



Parent Newsletter

Monday, November 4, 2019

Volume 1, Number 13

Updated Calendar

SMMUSD Master Calendar

Sun	11/3	Clocks Fall Back 1 Hour / 12am Malibu Half Marathon & 5K Run/Walk / Benefits MBGC
Mon	11/4	Regular School Day / Kindergarten dismissed @ 1:45 and 1st - 5th dismissed at 2:45 Square1 Order Deadline (See article below) Wellness Talks about the Woolsey Fire Anniversary 4th & 5th Grade Marine Science Assembly / 1- 2 @ Cafeteria
Tues	11/5	Parent/Teacher Conference Day (Pupil Free Day) / No School
Tues - Fri	11/5 - 11/8	Parent Conference Week Book Fair Week - Library Closed 8 - 3 daily @ Library (Benefits MES Library and Classrooms)
Wed - Fri	11/6 – 11/8	Parent/Teacher Conferences (Early Dismissal @ 12:45)
Fri	11/8	Woolsey Fire Anniversary Moment of Silence Shelter-in-Place Drill (Scenario: biting dog loose on campus)
Fri - Sun	11/8 - 11/17	Landscaping will be done near the new bungalows, BioClean Berm, & Kinder Yard
Mon	11/11	Veterans' Day / No School 20th Annual Malibu Veterans Day Public Ceremony / 11 - 2 @ City Hall
Tues	11/12	Kindergarten Tide Pool Walk (12:30 – 2:00)
Tues-Wed	11/12 - 11/13	PTA Holiday Boutique (Details coming)
Thurs	11/21	PS Arts Afternoon Parent Event / 3 - 5 @ cafeteria
Wed	11/27	Minimum Day 6 of 8 (Early Dismissal @ 12:45)
Thurs	11/28	Thanksgiving Day / No School
Fri	11/29	No School
Tues	12/10	Kindergarten Tide Pool Walk (12:30 – 2:00) PTA Association Meeting / 3 - 4 pm @ Room 13 Parent Education Event: "Safer Internet Skills for Parents" / 4 - 5 @ cafeteria (See article below) ELAC #2 / 5pm @ library
Tues	12/17	District Malibu Schools Music Performance / 6:30 - 8:30 @ MES Cafeteria
Fri	12/20	Last Day Before Winter Break
Mon	1/13	Last day of PS Music with Amber for k-2
Tues	1/28	PS Arts/Crafts Begins for K-2 students (Volunteers needed - see below)
Thur	4/2	Open House

Principal's Pen

Conference Week: It's Parent Conference and Book Fair week! We are looking for 100% parent/guardian participation. This is the most important parent event of the fall. At Back-to-School Night, 74.2 % of parents were able to join us. For parents who could not attend BTSN, it is imperative that you participate in conferences. Tell your child you are going and that their learning is of the utmost importance to you. Come back to your child with at least one thing to praise them about and at least one goal for improvement. Make sure your child is praised for their effort and understands his/her goal. Ultimately you want your child to know

that the adults in his/her life are working together to help your child. You want your child to understand that it is their effort that will carry them through academia and life. You want your child to always have goals. Thank you for your partnership.

Improved Departure Safety: As you have read repeatedly the past few months, the safe and quick arrival and departure of students has been a priority for Malibu Elementary. The biggest concern has been departure. We have been experiencing gridlock and traffic on the wrong side of the road on Fernhill. Students have even rushing out onto Fernhill to get into vehicles! We have been busy stopping this unsafe phenomena. I have some good news about this. The Facilities Department and I have been communicating with City staff and they have placed temporary signs along Fernhill Dr. that will match the signs on Grayfox to ensure that vehicles do not park from 7:30 - 8:30 AM MON-FRI , 2-3:00 PM MON-THUR AND 12-1 PM FRIDAY (SCHOOL DAYS). In addition, the temporary no parking signs extend right up to the Metro bus stop on Fernhill. The District will soon erect permanent signs, but in the meantime, the City has provided temporary signs. The change in signs coupled with parent volunteers should help significantly. We are now requesting that crosswalks be added to the Grayfox / Fernhill intersection. I want to thank the parents and neighbors who have joined our SSC is asking the City to help us out. It looks like MES is making progress! Now we just need volunteers for Grayfox after school. Please contact me to get involved. MES needs your help.

Facility Improvements: Beginning on November 8 and on the next few weekends our school will receive temporary landscape improvements. Sod will be laid down on the dirt BioClean berms near Fernhill, near the back of the Bungalows, and around the kindergarten yard. Irrigation heads will be replaced too. This work will precede summer work to replace the kindergarten and 1st - 5th play structures. These new play structures will have padding instead of sand, will be surrounded by artificial turf rather than dirt, and will offer the children fun climbing and musical activities. The kindergarten structure will be bordered by repurposed wood pilings from our own school and the new structure will come from Cabrillo. (It is in a box and was never installed there.) These moves are helping us stay within budget. In the end we will have cleaner, more colorful, more attractive, and modern play areas for our children. Once final architectural renderings are available, they will be shared in a future newsletter.

Thank you: Everyday I have scores of volunteers at the school to thank. This week I must publicly acknowledge the Room Parents, Zoe Langley, Melisa Solano, and Vidas Enck for putting together a wonderful Halloween and Dia de Los Muertos event for our children. With school closures, it was particularly dynamic but they pulled it off! Also many thanks to the Gerber Family for their significant cash donation to the Marine Science aquaria fund. New sea life will be rotating in and out of our aquariums! Lastly, thank you to all the families who were able to donate to Giving Week. Your warm generous support will serve our PTA in their effort to help our school thrive. So much of what is good about MES comes from volunteers and donors.

Together for kids,
Chris Hertz

[Clothing for Nurse's Office](#)

We are in need of small and medium sized boys pants. Please send your donation to Diane Sullivan. Thank you.

[Water Bottles](#)

Please consider sending a water bottle to school for your child. We have 5-gallon bottled water but few cups. Label your child's water bottle with their name. Lost bottles and lunch pails are kept in the cafeteria in the corner near the kitchen.

[California Wildlife Center](#)

On Monday, January 4 from 1 -2pm, the California Wildlife Center will be giving an assembly to the 4th and 5th graders. CWC saves local animals including Sea Lions. Many thanks to parent leader Vidas Enck for arranging this assembly. Our goal is to inspire our students to become environmental stewards, to champion the needs of other species, to improve improve our world. Coupled with our Marine Science program and our Deep Learning initiative, we hope our students will begin to envision their lives as leaders for good.

[School Song Archived on School Website](#)

Please see the newest addition to our school website! Go Sea Lions!

<http://malibues.smmusd.org/mascot-song.html>

[20th Annual Malibu Veterans Day Public Ceremony / Monday, November 11 @ 11 - 2 @ City Hall](#)

This year the Malibu Navy League is honoring WWII veterans. Please join them at City Hall. More information is available in the link below. https://drive.google.com/file/d/1L28qEdzfCUCe62fiYQt-A_Wlu3Wkl7Lz/view?usp=sharing

[K-2 Volunteer Art Helpers Needed for Spring / Beginning January 28](#)

Contact Art Teacher Nicole Fisher to sign up! (nfisher@smmusd.org)

No Art Experience Necessary!

What does an art helper do?

- Arrives 5-10 minutes before class starts to help set up
- Helps with all students, not just their own
- Aids in class supervision
- Gives positive encouragement
- Does not do projects for students
- Assists with clean up at the end of class
- Might help set up for the next class
- Is prepared to get a little messy
- Arranges for an alternate if unable to make it
- A few more notes: This is time to be present ... not social hour, not a time to talk to the teacher about your child, not on your cell phone, or talking with other parents.

There are also non-class opportunities to volunteer.... Kiln Committee, filing art into portfolios, setting up and taking down art show, art blogger, etc..

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZNwD4k8w2BnHlP_VQp6aJpvN5Amak86U/view?usp=sharing

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1sopd50k89ITxINEn6SKqGueGuQcBq9rr/view?usp=sharing>

[Art Fundraiser](#)

We have partnered with Square1 Art to create a unique opportunity to celebrate students artistic accomplishments while raising funds for Malibu Elementary School. 33% of all sales will go to the school and we'll receive an extra 5% profit if 45% participation is reached. Please click on this link for more information:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1q_xMfsKSEGaHngQznuqZlteMoNWZK8y4/view?usp=sharing

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-bWw4v-w8bMG2rDq_j3DpTFnTv28pbVj/view?usp=sharing

[Safer Internet Skills for Parents, Parent Education Tuesday, December 10](#)

Technology is a powerful tool for learning, communicating, and sharing. However, navigating it safely is not innate in children and it's up to us to teach them. Mrs. Jennings and Ms. Levy are leading Malibu Elementary to become a "Common Sense School" through the school-wide Digital Citizenship Program: Helping students take ownership of their digital lives.

The Common Sense Digital Citizenship Program addresses top concerns for parents and educators, prepares students to make smart choices online and in life, and engages the whole community through family outreach.

[Our first family outreach night will be held December 10 at 4pm, right after the PTA meeting and just before the ELAC meeting.](#) Come to the library and learn about media balance, digital footprint, identity and privacy, social relationships, bullying, communication, news and media literacy. We will also cover how technology is being used in the classroom for learning, communication, and collaboration.

(This event will be translated into Spanish.)

[Hearing and Vision Screening Reminder](#)

The vision and hearing tests for grades K, 2, and 5 will be taking place on: Wednesday, October 30th in the Music Room across from the main office. Below is a tentative schedule to this email as well as below.

Teacher	Grade	Time
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Hammack	Kindergarten	0820-0910
Harris	Kindergarten	0910-1000
Kleiser	2nd	1020-1100
Tafi	2nd	1100-1140
Levi	5th	1140-1220
Levi	5th	1300-1330
Matthews	5th	1330-1440

Report Safety Concerns and Serious Injuries to the Principal

Parents, if you see a safety concern or your child has suffered a serious injury at school, please send me an email at chertz@smmusd.org or call me at 310-457-9370 ext. 78-202. Your immediate observations and ideas have been extremely valuable over few months. I look forward to working with you to make our school even safer. Also, please tell your child to contact me or a staff member if they think there is a dangerous incident. This includes aggression on campus, stranger danger, or if someone talks about harassment or suicide. Your child’s safety is of utmost importance to each of us. If your child cannot access me, have them write me a note and include their last name. I will get back to your child quickly.

Reprint: Volunteers Needed at MES for Grayfox Pick Up

Valet Duty: Help keep the afternoon pick-up line on Grayfox moving. Volunteers need to be prepared to quickly open the vehicle's passenger door and get the student out, close the door and move on to the next vehicle.

Time commitment: 20 minutes, 1 day/week

When: Volunteers are needed daily, but especially on Tuesdays

Reprint: Reminder: Safe Arrival and Departure Plan Update - Clarity About Pulling Away from the Curb

Please refrain from using your cell phone in the parking lot. The area along the front of the school (yellow curb) is reserved for parents/drivers who drive in to quickly drop-off or pick-up their children, so please do not leave your vehicle parked there. Once you have dropped off your child, merge left and depart the drop-off line. Children should exit from the right side of the vehicle. Abandoned vehicles create an unsafe environment. Thanks for your cooperation. Please examine the Safe Arrival and Drop-Off Plan and Map carefully using the below links:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ez1V0qpd3a069KV4SuWCunHhrdT9PmYc/view?usp=sharing>

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1keDZqHID0rbiVuekpgGeiiuF3kqs-zQ_/view?usp=sharing

Reprint: Student Council Update

We are meeting every other Wednesday in the art studio, during lunch time. Grades 2-3 meet on the lunch tables outside the art room with Mrs. Robin Seldin from 12:00-12:20, then they join the 4-5 graders in the art room (with Mrs. Seldin, Mrs. Nicole Fisher and Mrs. Bracken) from 12:20-12:40, then 4-5s stay in the art room until 12:55. All 2-5 students are welcome to join at anytime.

In the first meeting, students were introduced to Roberts Rule of Order, and they learned how to run meetings. They role played how to call to order, present agenda, read minutes, give officer’s reports, discuss business, and adjourn. In the second meeting, using the Roberts Rules, students elected officers, voted to add a new office of Environmental Commissioner, and voted on Spirit Day themes. Students made motions, motions were seconded, discussed, and then voted on.

Fall Meeting Dates:

Sept 25

Oct 16

Oct 30

Nov 13
Nov 27
Dec 11

Reprint: MBGC Fundraiser

Please help support the Boys & Girls Clubs of Malibu by volunteering at this year's Malibu Half Marathon & 5K Run/Walk on November 3rd. We are honored to be a part of this community-based event that empowers all runners and emphasizes overall health and wellness. We are in need of volunteers in many areas! Please click the link below to sign up.

<https://signup.com/go/iRahTdM>

For further information or questions -
Call 310-457-2582
Email siugenconstanza@bgcmalibu.org

Reprint: Special Minimum Day List

August 22, 2019
August 27, 2019
September 3, 2019
November 6, 2019
November 7, 2019
November 27, 2019
April 2, 2019
June 10, 2020

Reprint: MES Online Learning Programs

The link below will take parents to a chart showing online curriculum available for students (and parents):
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-5N-YrdhVcAExpFRRac3SDp6tNNWzFaVB4pkEPxSkbQ/edit?usp=sharing>

Reprint: Helping Your Child this Summer - Returned Work

Parents are asked to weekly keep all the work being returned to them by the teachers in a learning portfolio for use this summer. This summer you can review the work with your child to help your child to not regress and feel more confident about August. This strategy plus the use of Lexia and Dreambox over the summer will really help your child to be and feel successful when school reopens.

Reprint: Is Your Child Being Appropriately Challenged?

The teachers at MES want to hear from you if you think school is too hard or too easy for your child. Parents often know if their child is overwhelmed or underwhelmed. We need to hear from you. Together we can determine what appropriate adjustments can be made! Thanks for contacting us.

Reprint: Reading Complexity Chart - So Many Systems!

This chart offers parents the ability to correlate Accelerated Reader, F & P and Lexile reading levels across the grades. This should help clarify confusion about reading levels at MES. Parents from our merged schools are confused because Cabrillo and Pt. Dume used different leveling systems! AT BTSN I heard several parents asked for clarity about reading levels so please take a look.
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/18Ki5GRAw2quakK7is1l481cUmjueYz4s/view?usp=sharing>

School Positive Discipline Plan

This is our plan to ensure that school is welcoming, safe, and inclusive. It will be revisited by the faculty midyear for possible edits.
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1g4NSWAt2cVAQjesArSWz6s8cOf8Lgi89b_E0sc7eta8/edit?usp=sharing

