



**Flora M. Singer
Elementary School**

S e a T u r t l e s

The Sea Turtle Times

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	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
This week	10/7	10/8 Picture Day	10/9	10/10 1st Grade Field Trip to Butler's Orchard Firefighters to Visit Kindergarten	10/11 Spanish-speaking Parent Coffee 9:45 APR; Google meet Meeting Link: https://meet.google.com/nfs-ahhb-xjy
Next week	10/14 Open House	10/15	10/16	10/17 Book Fair starts! (click here to volunteer)	10/18 Professional Day - No school for students

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Flora M. Singer Elementary

Classic Photography is excited to be your official school photographer and capture these special memories for you!

*Classic Photography se complace en ser el fotógrafo oficial de su escuela
¡Y captura estos recuerdos especiales para ti!*

Your Picture Day is:

El día de tu foto es

10/8/2024

Don't forget to be dressed in your best and mark your calendars today!

¡No olvides vestirte con tus mejores galas y marcar tus calendarios hoy!

[Click Here to Pre-Order](#)

Online Code: 24florasinger25

Pre-ordering expires 48 hours after picture day

El pedido anticipado caduca 48 horas después del día de la foto

Questions? | ¿Preguntas?

(800)869-9515 x112

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Open House

We will host our annual Open House next Monday, October 14. Parents are welcome to come to school and observe in their children's classrooms. We are excited for the opportunity for parents to see the outstanding instruction that takes place every day here at Singer.

We ask parents to plan to visit between 9:30 am and 11:30 am. That way, we will be able to complete the arrival process before your visit. 11:30 is when we start getting busy with lunch and recess. If there is a subject that you wish to observe that takes place in the afternoon, please contact your child's teacher so that we can accommodate you.

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NaNoWriMo Club

NaNoWriMo (National Novel Writing Month) Club is a free extracurricular activity offered to Flora Singer students in **2nd through 5th grade**. NaNoWriMo is a national program in which students are challenged to write an entire novel in just one month! NaNoWriMo Club boosts self-confidence and helps students improve their writing skills (especially creative writing) and practice time management and working toward a goal. Plus it's fun!

Club meetings will be Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8:15-9:00 in the media center. **Due to the popularity of this club in previous years, we can only accept the first 75 students. Absolutely no late registrations will be accepted.** [Permission slips](#) should have come home with your child Thursday or Friday or can be accepted electronically.

Questions? Please contact club sponsor Mrs. Whitney at lauren.e.whitney@mcpsmd.net.

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Harmony SEL

As a school we just finished a special piece of our Harmony Curriculum called Building Community. Students participated in activities to get to know each other, make friends, and create a happy space for learning. They also learned about three important practices we use to build relationships and help our learning: Meet Up, Buddy Up, and Harmony Goals.

Key strategies from this unit included:

- Meet Up: This is when we gather as a class and share our experiences, solve problems together, and get to know each other better.
- Buddy Up: This is when we get to buddy with another student each week. We will get to better know our buddies, work together, and learn together.
- Class Harmony Goals: These are agreements we make as a class on how we want to treat each other and learn together.
- Personal Harmony Goals: Each student will decide on their own goals for what they want to learn and how they want to support the Class Harmony Goals.
- Get-to-Know-You Activities: Four short lessons will help us find things we have in common, build a good community in our classroom, and see how important each of us is to this community.
- We are now beginning Unit 1: Being My Best Self

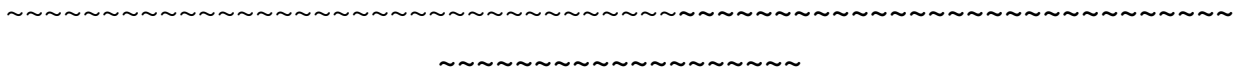
You can find information on this unit in the links below.

[K-2 Home Connection Letter English & Spanish](#)

[3-5 Home Connection Letter English & Spanish](#)

Remember, it is important to talk about and practice these skills at home too. You can find several ideas for this in the "Home-to-School Connections: Home Activities" in the links.

Thank you for supporting Harmony at Singer. If you have any questions about what we are doing, please feel free to ask. You can also find more information at harmony-academy.org.



Smart Sacks: Weekend Food Bags

Would you like extra food for your children on the weekends? Smart Sacks is a free program that gives a bag of food to elementary school children who would benefit from extra food for the weekend when there is no school lunch or breakfast. At the end of each week, children who are participating in this program will receive a bag of food at school to bring home. If you would like your child to participate in the program, please complete the permission form below. More information about the program is provided in the permission form.

[Smart Sack Permission Form](#)

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Holiday Help for Families: Holiday Giving Project of Montgomery County

If your family is in need and would like to be referred for possible assistance for the holiday season (November and December Holidays) , please complete this referral form to provide the required information. Resources are limited: please apply only if you and your family are truly in need. While a referral is not a guarantee of assistance, the Project helps as many families in need as donations allow.

The Holiday Giving Project has provided Thanksgiving and December holiday assistance to low-income households for over 30 years. A network of social workers, school counselors, and human service professionals refer families in need of assistance. Local non-profits, faith-based organizations, and public agencies serve Holiday Giving recipients, as donations are available.

This form is for Flora Singer Families ONLY. Families at other schools must ask their school for a referral.

For the best chance of receiving resources, please complete the request form as soon as possible.

If you need help completing the request, contact Veronica Gonzalez at 240-550-3254 or veronica_gonzalez@mcpsmd.org

[Holiday Giving Project of Montgomery County Referral Request](#)

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Scholastic Book Fair: Share the Fair

Flora Singer is participating in the Share the Fair coin drive. By donating, you can help ensure that every Singer student gets a book from the book fair. All money collected goes directly towards purchasing books for students who might not otherwise have an opportunity to do so. A flyer with an attached bag was sent home with students last week. Please put your donation in the bag and send it back to school with your child by Friday, October 4th. Questions? Please contact singercares@singerpta.org. Thank you for your generosity!



Flora Singer esta participando en la colecta de monedas para “Share the Fair.” Su donación puede garantizar que cada estudiante de Singer reciba un libro de la feria del libro. Todo el dinero recaudado se destina directamente a la compra de libros para estudiantes que de otro modo no tendrían la oportunidad de comprar un libro en la feria. Le semana pasada se envió a casa con los estudiantes un folleto con una bolsa. Monedas se pueden poner en la bolsa; por favor envía la bolsa a la escuela con su hijo antes del viernes 4 de octubre. ¿Preguntas? Por favor escribe a singercares@singerpta.org. ¡Gracias por tu generosidad!

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Fall Family Photo Fundraiser!

[Shoott](#) is holding a Flora Singer PTA fundraiser at McKenney Hills Park.

- **What To Expect:**
 - BOOK a 30 minute photo session - no sitting fee!
 - RECEIVE a digital gallery of 40+ photos in 3-5 business days
 - PAY only for the photos you love
 - RAISE \$20 when you make a purchase. Raise a BONUS \$20 if you buy the full gallery!
- **When:** Saturday, October 26, 2024 **OR** Sunday, November 10, 2024
- **Where:** McKenney Hills Park
- **How to Book:** <https://qrco.de/FLORAPTA>

Can't make the fundraiser? Book a standard Shoot session at the date and location of your choice with code FLORAPTA to raise \$20 when you make a purchase!

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PTA Newsletter, 08 October 2024


We have quite a few events and opportunities in October, including a [dine-out](#) (TONIGHT at Chipotle!), the book fair, movie night, the [Fall Family Photo Fundraiser](#), and a host of other updates.


Click [here](#) for the PTA Newsletter!

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Supply List and Bus Routes

Here is a link to our student supply list:


 FMS ES - School Supply List - FY 24-25 - ENGLISH.pdf


 FMS ES - Lista de Útiles Escolares - FY 24-25 - SPANISH.pdf

A limited number of supplies and backpacks have been donated by local organizations and the PTA. If your Flora Singer student is in need of school supplies or a backpack, please complete the following form.


https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeoDVIRxsvns60Te4RXEAINQoLCpjbEXeM5LHfSOS27cmtaEw/viewform?usp=sf_link


Here is a link to the general education bus routes:

 SINGER ES - 770 - REG ARR.pdf


 SINGER ES - 770 - REG DEP.pdf

Other information from the Transportation Department:

 20240801 RAN ElementarySchool English.pdf

 20240801 RAN ElementarySchool SPANISH.pdf

 What You Should Know About Riding the Bus.pdf

 What You Should Know About Riding the Bus SPANISH.pdf

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Breakfast and Lunch

Meal prices will be \$2.55 for lunch. Our breakfast program is free to all students and available in the classroom every morning.

Students in Maryland who qualify for reduced-price meals will not be charged for breakfast or lunch. Families can apply online now so that benefits will be in place when school starts. Families can access the online application by visiting www.myschoolapps.com/. Please remember a new application must be completed for any family requesting assistance this school year.

You can visit the the website to see all the options for paying for a school lunch: <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/food-and-nutrition/meal-payments/#How>

You can use My School Bucks to set up payment for school lunch online: <https://www.myschoolbucks.com/ver2/getmain.action?clientKey=&requestAction=home>

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Arrival and Dismissal

Arrival begins at 9:00 am. Students may enter the building at that time and go to line up. **Do not drop your child off prior to 9:00 a.m. They will be unsupervised.** Dismissal begins at 3:50. You may arrive prior to 3:50 to wait for dismissal. **Parents must contact the main office before 3:00 p.m. with any dismissal changes for the day.**

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Immunizations and Medications

It is very important that your child is up-to-date on his/her immunizations. If you are

not sure, please check with your doctor. The state law mandates that children not be admitted to school without the proper immunizations. Medications must be brought to school in the original container by an adult along with [MCPS Form 525-13](#) (Authorization to Administer Prescribed Medication) completed by your physician. Medication will not be administered without proper authorization. Please contact our Health Technician if you have any questions.

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School Cash Online

Montgomery County Public Schools has transitioned to a new online payment system called SchoolCash Online as its preferred method of payment for school-related fees such as fundraisers, field trips, obligations, etc.

SchoolCash Online helps parents/guardians and community members pay school-related fees safely, quickly, and easily. SchoolCash Online will help increase efficiency and security at schools by making payments directly into schools' bank accounts and eliminating the need for teachers to handle money. In addition, once registered, you will be immediately informed about school activities!

Powered by KEV Group, SchoolCash Online is the industry leader in the management of school fees. The new system puts all of the school-related fees online for purchase so users can make purchases online using a credit card or e-check. A processing fee will be included on all items available for purchase, regardless of the type of payment used on SchoolCash Online or at the school.

Parents/guardians can register now at - <https://mcpsmd.schoolcashionline.com/>

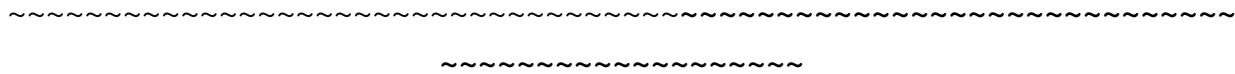
SchoolCash Online also offers a 24/7 customer support desk that can be reached by online inquiry or by calling 1-866-961-1803.

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Important First Quarter Dates:

- Tuesday, August 20 pm on Zoom Virtual Town Hall for Kindergarten Parents-7:00
- Friday, August 23 am for 1st-5th Open House 9:00 am for Kindergarten, 10:00

- Monday, August 26 First Day of School for students (9:25 a.m. to 3:50 p.m.)
- Monday, September 2 Labor Day – No school for students
- Tuesday, September 3 PTA Meeting (Food at 6:30, meeting starts at 7:00pm)
 - Don't forget that you must be a [PTA member](#) to vote!
- Tuesday, September 10 Primary (K, 1, and 2) Back-to-School Night 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, September 17 Intermediate (3, 4, and 5) Back-to-School Night 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
- Friday, September 27 Early Release-Dismissal starts at 1:15 p.m.
- Tuesday, October 01 PTA Meeting, 7:00pm (come at 6:45 for dinner!)
- Thursday, October 3 No School for Students
- Tuesday, October 8 Fall Picture Day – Individual Portraits Only
- Thursday, October 17 Book Fair Starts
- Friday, October 18 Professional Day-No school for students
- Friday, October 25 Singer Movie Night and LAST NIGHT of Book Fair
- Saturday, October 26 [Fall Family Mini Photo Sessions](#) at McKenney Hills Park
- Tuesday, October 31 Fall Festival Parade and Parties starting at 2:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, November 1 End of First Marking Period
- Monday, November 4 No School for Students
- Tuesday, November 5 Election Day-No School for Students
- Monday, November 25 Half Day- Dismissal starts at 1:15 p.m
- Tuesday, November 26 Half Day-Dismissal starts at 1:15 p.m
- November 27, 28 & 29 Thanksgiving - No School for Students



Volunteering at School

If you are interested in being a volunteer in any capacity this school year we would love to have you! Please access the link to learn about the requirements of volunteering in MCPS. If you have any questions please contact Mr. McKinley.

<https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/student-leadership/volunteer>

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Contact the Department of Transportation

If you ever have any questions or concerning regarding the buses or transportation of students, you may now call their customer service hotline. They can be reached at: 240-740-7790.

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Middle School Consortium Lottery and Criteria Based Programs

5th grade students have the opportunity to join the lottery for a spot at one of the Magnet Consortium Middle Schools. Below is the information that was sent centrally to all 5th grade parents about the timeline.

Middle School Magnet Consortium Timeline

- **October 15, 2024**- Open House at A. Mario Loiederman Middle School 6 pm - PERFORMANCE ART PROGRAM
- **October 22, 2024**- Open House at Argyle Middle School 6 pm - DIGITAL DESIGN PROGRAM
- **October 29, 2024**- Open House at Parkland Middle School 6 pm- AEROSPACE AND ENGINEERING PROGRAM
- **November 1, 2024**- MSMC Choice Form Deadline
- **Mid January 2025**- Notification of Round 1 results
- **February 7, 2025**- MSMC Round 2 Choice Form Deadline
- **Mid March 2025**- Notification of Round 2 results

Takoma Park and Eastern Middle school house Criteria Based Magnet Programs. There

is no lottery or application for these programs and students are centrally selected. A virtual presentation about these programas will be **October 21, 2024** streamed on the [MCPS Homepage](#) **English** 5:00 pm* **español** 6:00 pm*