

**Flora M. Singer
Elementary School**

S e a T u r t l e s

The Sea Turtle Times

Flora M. Singer Elementary School 2600 Hayden Drive, Silver Spring, MD 20902 Phone: 240-740-0330
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	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
This week	9/30	10/1 PTA Parent Meeting-7:00 pm	10/2	10/3 No School for students	10/4 Spanish-speaking Parent Coffee 9:45 APR; Google meet Meeting Link: https://meet.google.com/nfs-ahhb-xjy
Next week	10/7	10/8 Picture Day	10/9	10/10	10/11 Spanish-speaking Parent Coffee 9:45 APR; Google meet Meeting Link: https://meet.google.com/nfs-ahhb-xjy

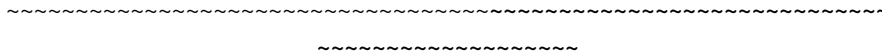
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No School Thursday

Montgomery County Public Schools will be closed this coming Thursday, October 3, 2024. We will see you back on Friday!



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

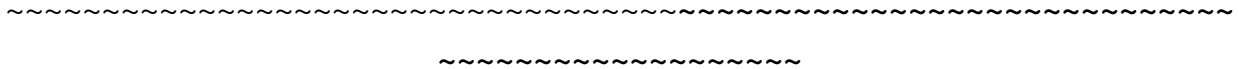
You can find information on this unit in the links below.

[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.

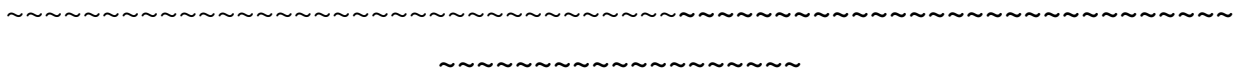
Thank you for supporting Harmony at Singer. If you have any questions about what we are doing, please feel free to ask. You can also find more information at harmony-academy.org.



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](#)



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.

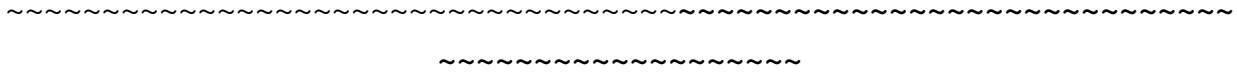
The Holiday Giving Project has provided Thanksgiving and December holiday assistance to low-income households for over 30 years. A network of social workers, school counselors, and human service professionals refer families in need of assistance. Local non-profits, faith-based organizations, and public 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](#)



PTA Membership Drive

We have reached our PTA Membership Drive goal! We look forward to having Mr. Heatwole and Mr. McKinley don those lovely purple wigs again!

Thanks to all who have joined!! Just a reminder that members who join at the Bronze level or higher are automatically entered to win a Singer Swag basket. And all members are entered in a monthly drawing for a special piece of Singer Swag.

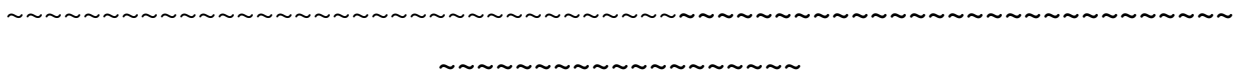
Our next PTA meeting is in less than a week. If you would like to vote in PTA business you must have a current PTA membership. Memberships from previous years do not roll over. [Link to sign up for PTA membership.](#)

Now, for a leaderboard update as of 25 September for the September Membership Drive contest:

- **Bennett (3rd Grade): 52%**
- **Yuan (2nd Grade): 50%**
- **Oursler (1st Grade): 47%**
- **Wirth (3rd Grade): 47%**
- **Aebersold (1st Grade): 44%**
- **Flemming (Kinder): 44%**
- **Graves (Kinder): 44%**
- **Mooney (Kinder): 44%**

Would love to see how many classes can reach that 50% or more threshold!

Thank you to everyone who has signed up for their 2024-2025 membership already. We look forward to having more members join soon!



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 Shoott 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 Volunteer Opportunities

Parent volunteers are the heart and soul of our efforts to provide Singer students and families with enriching and fun programs all year long! We know it can be intimidating to take on a new role, but we have options for everyone. If you want to shadow someone to learn the job for next year, we've got many opportunities to do so. If you want to take on more responsibility with more influence and engagement with the school administration, we have those opportunities too. And if you're a K-2nd parent, we really need your help! Many in our current volunteer group are graduating in the next two years, and we are in danger of losing our #singermagic without your help now!

Please sign up [here](#) to volunteer (or learn more about volunteer opportunities).

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(Last?) Call for Room Parents

Thank you to all who volunteered as Room Parents - we are VERY close to having at least one Room Parent for each classroom! We're still looking for a Room Parent in the following homerooms:


- Berry
- Christenen
- Ganon
- Riley
- (Mr.) Labastida


If you're interested (or even just willing) - email Shira Printup (shira.fishman1@gmail.com)

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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

- 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

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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 programs will be **October 21, 2024** streamed on the [MCPS Homepage](#) **English** 5:00 pm* **español** 6:00 pm*