# MILDRED HELMS ELEMENTARY
# IB WORLD SCHOOL

561 Clearwater Largo Road Largo, FL 33770
(727)588-3569 www.pcsb.org/mildred-es

Vision: 100% Student Success

**May 2026**

## Principal's Points of Pride

Dear Mildred Helms Families,

Thank you for an incredible school year! We earned the Magnet Schools of America Magnet School of Distinction award with positive results in student achievement. As we approach the last month of the school year, I would like to thank you for your support at home to help improve your child's academic skills. We appreciate your participation in family night events as we attained increased attendance over previous years. Our goal is to have even more families join us next year for these fun-filled educational events.

Teacher Appreciation Week kicks off on Monday, May 4 through Friday. PTA has chosen the theme of "Lights, Camera, Appreciation!" Tuesday, May 5th is officially Teacher Appreciation Day. We hope you received the PTA flyer showing an easy way to recognize teachers for all their hard work through the year! Much appreciation to our newly elected PTA Board for the 2026-27 school year.

FAST testing begins today for third, fourth and fifth grades. Teachers will be sharing the exact dates for testing through FOCUS messages. Please make sure that your child is present and on time on their scheduled days in order test in their assigned classrooms. We look forward to sharing the results of these assessments to show the progress our scholars have achieved. Remember, parents and students have access to all assessment scores as well grades through the FOCUS portal. Please ensure you are taking time to reflect with your child on their progress across the year.

Report cards will be sent home with students on the last day of school, Thursday, May 28th. Fifth grade promotion ceremonies will be held in the Café on the last day as well. Exact times will be shared by fifth grade classroom teachers.

Thank you again for an amazing school year.

Stay safe and healthy!
*Mrs. Brennan*

## May Dates

**5/1-15 FAST ELA for Grades 3-5 begins**
**5/4-8 Teacher Appreciation Week**
**5/5 Teacher Appreciation Day**
**5/11-14 SSA Science Assessment for 5th Grade**
**5/18-22 FAST Math for Grades 3-5**
**5/22 VPK Moving Up Ceremony**
**5/25 No School - Memorial Day**
**5/28 5th Grade Promotion Ceremonies**
**5/28 Last Day for Students - 1:10pm Early Dismissal**



## Mrs. Schneider's Snapshot

Dear MHES families,

We are so proud of the incredible growth our scholars have made this year and are confident they will finish strong. This wonderful progress would not be possible without the consistent support and partnership of our amazing families. Thank you for being such an important part of our scholars' journey and for helping make this year truly special. FAST testing continues this month. Please support your student by ensuring they get a good night's rest and arrive at school on time so they can do their very best.

We are also sincerely grateful to everyone who continues to support our PBIS store for our IB scholars. Our final IB store will open on May 15th, and we are excited to see our students enjoy spending their well-earned IB bucks. As we prepare for our final PBIS shopping event of the year, we kindly welcome donations to help make it our biggest and most exciting one yet. Popular items include fancy pens, small squish toys and trinkets, stuffed animals, art sets, sports items, and other fun surprises—anything is truly appreciated.

If you would like to donate or would like more information, please feel free to contact me at (727) 588-3569 or schneiderk@pcsb.org.

Thank you again for a wonderful year and for your continued support of our students and our school community!

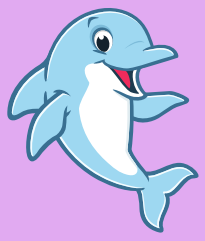
Appreciatively,
*Mrs. Schneider*
*Assistant Principal*

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# MHES COMMUNITY

## Community Connections

### Thanks for supporting our school!



Lotz of Blessings
Benedicts Family Restaurant
Frida's Café & Bakery
Abe's Place
The Conch Republic
Salon West
Zaxby's
Maggie Mae's on the Bluffs
Elks Lodge #2159
Hand & Stone Massage and Facial
Sages Bistro
Kristin Otis and family
Burn Fitness

**Adopt a Class Sponsors:**
Flanagan's Porch and Windows
Davis Family
Largo Body Shop

## Volunteer News!

**As of July 1, 2026 all Pinellas County Schools volunteers are required to undergo Level 2 background screening.** Level 2 background screenings for Pinellas County Schools are exclusively provided by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement Clearinghouse. Please allow up to two weeks from the date of fingerprinting for volunteer approval.

**Plan ahead and be ready for the next school year. Volunteers are always needed for field trips and school events.**

If you are a Returning Level 1 or Level 2 Volunteer:
**Please go to www.pcsb.org/volunteerregistration**

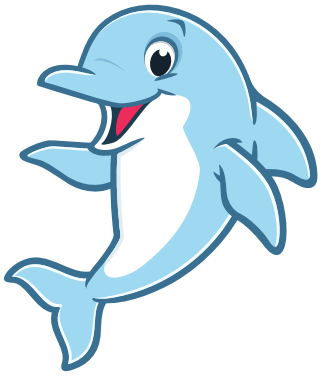
- Click on "I am a current PCS volunteer."
- Then choose whether you are a Level 1 or Level 2 and follow the instructions that are given for each level.

## PTA News

**Let's Congratulate PTA's New Board Members!**

**President: Julia Malachowski**
**Treasurer: Kelly Hamilton**
**Secretary: Rylin Bennett**

**Check out the Teacher Appreciation flyer that was sent home!**



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# PYP MONTHLY

## Welcome!



My name is Jenn Kelly and I am the IB PYP Coordinator at Mildred Helms Elementary. Check out this page of our monthly newsletter for information about IB and what it looks like in our IB World School!

## IB Learner Profile of the Month

## Reflective

We thoughtfully consider the world and our own ideas and experience. We work to understand our strengths and weaknesses in order to support our learning and personal development.







### Learner Profile Book of the Month




Click on the book cover to listen to the book.

## Knoweldgeable Learner of the Month of April:

**PK3 / VPK:** Kylo, Tova
**Kindergarten:** Ellia, Olivier, Wyatt, Elijah
**1st Grade:** Eden, Nikolai, Aleksander, River
**2nd Grade:** Za'Kari, Khalees, Olivia, Jackson
**3rd Grade:** Lucy, Yareni, Aria, Jeweliette
**4th Grade:** Kameron, Henry, Madeline, Greyson
**5th Grade:** Victoria, Santiago, Mya, Dallas

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# MHES STUDENT EXPERIENCE




What a wonderful last performance for 4th & 5th Grade Chorus!

Way to go 3rd Grade! Excellent performance singing and playing recorders!





P.R.I.D.E Academic Award Winners took the stage at Ruth Eckerd Hall!

Michael - Science
Arthur - Social Studies
Vivian - Writing

Way to go!

One last concert for the 4th grade Chorus members- Volunteer Breakfast!



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# MHES SPECIALISTS

## Mr. Kiebzak's Artists' Loft

Hello Mildred Helms families,

What an amazing school year filled with art education, creativity & awesome art shows. Thank you to all the students who put forth their best effort in my classroom. Also, thank you to the parents for encouraging your child to create art at home. I have so many students who bring in their sketchbooks and other creations to show me what they do in their free time. Please don't hesitate to email me anytime with images of artwork your child creates and I will make sure to have a conversation about it when I see them.

Congratulations to VPK student Malik for having his artwork selected for the first ever, Bright stARTS VPK art show!!!

Florida Art Education Association (FAEA) virtual exhibition entrants for this year were- Payton, Havana, Jay, Arlen, Aria, Samuel, Iviana, Victoria, Brielle and Sophia. Certificates will be coming home this month.

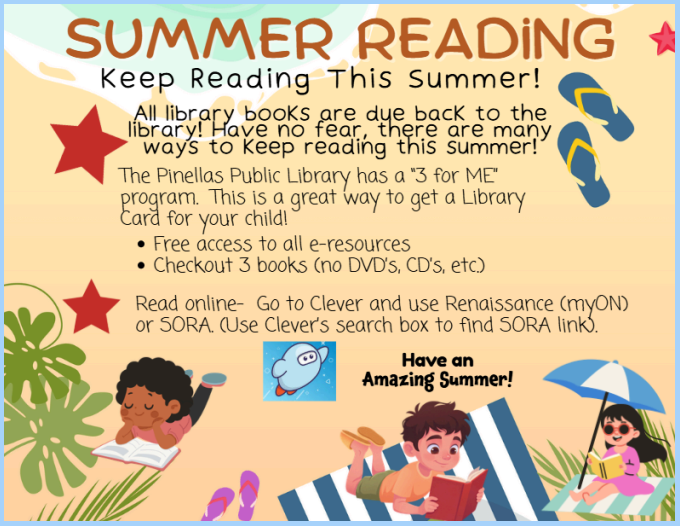
Every school year around this time I swap out the 14 pieces of art in the office from last school year, with a refresh of this year's creations. Thank you to the following students for making our front office hallway beautiful - Basily, Alexa, Yareni, Addison, Lukas, Mila, Czalina, Yan, Aurora, Raylyn, Briannah, Teddy, Chandler, and Juliet.

Congratulations to Allan I. & Corbin H. For having their artwork selected for the Digital Art exhibition at the Leepa Rattner Museum! Way to go!

Hope you all have a wonderful, restful and creative summer. Looking forward to the 2026-2027 school year! Mr. Kiebzak (kiebzakj@pcsb.org)



## Ms. Coleman's Book Nook




## Coach's Playbook

The past few weeks the athletes have progressed in their skills in soccer, crazy kickball, and basketball. The lessons opened the opportunity for the students to build trust, communication, and mutual respect; and that a team can achieve success in both victory and defeat.

Changing gears, Mileage Club has become an incredible source of energy and pride, with athletes pushing themselves to achieve new goals. This year two standout contenders are battling for the top spot, going above and beyond our school's expectations with their dedication and determination. Their commitment has inspired others to stay active and challenge themselves each day. School wide, the athletes have already logged more than 9,400 miles, which is an amazing accomplishment. The top class of the year is Ms. Feo's class, leading the way with an impressive 480 miles. We are also proud to have over 100 students reach the Century Club, showing just how committed our fitness community is to stay active.

We wish everyone a happy and healthy summer and look forward to even more milestones next year.

MHES IB PE Staff



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# MHES SPECIALISTS

## Mrs. Clemens' Musical Notes

**Wow! Our Chorus students did an excellent job at their Spring Concert! Thank you again, FAMILIES, for all your support!!**

Our 3rd Graders put on an excellent music program as well! Playing recorders and singing takes skill! Impressive effort! Keep that in mind that 3rd grade students can sign up for 4th Grade Chorus at the beginning of next school year!

**I hope everyone has a wonderful, music-filled summer break!**
**Mrs. Clemens**

## Counselor's Corner

Happy May!

As we welcome the month of May, our school counseling program is grateful for the meaningful experiences we have shared with students this spring. During National Youth Violence Prevention Week, students participated in a special activity by creating connecting paper chains filled with positive messages, kind words, and encouragement for one another. This simple but powerful activity reminded us that every act of kindness helps strengthen our school community. We are proud of the way our students continue to build a culture of respect, safety, and connection each day. We look forward to finishing the school year together, embracing positivity and unity.





Smiles,
Mrs. DeSapio, School Counselor

## Señora Carlson's Cafe Hola

As we approach the end of a wonderful school year, I am so proud of all the Spanish our students have learned! ☀ Over the summer, continuing to practice at home can make a big difference in helping them remember and grow their language skills.

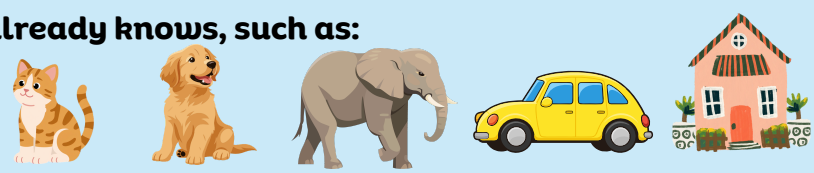
**I encourage you to keep Spanish fun and part of your daily routine—try using simple words and phrases like:**

- Hola (Hello)
- Adiós (Goodbye)
- Por favor (Please)
- Gracias (Thank you)
- ¿Cómo estás? (How are you?)
- Estoy bien (I am well)




**You can also practice vocabulary your child already knows, such as:**

- Animals: perro, gato, elefante
- Transportation: carro, avión, bicicleta
- Everyday words: agua, comida, casa



Listening to songs, watching shows in Spanish, or labeling items around the house are great ways to keep learning going. Even a few minutes a day helps build confidence!
"Gracias" for your continued support, and I wish you a joyful and relaxing summer! ☀Señora Carlson

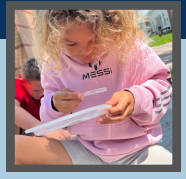
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# MHES CALENDAR

# May 2026










| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| . | . | . | . | . | 1   | 2 |
| 3   | 4 **FAST ELA Grades 3-5 Opens** | 5   Teacher Appreciation Day | 6 | 7 | 8 **Spirit Shirt Friday!**  | 9 |
| 10   | 11 **Grade 5 SSA Science Opens** | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 **Spirit Shirt Friday!**  | 16 |
| 17 | 18 **FAST ELA Grades 3-5 Opens** | 19 | 20   | 21 | 22 **Spirit Shirt Friday!**  | 23   |
| 24 | 25 **Memorial Day No School**  | 26 | 27 | 28 Last Day of School Early Dismissal 1:10pm | 29   | 30 |
| 31 | . | . | . | . | . | . |

**Teacher Appreciation Week**

Visit us at https://www.pcsb.org/mildred-es for the most up to date information!

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