Martin Luther King School

"Where our students and staff are Poised, Positive and Productive"

Dr. Gray's Sunday Snapshot

Week of May 3, 2021

Good Evening King School families, this is Dr. Gray, with your Sunday Snapshot for the week of May 3rd.

- **Teacher Appreciation Week**!
  May 3-7 is Teacher Appreciation Week! Please join me in saluting each of our teachers and our other educational professionals at King School for the ongoing dedication, commitment, and kindness they extend to each child in our building. Each of our teachers are extremely important, as they work hard each day to ensure that all of our children can continue to learn and grow despite all that is going on around us, particularly during such an unprecedented school year. I encourage you to take a moment this week to send your teachers messages of thanks and gratitude on Schoology and via email, or even bring them a gift or treat to help brighten their day and to demonstrate just how much they mean to you and your family. We can never repay our teachers for just how special they are, but throughout this week… Let's do our best to try!

- **Update on the Hybrid Learning Model:**
  As we enter this week of hybrid learning, our hybrid groups are as follows:

  Group 1 students will report to school Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday this week.

  Group 2 students will report to school and Thursday and Friday this week.

  Important Reminders for STUDENTS in the hybrid model:

  - Please bring your **iPad** to school each day and make sure it is fully charged.
  - Please bring your **iPad charger** in case you need to charge your iPad during the day.
  - Please bring **headphones or earbuds.**

  Important Reminders for PARENTS of students in the hybrid model:

  - Continue to complete the **COVID DAILY PARENT FORM** on Genesis by 7:30am, each morning your child comes to school.

- Please make sure your child brings his/her **iPad** to school charged, along with the charger and headphones.
- Continue to use the staff parking lot to drop off (starting at 7:45am) & to pick up your child if you are transporting them. Students will enter and exit from Door 7 – the one closest to the parking lot. Staff will be outside before and after school to direct and assist you.
- Finally parents, just a reminder that breakfast and lunch is free for all students. No one will be billed or required to pay at any time. All students can take advantage of this service.
- Access **HYBRID LEARNING INFO** under the Parent Center tab on our school website for various documents related to hybrid learning: https://king.piscatawayschools.org/parent_center/h_y_b_r_i_d_l_e_a_r_n_i_n_g_i_n_f_o
- Please refer to the **King School Re-entry Guide March 2021** for very specific details about all aspects of the hybrid model at King School. It was emailed to families last week and is accessible here: https://king.piscatawayschools.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server_805114/Image/King_School_Re_Entry_Guide_March_2021.pdf

Important information for STUDENTS & PARENTS in the hybrid model:

- Students will be able to enter the building at 7:45am and the late bell rings at 8:05am.
- On Mondays and Fridays students will be dismissed at 12:25pm.
- On Tuesdays through Thursdays, students will be dismissed at 2:20pm.
- A 25-minute lunch will be held in the cafeteria each day and on Tuesdays through Thursdays students will also have a 25-minute recess.

- **Cultural Competency Lessons:**
  Parents, just so you are aware, these last few weeks of April into the start of May, all of our students and staff will be learning more about various aspects of Asian culture including religions and traditions. A couple of our Asian-American teachers created several in-depth presentations based on their own knowledge, background and experiences, to help enlighten everyone in our school. Please be sure to take time to ask your children what they learned.

- **PTO Updates:**
  - Additionally, the PTO recently launched the SchoolStore fundraiser, an 100% online fundraiser that generates funds for teachers while students earn prizes. Hybrid students should have brought home the information already, and we're working on getting the information to the remote students.

- **5th Grade iPad Case Exchange & Audit:**
  Parents, we just about done giving each 5th grade student a new iPad case with a keyboard. We will continue to exchange the cases for Group 1 and 2 students on days they are in the building.

  For Group 3 students, if you have not been able to make it to the school to exchange your child's iPad case, we have a curbside process in place for us to exchange the case and conduct the audit. You can come to the school any day this week during school hours.

- **General Parent Information:**
  If you would like to move your child to the hybrid model and haven't informed us, please call our main office and Mrs. Borges will be happy to assist you. We will first check to make sure there is room in your child's class, the she will give you a call with the details and to confirm when your child might be able to start.

  Please feel free to call or email us with any other questions or concerns about the hybrid model.

- **Individual Yearbook Photos:**
  Some students were able to successfully upload their headshots for the yearbook last week during their PE classes. For those who were unable to do so, we will arrange plans in the coming weeks to make sure the pictures are uploaded.

- **School Procedures Reminders:**
  Parents, just a reminder for both hybrid and remote students, we ask that you continue to follow normal school procedures if your child needs to miss school due to illness or for any other reason, or may need to sign in late to Zoom or sign out early. Parents, also be reminded that whether your child is hybrid or fully remote, we're asking you to notify us when your child will be missing school.
  Parents of hybrid students, please be sure to inform us if your child is not in school on their assigned hybrid day. We need to keep track of why he/she is missing school, even if they are able to sign in remotely that day.

  - Absences: Please call our main office attendance extension to report the absence. Ms. Mueller (732) 699-1563 x5444
  - Sign-in Late or Sign-out Early: Please email your child's homeroom teacher.
  - Special Medical Information: Please contact Ms. Fink our School Nurse (732) 699-1563 x5443

- **Weekly Schedule:**
  Parents and students, just a reminder that until further notice every Monday and Friday will continue to be early dismissal days for students, and their Zoom classes will end at 12:25pm. Hybrid students will be dismissed from school at 12:25pm.

  On Mondays and Friday from about 1:00-2:20pm teachers will continue to be available to support students in various ways, which may include students signing back into their Zoom sessions to interact with teachers. Teachers will make sure students understand their availability and what they can expect to take place during those afternoon hours.

- **PTO Facebook:**
  Parents, the MLK PTO invites you to join their Facebook group. The information will be shared in the Sunday Snapshot email.

  PTO Facebook Link: https://www.facebook.com/MLKPTOPiscataway

- **Yearbook Photos:**
  Students and parents, just a reminder that the MLK PTO is continuing to collect photos for our 2020-2021 yearbook. The MLK PTO has created a Dropbox account where you can share your spirit day or other school photos virtually so we can use them throughout the yearbook. The Dropbox link will be included in the Sunday Snapshot email.

  Dropbox Photo Link: https://www.dropbox.com/request/JPYQbPSLoOihDHHudtj0

- **PTO Membership & PTO Amazon Smile Fundraiser:**
  Parents, just a reminder that information about PTO membership and supporting King School through Amazon Smile will be included in the Sunday Snapshot email. All proceeds from membership and Amazon Smile will be used to support our students.

  *The PTO is continuing to accept membership through the Cheddar Up website. The direct link to Cheddar Up is below:
  MLK Cheddar Up Link: https://mlk-intermediate-membership.cheddarup.com

  *Parents, if you shop on Amazon, why not help King School in the process by signing up for Amazon Smile. The Amazon Smile link is below:

  Amazon Smile Link: https://smile.amazon.com/ch/83-3271165

- **Virtual Academic Helpdesk:**
  Parents and students, the district is continuing to offer Virtual Academic Helpdesks for students to receive immediate feedback and direction directly from content area teachers on designated days and hours. Details and links are always included in my Sunday Snapshot email and can also be found under the Curriculum and Instruction tab on the district website.

  Below are the content areas, days, times, and links:

4-5 ELA	T, TH, 4:30pm-5:30pm	45ela@pway.org
4-5 Math	M, W, 3:30pm-4:30pm	45math@pway.org
4-5 Science	T, TH, 2:30pm-3:30pm	45sci@pway.org
4-5 Social Studies	M, W, 2:30pm-4:30pm	45soc@pway.org

- **Friday Spirit Day:**
  Instead of a spirit day on Friday, this week we're going to have a Monday-Friday spirit week…"**Teacher Appreciation Spirit Week**." Instead of planning what we're going to wear or put on for a traditional spirit day, take a moment to create a sign or poster with a word or phrase to demonstrate how you feel about your teachers. You can even record a brief video to share. Send your picture or brief video to your teachers anytime this week. I know it will mean a great deal to them!

I hope you and your families have a positive and productive week, and "Happy Cinco de Mayo" on Wednesday!

"Let's Remember to Stay Connected"

Upcoming Important Dates

May

- Teacher Appreciation Spirit Week — May 3-7
- Memorial Day (Schools Closed) — May 31

June

- Day after Memorial Day (Schools Closed) — June 1
- Career Day — TBD
- Last Day of School — June 17