

E.F.W.M.A. Campus Newsletter

September 1, 2021

From the Desk of the Principal

We had a great start to the school year! Parents, this is in no small part due to your active partnership with the school! Thank you for all you do to help your child be their best each day!

Here are some highlights I'd like to share:

- By the second week of school our average daily tardies decreased from 10 to just 3! Way to go, parents and students! The best time to drop your child off is between 7:15 and 7:30. This allows them to fully participate in FREE breakfast and Morning Meeting.
- Dismissal has increased in efficiency drastically. I know some days have been more challenging than others, but on average we are clearing the line by 3:45 or 3:50. We do have parents who arrive after that point, but the line is moving much quicker and 90% of students are dismissed by this point. Awesome job to our parents and dismissal team!
- Primary had a successful All About Me Parent Engagement Event! Way to go, Primary Team!
- The Link has repeatedly complemented the manners and behavior of our students! Great job, 2nd-5th Grade Students and Teachers!



There are some things we need ALL parents to do.

- All parents must attend a mandatory Family Partnership Conference. These conferences set the tone for the school year and ensure that home and school are working together.
- Please sign into your child's google classroom. This is one way you can see your child's assignments and grades. It is also the best way to remain "in the know" about what is happening in your child's class.
- Please ensure you can access Parent Portal. Teachers will begin entering grades this week. The first two weeks are used for procedures, review, and practice so that grades moving forward accurately represent student knowledge and not summer slide.
- Please check to see that your information is the most up to date and best contact information. We are still getting returned emails and text messages when we send out mass communication.
- Please make sure you are receiving Remind messages from your child's teacher. This is the best way to communicate quickly and directly with your child's teacher. They will also communicate with you through this platform frequently.
- Please add our Parent & Community Calendar to your Google Calendar. Just click the button below this section to add it to your existing calendar.

We are looking forward to another great month of school. Some things to look forward to in September include:

- We will celebrate Hispanic Heritage all month long! Be sure to ask your children what they are learning about Hispanic Heritage and the contributions of this diverse people group.
- Opportunities for parents to collaborate and learn together during our Parent Academies! The first Parent Academy is Sept. 9th at 6PM and will focus on how to create Resolutions of Respect with your child. Come learn more about this powerful tool that is central to your child's classroom!
- Our ESL parents are invited to attend our ESL Parent Academy on the 16th. This Parent Academy will be focused on issues specific to our English as a Second Language students and families.
- Did you know you can bring light snacks the LAST Friday of the month to celebrate your child's birthday if it occurred within that month? We do ask that you communicate ahead of time with your child's teacher so that they can plan for the class to enjoy the light snacks you provide. We will sing Happy Birthday and younger grades will participate in the Montessori Celebration of Life. Please drop any snacks off the last Friday of the month before 2PM with the front office staff or morning arrival staff. We allow summer birthdays to be celebrated the last Friday in May.
- Remember there is NO SCHOOL MONDAY in honor of Labor Day!

Thank you for all you have done to help us start the year off great together! Have a safe and fun Labor Day weekend!

Ms. Tabb

Parent & Community Google Calendar

Add this calendar to your existing calendar! You'll be able to see upcoming events across all your devices!

Parent Visitation RSVP Form

Click the button above to reserve time to eat lunch with your child or to volunteer in our Outdoor Learning Environment!

Celebrating Acts of Compassion!

As part of our exploration of Compassion, we would like to celebrate some community members who have gone above and beyond for E.F.W.M.A.

- **Ms. Kristen Vincent and Homes of Children.** Homes for Children has consistently support E.F.W.M.A. students and families for more than 3 years. Most recently Homes for Children supplied free school supplies to our students. Thank you so much for your partnership! It makes a difference for so many!



- **The E.F.W.M.A. Board.** Our board is very involved and truly want what is best for our community. They have been a tremendous support with obtaining the permits for the remodeling of our main building and with finding our alternative location.
- **Ms. Loretta Burns.** We want to give a special thanks to Ms. Burns, our former board president. Her leadership and wisdom has been invaluable to E.F.W.M.A. over the last several years. We will miss her leadership, but know her heart will always be with us!
- **Mr. Troy Gardner.** We also want to celebrate Mr. Gardner, our new board president. Congratulations, Mr. Gardner! Your hands-on leadership has been a great support as we have addressed the challenges of this school year.

We also want to celebrate some very special students. These students are being recognized for their Acts of Compassion this first month of school.

- **Kevin V. (4th Grade)** Kevin consistently helps other classmates. He even cleans up messes he didn't make!
- **Patricia J. (4th Grade)** Patricia always advocates for what is right. She set a great example by warmly welcoming new students the first day of school!
- **Joshua P. (3rd Grade)** Joshua is always eager to help! He helps all the members of his classroom unconditionally!
- **Savanna S. (3-5 Leadership)** Savanna is always looking for ways to help the teacher and her classmates.
- **Clayton T. (3-5 Leadership)** Clayton is helpful throughout the school. He consistently helps teachers and students with heavy loads and other assistance as needed.
- **Kaitlyn Flores (3rd Grade)** Guiding others on the classwork and homework.
- **Tomiya M. (3rd Grade)** Taking the initiative as a new student to learn the systems well enough to assist others.
- **Edson V. (2nd Grade)** Edson truly went above and beyond when he took it upon himself to clean up the boys restroom at The Link. He did this without being asked. Then washed his hands and returned to class. His Act of Compassion was witnessed by a staff member.
- **Isaac Valdez (2nd Grade)** Helping new students settle into class.
- **Luke O'Sheilds (K-2 Leadership)** Providing an example and guidance to younger students.
- **Emma Rose Garza (K-2 Leadership)** Always ready with a compassionate heart and listening ear when her friends are struggling.
- **3rd-5th Grade Students.** During Morning Meeting these students have been asked to partner with younger students. They are helping these younger students learn our school mission and mantra. Soon they will begin working as teams to develop some community projects all students can participate in as we learn about our 6 Pillars of Character.

We will wrap up our explorations of what it means to be compassionate this month and begin to learn what it means to be a person of integrity. We encourage you to explore these topics with your children at home as well!

What to do in the event of a COVID exposure or positive COVID test:

Please call the front office or email your child's teacher immediately upon knowing your child will be out sick so that we can make the appropriate arrangements.

At E.F.W.M.A., we will provide Remote Conferencing instruction to any student who must remain at home due to medical reasons, but is not too sick to learn remotely. Alerting the school as soon as possible is one way you actively partner with us in your child's academic growth.

The schedule is below:

8:00-9:05 Settle In & Math Instruction
2:00-3:00 Reading Instruction & Optimistic Closure

We have committed from the beginning to be transparent about all instances of the coronavirus that directly affect our community. We ask that you also be transparent with us. If your child or anyone in your family has been exposed, begins to show symptoms, or tests positive for COVID-19, we ask that you notify the school immediately. Each situation is unique and will be treated with confidentiality and respect. We will complete the required contact tracing, make the best possible instructional arrangements for the students affected, and alert our community of any potential risks.

Students who must miss school due to COVID or any other medical reason that requires them to stay home have the opportunity to attend Remote Conferencing sessions. These sessions will be tailored to the child and their assignments. The staff member working with the student will continue our character education program and will assist the student with assignments. They will also help the student review their agenda for the day and ensure they know the schedule and how to attend any classes or intervention sessions. In order to receive attendance for the day the students must attend a minimum of two hours of Remote Conferencing instruction. Obviously, we do not want any child to feel compelled to attend if they are too sick to work.

E.F.W.M.A. continues to implement many safety precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and other illnesses, including an increased cleaning routine, strongly recommending all staff and students wear masks, and social distancing when possible. We consistently open windows for fresh air and encourage classes to eat and work in the outdoors when not too hot. We wash hands more often than we use hand sanitizer, but hand sanitizer is always available. We talk to our students about the importance of correctly washing hands at regular intervals throughout the day and after using the restroom or using a tissue. We ask that you practice the safety precautions you want your child to use at school at home. This builds muscle memory and ensures your child understands your expectations.

Introducing our Campus Instructional Leadership!

We'd like to formally introduce our Campus Administration and their roles.

Shello Tabb. Principal, Lower Grade Team Lead, and Science Instructional Coach. She has been with E.F.W.M.A. for 18 years and has taught all grade levels in elementary school. She loves outdoors and making learning real for our kids! shello.tabb@efwma.org

Renee Moak. Vice Principal, Upper Grade Team Lead, and Math Instructional Coach. She has been with E.F.W.M.A. for almost 10 years. She has taught Math and Science for 3rd-5th grades and Leadership Math. She is passionate about math instruction and preparing your children for Middle School! renee.moak@efwma.org

Sadia Haq. Primary Team Lead and Montessori Specialist. She has been with E.W.M.A. for 6 years. While she has taught various grade levels through High School, her heart is with our youngest students. Ms. Sadia has seen the amazing foundation a Montessori education can provide for a child and strives to provide that strong foundation for Primary students! sadia.haq@efwma.org

Yadira Moreno. ESL Coordinator and Intervention Team Lead. Ms. Yadira has been with E.F.W.M.A. for 8 years. She is passionate about ensuring our English Language Learners have the very best education. She uses her Montessori certification to help build a strong foundation for our ELL and intervention students! yadira.moreno@efwma.org

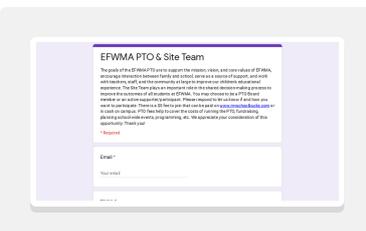
Adriane Yarclay. SEL and Equity Facilitator and Leadership Director. Ms. Yarclay has been an employee of the school for just 2 years, but she has been a parent of E.F.W.M.A. students for more than 12 years. She has seen first hand that E.F.W.M.A. is a great place to bloom. She truly puts her heart into ensuring all our students feel safe and have a voice. adriane.yarclay@efwma.org

Keisha King. Literacy Instructional Coach. Ms. King is our newest team member, but we are proud to have her. She various grade levels in elementary school and seen first hand the benefits of a systematic and holistic reading program. Ms. King has experience training and mentoring teachers and is working hard to bring reading to life for our kiddos! keisha.king@efwma.org



Join Our Site Based Team and PTO Board

If you would like to join our Site-Based Team and PTO Board, please complete the form below.



 [EFWMA PTO & Site Team](#)

[forms.gle](#)