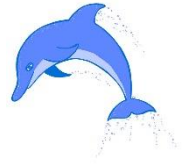


South Lake Elementary

DOLPHIN PRIDE



Celeste King
Principal

Stephanie Curry
Assistant Principal

Cressi Boston-Mayo
Acting Assistant School Administrator

October 2022



Principally Speaking

We have had a phenomenal beginning to the school year. We began the year celebrating Hispanic Heritage with a parade in September and a fashion show and dance party in October. Hopefully, you were able to participate in the celebration. Congratulations to the Hispanic Heritage Committee for their hard work and dedication.

On October 20th grade level teams planned a variety of experiences to promote writing. South Lake's Excite to Write day had students using their imagination and creativity to create exciting stories to share. Ask your child to share their writing with you. Be sure to praise their effort.

We are ending the month of October with Red Ribbon Week, October 25th to October 28th. Students have been showing their dedication to making healthy choices by supporting our spirit days: Team up Tuesday – wear a color chosen by the class (PreK-2) or the house color; Wear it Wednesday – students will write or draw a plan to live a healthy life; Teach it Thursday – students teach others about their culture; Final Friday – students wear red to show their promise to live a healthy and safe life.

Despite the daily challenges we all face, we remain committed to providing a rigorous and engaging learning experience for all students. Please continue to support your child by providing a space for your child to work that is free from distractions. Ask your child to show you their assignments for the day before and after the assignments have been completed. Assist your child in completing their work, but please do allow them to have productive struggle. Finally, create a schedule for your child that ensures they are getting a good night's sleep and wake up and ready to learn. Together, we can make a difference in your child's educational experience.

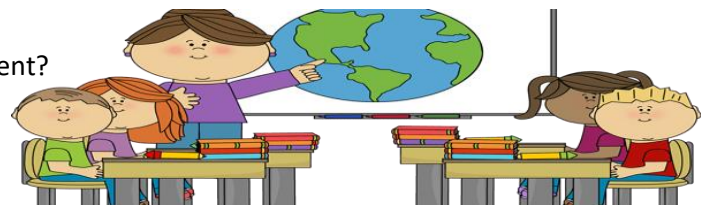
Sincerely,
Ms. King

Opportunities to visit school

All parents are invited to visit classes on November 16th between 9:30 and 10:30 to observe classroom instruction. Parent conferences are planned for Monday and Tuesday, November 21st and 22nd. Students will be dismissed at 1:20. This is an opportunity to meet with your child's teacher. Use this time to discuss your child's progress, learn more about your child as a learner and provide you with a forum to express your expectations for the remainder of the school year. Questions you might ask during the conference:

- How is my child progressing academically and socially?
- What are my child's strengths and areas for improvement?
- How can I help my child at home?

Please contact your child's teacher to schedule a conference.



PTA News

I am pleased to announce that we have a PTA board: Adama Moussa Harouna (President), Miriam Lemus (Vice President), Djamila Bah (Treasure) and Lorena Joyal (Secretary). Our board needs your help to ensure a strong and

productive PTA. The first way you can help is by becoming a member. Please check your child's backpack for a membership form. You can also help by volunteering in any way you can. For example, you can help in the classroom, create materials at home for classroom use, or chaperone field trips. Please speak to your child's teacher about how you can support the class.



Free Tutoring Support

All MCPS students have access to free, virtual tutoring services through FEV Tutor and Tutor Me Education.

- Both companies offer two services:
 - Free on-demand tutoring for homework help, no scheduling needed
 - Free, scheduled tutoring for on-going support, scheduling required
 - Both companies record sessions, take session notes, and communicate directly with families
- The difference between the two companies:
 - FEV Tutor - no camera for tutor or student - ideal for grades 3-12 students for whom the camera is a barrier to learning
 - Tutor Me Education - camera for tutor and student
- Students access tutoring through using their MCPS Clever account.

If you who would like to set up scheduled, on-going sessions:

To set up tutoring sessions with FEV Tutor:

- mcps@fevtutor.com

To set up tutoring sessions with Tutor Me Education:

- MCPS@tutormeeducation.com or 240-618-2549 OR
- Fill out their [request form](#) ** best way

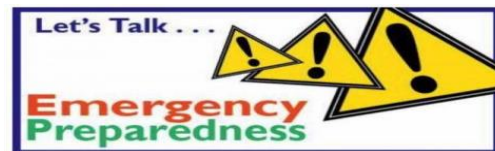
The attached flyers have additional information:

[FEV Tutor English](#)

[FEV Tutor Spanish](#)

[Tutor Me Education English](#)

[Tutor Me Education Spanish](#)



Emergency Preparedness

Each school year, students participate in six emergency drills to provide practice before an emergency occurs. In addition to the emergency drills listed below, students also participate in fire drills at least six times each year. Please talk with your child about the importance of these drills, stressing the need to follow adult directions.

Lockdown - used when there is imminent danger inside or outside the school. 911 is called. Everyone must go to the nearest securable location.

Evacuate - used mainly for fire drills, but it also includes evacuations due to bomb threats, suspicious package or a release of hazardous/toxic materials within the building.

Shelter - used when there are outside hazards. This includes public safety situations (human threats), weather emergencies, and/or outside hazardous materials/toxins).

Severe Weather - used when we are expecting a tornado or a very severe high wind event.

Reverse Evacuation - used when you have students outside and need to get them inside to shelter in place.

Drop, Cover, and Hold - used for Earthquakes.

Update Contact Information

It is important that we are able to get in touch with you! If you have moved, changed your phone number, or have new emergency contacts, please update your new information with the secretaries.

Upcoming Events:

November 7	Professional Day – No school for students
November 16	Open House 9:30 -10:30
November 19	Market Day
November 21	Early Dismissal
November 22	Early Dismissal
November 23	No school for students and staff