



# Weekly Rainbow Parent Edition

V2 Wk. 3

8/26/24



## PRINCIPAL DIXON'S WEEKLY MESSAGE

Greetings Families! Thank you for your support of another "MAGICAL" week! We are really getting into the swing of things. Students are continuing to learn our processes, procedures, and routines. We are introducing grade level content and preparing for our 1st round of testing. Please encourage your students to do their personal best in showing what they know. Although this is baseline data, our teachers will use this data to build upon and identify needed supports.

If you haven't already, please login to your parent portal account and complete your online forms. It is imperative that we receive this information in a timely manner. Much of the information is used for programming and resources that your student should receive. Please also return any forms that were in your 1st Day packet. I need for all families to complete the free/reduced lunch application. Even if you provided lunch for your student, I need you to complete this form. Many of the supports that we receive as a school rely on the number of families that we service that qualify for free/reduced lunch. Please be sure to complete this form at <http://www.myschoolapps.com/>.

On Wednesday, we will host our Annual Title 1 Meeting/Open House. We will start at 5:30 pm in our cafeteria. We will have 2 entrances to our campus (front bus/walkers gate and 47th St. parking gate). Please know that we will be following new security guidelines. Let's have another amazing week.

Principal Dixon



## IMPORTANT DATES

### August

- 26th Principal's Success Squad announced!!!
- 28th Open House 5:30 p.m. (cafeteria to begin)

### September

- 2nd Labor Day; No School
- 6th First Friday Lunch
- 9th ELP begins (tentative)
- 10th Progress Reports go home
- 10th PTA Fall Festival Planning Follow-Up Mtg. 6:00pm
- 13th Winter Musical Auditions
- 14th PCCTA Fall Workshop (Pinellas Park High)
- 17th Astro Skating Party 3 p.m. (Volunteers needed)
- 20th Musical Rehearsals begin 3:15-4:30
- 23rd Professional Day; No School for students
- 26th Fall Festival (Science) 5:30-7:30
- 27th Candy Bar Sales Kickoff
- 30th Best News Club begins

## SCHOOL SAFETY

School Safety is our top priority. Please be aware of new school safety protocols and how they may affect your student:

- All doors, except bathrooms, will remain locked throughout the day.
- ALL entrances will be manned by adults at all times. We will limit entry points to only 2 during arrival and dismissal.
- Our car circle will ONLY be used by car riders during dismissal. Those that wish to walk up will be using the walker's gate on the south side of the school (13th Ave. No.)
- Visitors must enter through the front office when visiting our campus. Please have identification on you at all times.
- Please use the identified crosswalks when coming on campus.
- Parents please be sure that your student is wearing the proper footwear to school. Crocs and slides are not permitted.



## NEWS YOU CAN USE...

- Our Kindergarten and 1st Grade classrooms will have their “Grandmas” (Seniors in Service) to join their classrooms. These seniors are volunteers that are committed to student success at Mt. Vernon. They will be helping teachers to meet the daily needs of our students. I will introduce the Grandmas in next week’s Weekly Rainbow Parent Edition.
- Our enrichment program is set to start on September 11th. This year, we will offer arterial transportation so that more of our students can participate. Please look out for the invitation to come home this week. Placement in enrichment will be on a first come, first served basis. We only have limited seats for each club.
- Parents, if you are interested in facilitating an enrichment club, please see Ms. Dixon or Ms. Jones. The more clubs we have, the more of our students we can service. I would love to have at least 1 foreign language club for our students to be engaged in. Level 2 volunteers are highly encouraged to facilitate a club.
- If your student is going to be absent, please notify us by calling in at 727-893-1815 or going to our website to report the absence.
- \* **New** this year are positive referrals. This is for students that are following our guidelines for success. Students bring their positive referrals to the cafeteria on Fridays for a special treat. If your student comes home with a positive referral, please celebrate their efforts. Good behavior is also celebrated at Mt. Vernon!

## NEW THIS YEAR...

Power up learning, power down distractions!!!

Cell Phones are prohibited items in elementary schools. Student will not be permitted to use cell phones while on campus. Parents, please help your student be successful by reminding them that cell phones must be powered off while at school.

## REMINDERS...

- On Wednesday, we will host our Annual Title 1 Meeting/Open House. We will begin at 5:30pm in our cafeteria. Please join us to learn all about what’s happening at Mt. Vernon and in your child’s classroom.
- Student Planners are in. Please check your student’s planner each day for communication from the teacher.
- Please be sure to sign your parent support card when you are on campus. We would like to recognize those that regularly engage in the education of their children.
- Our school Facebook page is back in use. Please follow us on Facebook to keep up with the daily happenings around our campus.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We are pleased to announce that we will again host volunteers on our campus. Mrs. Sanders, our Family Community Liaison, will be hosting a workshop for all volunteers. If you were a previous volunteer, please recertify using the link that was emailed to you. If you are looking to become a new volunteer, please contact Mrs. Sanders for more information. We currently have the following volunteer opportunities:

- September Skating Party
- Fall Festival
- PTA Member/Board Member
- SAC Member
- First Friday Lunch

## PTA NEEDS YOU...

Our Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is in need of volunteers to support our efforts in making Mt. Vernon a great place to learn. The cost is only \$6.00 for the entire year and the commitment is only 1 hour a month. Please consider joining our PTA, which meets on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 6:00 p.m. in our media center.



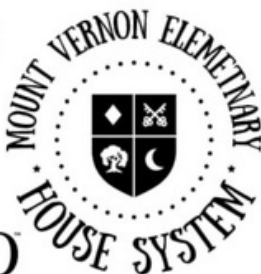
# BUILDING A POSITIVE SCHOOL CULTURE

We have rebranded our School House System. Our 4 Houses are being taught and reviewed with our students. Students are learning their House Cheer and signs. We are looking for 4th and 5th grade students to be House Leaders. To learn more, please stop by our House table at our upcoming Annual Title 1 Meeting/Open House.

Fridays are House Spirit Day! We encourage students to wear their House color or House shirt on Fridays. We will be providing each K-5 student with a House Shirt to wear on Fridays. Please ask your student what house they are representing. Although we have 4 houses, we are 1 Unicorn Family!!!

Embracing the spirit of friendship and loyalty. Amistad members are known for their strong bonds and supportive nature. They uplift one another and create a warm, welcoming environment for all.

Isibindi, meaning courage, represents bravery and determination. House members are fearless in the face of challenges, inspiring others with their boldness and unwavering spirit.



The House of Altruismo is all about generosity and kindness. Members are dedicated to serving others, spreading positivity, and making a difference in their communities and beyond.

The House of Reveur celebrates creativity and imagination. Dreamers are visionary thinkers who encourage innovation and artistic expression, always dreaming big and aiming high.

## SCHOOL PANTRY

Did you know that we have a pantry at Mt. Vernon with free food, toiletries, household items, clothing, shoes and so much more? Our pantry is open on Mondays and Thursdays. If you would like to make an appointment to visit our pantry, please contact Mrs. Sanders, our Family/Community Liaison. EVERYTHING is free and no documentation is needed. We only need to know your household size to know how many we are servicing. Please schedule your visit to the pantry by calling 727-893-1815 and asking for Mrs. Sanders.

## MAGIC ESSENTIALS

Parents, please help us make Mt. Vernon "magical" by teaching the MAGIC essentials. These are just good habits to have in the school setting.

### M.A.G.I.C. Essentials



#### It is essential that all unicorns:

- Greet visitors and make them feel welcome.
- If you see something, say something.
- When given the opportunity, hold the door for the person behind you.
- No matter the circumstances, always be honest.
- Learn from your mistakes and move on.
- Respect other students' comments, opinions, and ideas.
- Be the best person you can be.
- Be positive and enjoy life.
- When walking in line, keep your arms by your sides and move quietly.
- Track the speaker.
- Follows specific classroom protocols, even when you think no one is looking.
- Always say "thank you" when given something.
- Cover your mouth when you sneeze or cough and say "excuse me".



SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING,



[www.pcsb.org/safetyconcern](http://www.pcsb.org/safetyconcern)

Parents,

Please encourage your students to keep our campus safe by reporting anything that they see or hear that can jeopardize the safety of our campus. 3rd-5th graders are explicitly taught how to use their student devices to anonymously report. This can also be done at home by using the above site. Thank you for your support of keeping out campus safe.

## TAMPA BAY RAYS OPPORTUNITY

The Tampa Bay Rays are again offering discounted tickets to students, staff, and their families as part of 2024 Fall Pinellas County School's Spirit night with the Rays. This year the Pinellas County School's night is Sunday, September 22nd, at 1:40 pm, vs. the Toronto Blue Jays. Tickets will be offered for \$25 (up to \$70 value) in the following seating categories:

- Lower Level while supplies last:
- Lower Box and
- Lower Reserved.

This year we are using a link for the parents and staff to go in and purchase their own tickets! We are hoping this makes it a lot easier for people to purchase tickets.

<https://fevo-enterprise.com/event/pinellasspring2024>

The deadline for purchasing tickets is September 13th through the QR or link.

PINELLAS COUNTY SCHOOLS  
**SPIRIT NIGHT**  
CELEBRATING EDUCATION!

 x 

**SUNDAY, SEPT 22<sup>ND</sup>**  
1:40 P.M. // TROPICANA FIELD  
\$25 LOWER LEVEL SEATING  
(UP TO \$70 VALUE)

pcsb  
PINELLAS COUNTY SCHOOLS BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

**ORDER FORM**  
Orders due by September 15, 2024 at 11:59 p.m. through link/QR/Code below

Tickets will be offered through the QR Code or <https://fevo-enterprise.com/event/pinellasspring2024>

1. Go to the website or use the QR code.
2. Select "Buy Tickets"
3. Click on the available sections to the left on the map.
4. Select "View Seats" on the map
5. Pick your seats for the game"  
\*Note: If you want to sit with people you will have to purchase together under one order.
6. Look for the row you would like on the right side and select that row.
7. Click select for the seats and continue
8. Check out.



Tickets required for ages 2+. Visit [raysticketball.com](http://raysticketball.com) for the policies and procedures at Tropicana Field. Tickets are distributed through the MLB Ballpark App at the time of purchase. Tickets must be purchased in advance and are subject to availability. Offer not available through the Rays Box Office. Tampa Bay Rays tickets are non-refundable. If games are cancelled for any reason, the Tampa Bay Rays will provide alternative options.