, confidence, affirmations and feelings. I encourage you all at home to practice affirmations for yourself, whether you are a parent/guardian or a student. An affirmation a day keeps the negativity away!

National School Counseling Week is February 2nd-6th. This is a week to learn all about aspects of the school counselor's role. This year's National theme is **School Counselors Amplify Student Success**. I have tailored our school's theme to "Let the Good Support Roll". Be on the lookout for all the fun things to come.

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



January 2026 Terrific Kids



Ian Cuellar
 Sean Eckert
 David Dore
 Jay Brancewicz
 Ryleigh Damare'
 Rhett Madlem

Ryan Medick
 Benson Carona
 RJ Wortmann
 Jillian Barnum
 Isaiah Soteropulos
 Siena Schaffernocker

Adrianna Andreas
 Catherine Mumphrey
 Leia Zierhut
 Justin Sanchez Paz
 Tommy Leggett
 Killian Wood



MTE PTA

RESTAURANT NIGHT



**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH,
2026**

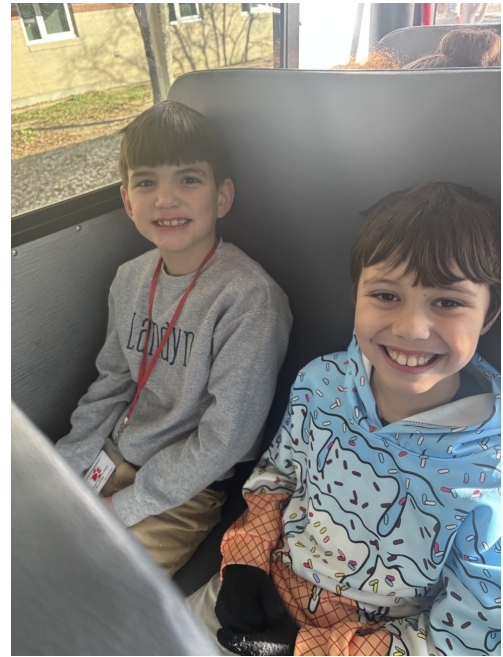
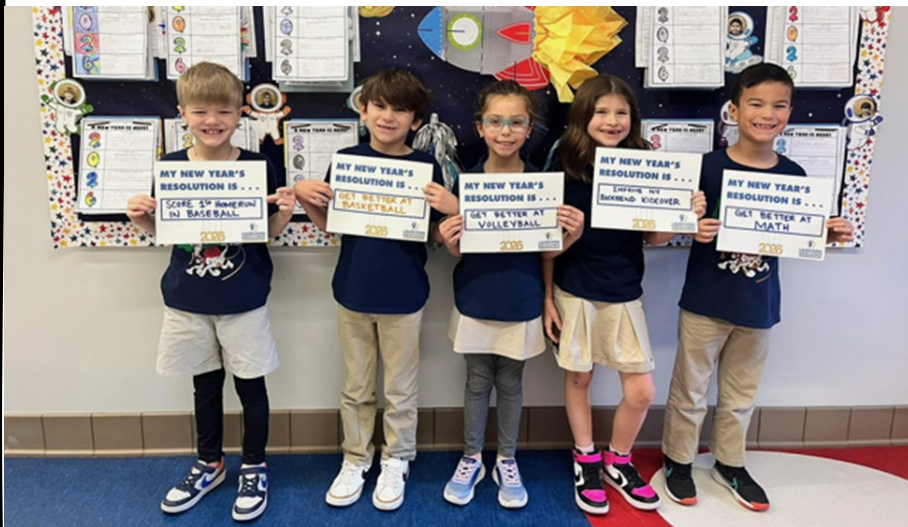


BENNY'S
CREAMERY

**310 DALWILL DR,
MANDEVILLE,
LOUISIANA 70471**

4PM- 8:30PM
**25% OF ALL SALES DURING THIS TIME WILL BE
DONATED BACK TO THE SCHOOL**





FEBRUARY MTE LUNCH MENU

Magnolia Trace Elementary School

FEBRUARY 2026

MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY	
1. Chicken Tenders, Mac & Cheese & Fresh Baked Roll All Day	2	1. Beef Tacos with Fixings, Ranchero Beans, Cinnamon Breadstick All Day	3	1. Cheesy Beefy Mac, Green Beans, Fresh Baked Roll All Day	4	1. Mandarin Orange or General Tso's Chicken, Steamed Rice, Seasoned Broccoli All Day	5	1. Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza, Seasoned Corn, Marinara Sauce All Day	6
2. Breaded Chicken Sandwich, Fries All Day		2. Walking Tacos with Fixings & Ranchero Beans All Day		2. Crispy Chicken Drumsticks, Fries All Day		2. Hamburger/ Cheeseburger, Fries All Day		2. Garlic Mozzarella Cheesy Bread, Seasoned Corn All Day	
1. Red Beans & Rice, w/ Texas Toast All Day	9	1. Cheesy Chicken Burrito w/ Fixings, Ranchero Beans, Cinnamon Breadstick All Day	10	1. Spaghetti & Meat sauce, Green Beans, Fresh Baked French Bread All Day	11	Manager's Choice All Day	12	1. Garlic Mozzarella Cheesy Bread, Seasoned Corn All Day	13
2. Breaded Chicken Sandwich, Fries All Day		2. Cheesy Chicken Nachos w/ Fixings & Ranchero Beans All Day		2. Corn Dog, Fries All Day		1. Hamburger steak and mashed potatoes with gravy All Day		2. Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza, Seasoned Corn, Marinara Sauce All Day	
No School All Day	16	No School All Day	17	No School All Day	18	No School All Day	19	No School All Day	20
1. Chicken Tender Basket w/ Tator Tots & Fresh Roll All Day	23	1. Walking Tacos w/ Fixings & Ranchero Beans All Day	24	1. Cheesy Beefy Mac, Green Beans, Fresh Baked Roll All Day	25	1. Mandarin Orange or General Tso's Chicken, Steamed Rice, Steamed Carrots All Day	26	1. Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza, Seasoned Corn, Marinara Sauce All Day	27
2. Chicken Tenders w/ Mac & Cheese, Fresh Roll All Day		2. Beef Tacos with Fixings, Ranchero Beans, Cinnamon Breadstick All Day		2. Crispy Chicken Drumsticks, Fries All Day		2. Hamburger/ Cheeseburger, Fries All Day		2. Garlic Mozzarella Cheesy Bread, Seasoned Corn All Day	

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

FEBRUARY BREAKFAST MENU

Magnolia Trace Elementary School

FEBRUARY 2026

MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY	
1	Breakfast Pizza All Day	2	Fruit & Yogurt Parfait w/ Granola All Day	3	Flaky Schoolmade Biscuit w/ Sausage All Day	4	Toasty Cheese Sandwich All Day	5	Egg & Cheese Biscuit All Day
6									
7	Pancake w/ Sausage on a Stick All Day	8	Egg w/ Grits & Toast All Day	9	Flaky Schoolmade Biscuit w/ Sausage All Day	10	School Made Muffins All Day	11	Breakfast Burritos All Day Manager's Choice All Day
12									
13									
14	No School All Day	15	No School All Day	16	No School All Day	17	No School All Day	18	No School All Day
19									
20									
21	Cheesy Egg & Sausage Sandwich All Day	22	Egg w/ Grits & Toast All Day	23	Flaky Schoolmade Biscuit w/ Sausage All Day	24	Toasty Cheese Sandwich All Day	25	Egg & Cheese Biscuit All Day
26									
27									