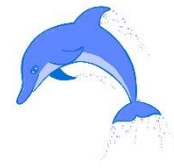




South Lake Elementary
DOLPHIN PRIDE



Celeste King
Principal

Stephanie Curry
Assistant Principal

Cressi Boston-Mayo
Acting Assistant School Administrator

Principally Speaking

Dear South Lake Families,

The staff of South Lake Elementary School join me in welcoming all new and returning families to school on Monday, August 30th! There is great excitement for the start of the new school year with many new faces and old friends.

Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) is committed to safe and equitable in-person instruction. MCPS is encouraging students and staff to self-test for COVID-19 prior to returning to school on August 29th. Test kits will be distributed during Open House. Test kits will also be available on weekends at community-based pickup locations.

We are pleased that over 200 of our students attended the Extended Learning Opportunity (ELO) during the month of July. This summer program is designed to help students retain what they have learned, support any learning loss and prepare them the new school year. What a wonderful summer of learning. Congratulations staff and students for making certain that everyone is prepared for a productive school year.

Students and parents will be able to meet their new teachers during **Open House scheduled on Friday, August 26th from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.** Assistance will be available in completing your Free and Reduced Meals forms for the 2022-23 school year. It is imperative that all families complete a lunch form as universal free lunch will not be offered this year.

Please help us with registration. If you or a neighbor has a child(ren) ready for school, visit South Lake at Emory Grove or call 240-740-7330. I hope that you are ready and excited about beginning another terrific year at South Lake Elementary. I am confident that with our professional, dedicated and caring school staff and our supportive school community, we can make our school an extraordinary place for students to learn, achieve, and grow in a safe and secure environment.

Sincerely,

Celeste King
Principal



Daily Schedule

ARRIVAL TO SCHOOL

- **Students** who walk to school or are dropped off by car **should not arrive** to school **prior to 8:40 a.m.**
- Students arriving at school by car should be dropped off in the **“student drop-off” at Johnson Park**, adjacent to South Lake at Emory Grove, no later than 9:20 a.m.
- Students arriving after 9:25 a.m. must be signed in by an adult in the main office. For safety purposes we ask that students are not dropped off at the curb. Please accompany your child into the office.
- It is very important that your child **attend school every day**. If s/he must be absent, please send a note explaining why s/he was absent. Any student with more than five unexcused absences will be referred for truancy.

Dismissal time

- Students will be dismissed from their classrooms at 3:45 p.m.
- Car riders will be dismissed on the side of the building adjacent to Johnson Park. If you are picking up a car rider, **please wait outside the building until your child is dismissed**. Please do not block the bus loop or the car lanes.
- Buses will be dismissed in the order in which they arrive at school. There should be an adult waiting for your child at their designated bus stop in your neighborhood.
- Be sure to take a close look at the bus schedules if your child will ride a bus to and/or from school. Review the bus color with your child so he/she knows which bus to ride.
- **Be sure to create an emergency plan just in case you are running late. There will be no supervision for your child after school.**



Food Services

- Breakfast will be served to all students each morning from 9:05 - 9:20 a.m. at no cost. Please have your child report to school on time in order to receive breakfast. The instructional day begins promptly at 9:25 a.m.
- **Applications for free and reduced lunch must be completed by all families.** Universal free lunch will not be provided this school year. Lunch will be served at no cost to all students during their assigned lunch time. PCCs and secretaries will be available to support parents with the completion of applications.
- **Your child will be responsible for ordering his/her lunch each day.** If s/he forgets to order lunch, s/he will be offered an alternate lunch. We send menus home each month. Please review the lunch choices with your child each day to help him/her remember which lunch to order.
- While you are welcome to occasionally eat with your child during lunch, for the safety of all students please do not bring strollers into the cafeteria as they cause a risk to students entering and exiting the cafeteria.

Menu

Mon 8/29	Tues 8/30	Wed 8/31	Thurs 9/1	Fri 9/2
Hamburger w/baked fr potatoes WG hamburger bun OR Grilled cheese WG sandwich w/baked fr potatoes	Meatball subs w/marinara sauce WG hot dog roll OR Chicken WG bites w/cheesy spinach WG dinner roll	Mini Cheese Calzones, marinara cup OR WG French toast sticks, sausage links 2 syrup pkts	Chicken WG drumsticks w/seasoned potatoes WG dinner OR Chi'n WG nuggets w/green beans & corn WG dinner roll	WG Stuffed crust pizza cheese or w/4 slices pepperoni OR 3-bean chili w/corn, 1 pkg WG scoops



From the Health Room - You may contact the health room directly at 240-740-7332

If your child has a fever or is ill with a contagious illness or infection or is vomiting, please keep him/her home! Students should be fever-free for 24 hours before returning to school.

It is critical that the school is notified as soon as possible if your child tests positive for COVID 19 or has suspected COVID should stay home for 5 days. Students may return to school after day 5 when symptoms have improved, and the student is fever-free for 24 hours. Masks are required for an additional 5 days. Unvaccinated students who have been exposed to COVID 19 must wear a well-fitted mask for 10 days. Students should be tested after day 5 of exposure. We don't want other students to get sick!

Please review good hygiene practices with your child:

- Wash hands regularly – especially after using the bathroom
- Cover nose with inside elbow when coughing or sneezing to prevent spreading germs. Use a tissue to blow your nose.
- Do not share drinks or food with other students

Medication(s) can only be administered to your child at school when the form ***“Administration of Medication to a Pupil”*** is completed and signed by your child’s physician. Students may not have prescribed or over- the- counter medications in their possession at any time on school property. Parents must deliver medications to the health room. All medications must be administered to a student in the health room.

SAFETY INSIDE OUR SCHOOL

Safety Preparedness

Throughout the school year every school in the county is required to have drills designed to show students what to do in the event of an emergency. We conduct a fire drill to ensure that all students know how to vacate the building in a safe and timely manner. Attendance is taken outside until all students and staff have been accounted for. Parents are asked not to approach the building or their child if there is a drill in progress.

Lock down and Shelter Drills

These drills occur periodically throughout the school year. These drills are to instruct students what they are to do in the event that an emergency situation should occur near the school. There are very specific instructions for students and staff should an unlikely event occur during the school day. If you see a sign on the door that reads “Drill in Place” you will need to wait until the drill ends before being permitted to enter the building. During a “Lockdown” drill no one is permitted to enter or leave the building. During a “Shelter” drill the doors are secured but instruction continues to take place as usual within the building. These drills are to make certain in the event of an unlikely occurrence, staff and students will be prepared and know how to stay safe.

Entering the Building

All visitors will be buzzed into the building to enter the office. Once inside the office, they will be required to show ID and if they are going into the school, will be signed into the Visitor Management System. All visitors required to enter the school through the office and to be signed in. They will also be required to sign out when they leave the building. Montgomery County Public Schools has put this system in place to ensure the safety of all students and staff.

Emergency Contact Information

We implore parents to keep their student contact information current and accurate. It is so important that the office have current working phone numbers for parents and their emergency contact. Whether you have a sick child, or your child has an appointment, or in the event of an emergency, if you send someone to pick up your child that does not have authorization and identification, we will not permit your child to go with that person.

PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION IS ALWAYS UP TO DATE!!!



PHONE USE AT SCHOOL

Students are not permitted to make or receive phone calls during the school day. Emergency messages only will be delivered to students by the office staff. Changes in the way a student is to go home must be sent to school in writing. We cannot call into the classroom after 2:30 p.m. to change the way in which you wish your child to go home as it disrupts classroom instruction and dismissal procedures. In the event of an emergency, you can fax the office a note with the change in your child’s dismissal at 301-840-4549.

• Cell phones are not permitted in school without the consent of the principal. Requests must be made by parents in writing. If students bring a cell phone to school without permission, the phone will be confiscated. Cell phones will not be returned to the student at the end of the day. Parents must come to the office to pick them up.

Reminders for Parents

◇ Please call the school office when your child will be absent from school due to an illness. Send a note to the office when your child returns to school after any absence stating the reason for your child’s absence. A doctor’s note is required when your child has missed 3 or more days of school due to an illness.

◇ Send a note to school if your child will be out of school for any reason other than an illness such as a trip or vacation prior to the child’s absence (when possible). If your child will be out of school for 15 or more school days, they will be withdrawn from school and will need to re-enrolled upon their return. Vacations are not considered excused absences.

◇ Please call the office if an emergency arises that will prevent your child from coming to school,

◇ Send a note or call school to inform the office, counselor, or teacher of any major changes that occur in your family that may affect your child, such as the loss of a loved one or a parent who is being deployed for military assignment.

◇ If a student needs to leave school early, we must receive a note in the morning. If you need to pick up your child

early, please come to the office by 3:05 p.m. After this time, **students will only be dismissed at 3:25 p.m.** Students must be signed out of the building by an authorized adult before being dismissed early.

IMPORTANT!!!!

◇ It is the responsibility of parents to provide the school office in writing, the name of any person who will pick up their child(ren) at any time during the school day or at dismissal. Students will not be released to ANYONE not listed on the Emergency Information Form or without a note from their parent/guardian. A photo ID is required to release students from school to anyone other than a parent.