



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Greetings MLK Jr. Families,

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the community or welcome you back for another great year! We had a great first week of school. We had a large number of families enroll last week due to the construction and we are well over 300 students strong! We are still looking for families to join our Pre-K program if you know anyone who is interested. We also have a few slots left in our Mandarin Kindergarten so spread the word! We have so many great things going on this year and they are all pointing us towards growing our students' brains academically and emotionally. Our staff has worked hard over the summer and this fall to completely align our math and reading curriculum and practices to standards based, culturally relevant practices. This year we are adding a block of time each day called "Acceleration Block" where additional staff members are pushing into classrooms to support students who are below benchmark to catch up and a chance for students who are at or above grade level to extend their learning. Students will work in small groups or on our blended learning platforms using the building technology.

Morning Mile kicked off today with 20 students, one staff member and three parents! We know this will continue to grow. We will be out on the track from 8:00-8:25 as long as the weather is tolerable. Come and join us for a walk or run! This is part of our commitment to supporting health in every way for our students. You may have also heard that students are receiving a morning wellness break (recess) and an afternoon wellness break (recess). Students receive 30 minutes to each lunch and play table games. We made the move to support students having more time to eat and connect with peers and limit conflicts that arose during the multiple transitions to and from recess to lunch and back to class. The students love the board games and learning great cooperative skills.

Please plan to join us Thursday September 20th for our Back to School/Curriculum Night starting at 5:30. Our fabulous PTA will be hosting a BBQ for families and you will get a chance to hear from teachers about their academic foci for the year, what materials they will be using, how they will handle home practice as well as their classroom culture plans. We will send a more detailed schedule home next week.

Thank you all for making MLK Jr. such an amazing community to be a part of. We have a lot more going on that we will share in upcoming newsletters. Please don't hesitate to reach out with questions and concerns. Together we are stronger!

With gratitude,

Jill Sage
Principal
Martin Luther King Jr. School PK-5



Welcome back MLK Jr. Families!

We are again partnering with **Portland Backpack-Communities Caring for Kids**. You should have received a sign up form in your welcome packet. If your family would like extra food on the weekends, this program sends home two non-perishable meals, two snacks, and two oatmeal breakfasts every Friday starting on Sept. 14th. It is not too late to sign up. If you did not receive the form, please contact me.

We are also looking for volunteers to help pack the food. Packing is every first Wednesday of the month at 9 AM in the cafeteria. If you would like to help, please let me know.

Michelle Peake
School Counselor
mpeake1@pps.net
(503) 916-6456



SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------|
| Jin Ren Parent Meetings | 9/05 |
| • Library 5:30PM | |
| PTA Meetings | 9/18 |
| • Library 5:30-7:00PM | |
| Back to School Curriculum Night | 9/20 |
| • Time: 5:30PM | |
| Community Care Day | 9/22 |
| • Time: 10:00AM-1:00PM | |

Visit our school website for more information
<https://www.pps.net/mlk>

Hello Martin Luther King Jr. Families,

My name is Tiffany Robinson. I am the Community Agent Coordinator for Pre-K and Kindergarten families. My role is to help, interact, and give resources to our families; to make sure that our children have everything they need to be successful at MLK Jr. School.

I am located in Room 105, email:trobinson@pps.net, and by phone (503)916-6456 *78931.





International Baccalaureate[®]
Baccalauréat International
Bachillerato Internacional

Hello Martin Luther King Jr, Elementary School families,

My name is Alex Montfort (Mr. Monty), and I am our school's Positive Behavior Coach. I am very excited about the great energy we've seen at the start of this school year and I am looking forward to a wonderful year for your student/s.

As many of you know, our King Bucks program is one of the major components of our PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) system. It fosters a positive learning environment by recognizing desired school behaviors, and it rewards students with opportunities to earn small prizes. Many parents also have a similar plan to get their student/s to do homework, chores, or for positive reports from school. A school/home collaboration with your student's teacher can be an effective way to achieve your desired positive behaviors. If you are interested in starting a reward system at home, here are a few ideas from the PBS Parents website.

How to Use Rewards Effectively

- * Make rewards fairly immediate. Younger kids may need more immediate goals, while older kids can understand working toward longer-term rewards. Incentives can be small, and they don't need to be money or a toy. Even a trip to the library or park can be a treat.
- * Use charts. A sticker can visually remind young children of their achievements. Or have fun and draw a scene and add stickers of trucks or animals to it.
- * Set realistic, specific goals. Don't try to change too many things at once. If you try to work on getting to school on time, being nice to siblings and cleaning up toys all at once, that's too much. It's better to target just one or two actions in a particular chart.
- * Help your children reach their goals. Work with them to figure out how they're going to achieve their goals. "If it's a chart about getting out of the house in the morning, and they think, "I could find my shoes in the evening instead of a last-minute search for shoes," then they're actually learning a strategy. And don't forget to take the opportunity to praise your child!

Sincerely,

Mr. Monty



Welcome to a new year at Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. School! As the IB Coordinator, and a math-focused Instructional Coach I am so excited to get the year started and watch all of our students learn and grow.

A big goal of mine this year is to communicate more about our International Baccalaureate (IB) Program with you, the community, and make its presence more visible within our school.

On your school calendar you may have seen that each month our school focuses on an IB Learner Profile word, and/or IB Attitude. These Learner Profiles and Attitudes highlight traits that we hope to instill in students so that they develop into globally minded citizens.

This year, at the start of each month, students will bring home a paper with some questions connected to the IB Learner Profile and Attitude of the Month. I hope you will use these questions to start some interesting conversations with your students. I also hope that you will write down some of your answers in your chosen language and return them to school. We would like to learn more about your family and the values that you hope to develop in your students. We will highlight these answers in our hallway on our IB bulletin board so others can learn about our diverse community - it is our many perspectives and experiences that is our school's strength.

Look for the first set of questions in next week's red folders.

Paige Thomas
IB Coordinator/Instructional Coach

Hello! My name is Matthew Kertesz, and I am an instructional coach here at Martin Luther King School. This is my second year here, and I am excited for the potential that comes with this second year. Last year, we solidified the groundwork for what I am sure will be an amazing year for teaching and learning. We got a head start on the district's focus on a guaranteed and viable curriculum, and this year the work I do will be focusing on ways to ensure that the teaching we are doing results in the learning we are expecting, and that we make sure that we make adjustments based on what students show us they can do.

Matthew Kertesz
Instructional Coach
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. School