

GULFPORT ELEMENTARY



BULLDOGS

Gulfport Elementary/Montessori Academy

gulfport-es.pinellas.k12.fl.us

February 2015

Principal
James Pribble

Vice-Principal
Brenda Butler

School Hours
8:35 to 2:35
"We teach bell to bell"

Uniforms: Yes

Title I School: Yes

Magnet or Academy Program:
Montessori Academy

Points of Pride: On the fore-
front of Florida education with
the Marzano Pilot. Before and
after school tutoring.

Mascot: Bulldogs

From the Desk of Mr. Pribble

What a great awards ceremony we had at the end of January. We had more students earning Principal's Citizenship, Honor Roll, Principal's List and Perfect Attendance than ever before.

The largest increase came in Principal's Citizenship which is all about incredible behavior and work habits. This could not happen without your support at home. I just want to thank you for the support you give us daily by working with your child.

You help with homework, but you also help to teach them what it means to be respectful and focus on their work so they can be successful. It is great when our students hear the same message at home and at school! So I just want to say THANK YOU for your support in this wonderful endeavor :)

Please keep working with your child at home and know that we could not do it without you!

Mr. Pribble

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Feb 9-12: Under the Sea Book Fair (open lunch times & after school – 4 p.m.)

Feb 9-17: PTA FUNdraiser – Orders taken for Chocolate & Jelly Beans!

Feb 9: NO Montessori Monday to-night. Watch for a special activity later this month

Feb 16: NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS!

March 12: Kickoff party for PTA ALS walk

March 13: End of 3rd Quarter

March 14: PTA ALS Walk – please walk or donate

March 16: NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS!

March 17: FUNdraiser Pickup – One Night Only! Night TBD

Gulfport Elementary
2014 52nd St. South
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Montessori School News

Hello Montessori families, We're ready to invite new Montessori families to kindergarten for the next school year. The DAP application period has ended and we'll invite families to accept our program February 4-11. We have 4 siblings who applied for kindergarten. We don't have any openings in grades 1-5 for next year at this time.

You may have wondered:

What is the focus of Montessori education?

The focus of our education system is the development of materials, educational techniques, and observations which support the natural development of the child. In our public school Montessori, the students are taught the state standards using the Montessori method. The teacher in the Montessori classroom serves less as an "instructor" and more as a guide and facilitator. Children are encouraged to "learn how to learn", thus gaining independence and self-confidence.



How will my child adjust to a traditional classroom in 6th grade?

Montessori students develop a love of learning and use their strengths in order to take in new information. The students take their organization skills and their ability to meet deadlines into the new environment. There will be some adjustments to the learning environment; however, the desire to explore new academic avenues can be met within the traditional classroom if the teacher is enthusiastic and provides the opportunity for learning. The sense of discovery will differ when lessons are presented to the whole group instead of allowing the students the joy of discovering new information through their own work.

Kathy Ludlum
Montessori Coordinator
ludlumk@pcsb.org
727-893-2643 X 2077



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PTA Update

GIRLS ON THE RUN UPDATE:

Girls on the Run started at Gulfport on February 2, with 13 girls enrolled. They will meet twice a week, on Mondays and Wednesdays after school, from 3-4:30 pm. At the end of the 12-week program the girls will complete a 5k race, at their own pace, and we hope many of you will come on out to cheer them on, or even run alongside them if you would like. Our fantastic coaches, Courtney Cox and Rachel Mita, were able to secure sponsors for each girl, so that they could take part in this wonderful program at no cost. In the next issue of the newsletter we will list all the sponsors and thank them for their generosity.

PTA Coming events:

PTA WALKS FOR ALS, The PTA has a team that will be walking and raising money for the fight of ALS. ALS is a debilitating and fatal disease. Our PTA Team invites anyone that would like to join our Team and walk with us to contact BARBARA PACE (727) 432-1875. The walk is March 14th at Elva Rouse Park (10th Ave NE and North Shore Drive in St. Petersburg). *****IF YOU CAN NOT WALK WITH US, PLEASE SUPPORT US ! You may contact Barbara Pace for the link to donate to YOUR PTA team of walkers, or watch for the posters and info that will be posted around the campus.

Tidbits & Treasures

1st grader, Payton McFadden from Ms Dawson's class celebrates the marriage of his mom, Gulfport PTA Secretary, Courtney Guill to Andrew Belich on 12/13/14! A BIG Bulldog BARKOUT to Celebrate!!!

February Birthdays:

1st Lamar Washington, Behavior Specialist
2nd Cheryl McCullers, Kindergarten
9th Dawn Ballard, pre-K

REMEMBER: SAVE THOSE BOX TOPS, Coke Rewards/caps, Capri Sun, Labels for Education, Tyson A+ and Shop online at smile.amazon.com. At checkout select "Gulfport Montessori Elementary PTA"

We're inviting your family to join our family!



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We Can't Do It Without YOU!

Volunteers Needed

Studies show that parental involvement and involvement by members of the community in a child's education is one of the most important factors in raising student self-esteem and academic achievement. Moreover, most experts agree that parental involvement should go beyond parent's attending teacher conferences and open house. We realize however, that each of our families and members of the community are unique – with its own priorities, needs, talents and time constraints—and we try to provide as many different opportunities for volunteer involvement as possible.



There are a number of areas your help is needed including the Parent Teacher Association, chaperone field trips, media center and office.

In order to be in compliance with the Pinellas County School System and State of Florida laws, we need for each volunteer and/or mentor to complete a Volunteer Registration Form. A copy of your driver's license or legal id is also needed. We will be happy to make a copy of your official identification in the school office. Both sides of the Volunteer Registration Form must be completed and include your signature and date, as well as a copy of your legal identification.

It takes approximately two weeks for the Volunteer Registration Form to be processed. I will be happy to notify you when the form has been approved.

The first time you volunteer after approval of the registration form, please bring your driver's license so that we may log your name into the Pinellas County School's badge pass program. When you volunteer, also please log your volunteer hours on the computer in the school's front office. We will be happy to help you with the log-in process. Volunteer hours should be recorded each time you volunteer.

For more information, please contact Mary Ruth Bumgarner, 727-893-2643 ext. 2004, Monday through Friday 8:00-noon.

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Classroom Update

December 17th at 9:30 a.m., Mrs. Freeman's & Mrs. Forte's second grade classes marched a half mile to the Gulfport Public Library. Students and teachers paraded down 22nd Avenue accompanied by a parent volunteer. Co-teacher Mrs. Davidson led the way across the flashing safety crosswalk at Beach Blvd. Passing that landmark sign, student pairs continued through the park, admiring sculptures, and going beyond Gulfport Senior Center/Theater.

Arriving at 10 a.m., Ms. Cailey met us just as the community library was opening. An enthusiastic librarian, she invited our group to the reading garden for a story about a wee, winged creature called a Snatchabook, who is not scary at all and longing for someone to read to him. Students listened attentively and discussed the plot and characters respectfully.

Ms. Cailey explained anyone could be a library guest and look around, to read and even use the computers Monday through Saturday. But having his own card, as a library patron, a student can choose books to borrow from the community's large easy reader collection. Taken home, these books can be read by students and have stories read to them. A few families had already applied (just bring a utility bill to verify address) and these students proudly carried their own card.

As we toured, the reference librarian showed us how to search online for books from other Pinellas County libraries too. Reserved books are sent to Gulfport for checkout. Ms. Davidson picked up one from Tarpon Springs and returned 10, mostly adventure stories of Curious George and Piggie. Bring your username & password to these computers for practicing IXL.com, ST Math, Starfall and more learning websites.

Ms. Cailey invited students to her Science Club at the library, which is free on Mondays after school. There's always something exciting going on at the library. One boy in our class returned the next day to participate in Reading to a Therapy Dog. Another student remarked her family was planning to use library computers over the break and she was excited about getting her own library card. Thanking our librarians for expanding our world, hungry for knowledge and adventure, we walked back to school.

A Note from the Library

Join us for our Under the Sea Scholastic Bookfair where you will find an Ocean of books! The bookfair will be held in the library Monday February 9 – Thursday February 12. We will be open each day during lunches and after school until 4:00pm. On Thursday evening, we will be open during our PTA event! We hope to see you there!

Ms. Barnard,
Media & Technology Specialist



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SAVE THE DATE

**Mayor Kriseman's
Community Conversation
About Bullying**

**Thursday, February 19, 2015
6 p.m.**

St. Petersburg High School Auditorium
2501 5th Avenue North
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Fun Facts

Did You Know ???

2/1 Super bowl Sunday
 2/8/1910 The Boy Scouts of America was incorporated
 2/12 Lincoln's Birthday
 2/14 Valentine's Day



2/16/1968 The 1st 911 Call
 2/19 Chinese New Year
 2/22 Washington's Birthday
 2/28 National Chili Day

Visit nutritionsite.com for menu & nutrition information

DAILY BREAKFAST CHOICES

Choose up to 2 Grain Choices such as cereal (=1), toast (=1), pancakes (=2), cinnamon Texas toast (=2) OR

Choose a 1 Grain and 1 Meat Choice such as a breakfast sandwich (=1G/1M)
 Must choose at least 1: Fruit or Juice

May choose 1: Milk

DAILY LUNCH CHOICES

Choose 1: Entrée
 Must choose at least 1: Fruit or Vegetable (may choose up to 2 servings: each of fruits & veggies with their meal)

Available Daily: Meatless Entrée, Entrée Salads, Cold Sandwiches

Low Fat White Milk, Fat Free Flavored or Skim Milk, Variety of Fruit & Juice

May Choose: 1 Milk
 8 oz. water is also available at no extra charge with a full lunch meal

February

Pinellas Elementary School Menu



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
2 Egg & Cheese Pita Choose One: **New Entrée** Korean BBQ Chicken w/Rice & Roll Giorgio Cheesy Bread w/Marinara Chef Salad Chicken Caesar Wrap Choose: Seasoned Black Beans Tossed or Romaine Side Salad	3 Sausage Biscuit Student Involvement Day  Menu to be chosen by a group of students at each individual school	4 Pancake Minis Choose One: **New Entrée** Potato Turbate w/Roll Chicken Nuggets w/ Dip Fruit N Yogurt Parfait Ham & Cheese Croissant Choose: Sweet Potato Waffle Fries Romaine Side Salad	5 Apple Cinnamon Texas Toast Choose One: **New Entrée** Lasagna Roll-up w/Garlic Toast Breakfast for Lunch Chicken Caesar Salad Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Choose: Deli Roasted Potatoes Veggie Dippers	6 Cinnamon Roll Choose One: Pizza Variety Cheesy Fish Filet Sandwich **New Entrée** Chicken Cobb Salad School Favorite Sandwich Choose: Steamed Broccoli Mixed or Romaine Side Salad
9 Egg, Ham & Cheese Croissant Choose One: **Feature Entrée** Pizza Turkey Burger Macaroni & Cheese w/ Roll Farmers Salad Chicken Caesar Wrap Choose: Baby Green Peas Tossed or Romaine Side Salad	10 Breakfast Sausage Bagel Choose One: Mini Calzones w/Marinara Bar B Q Pork on a Bun Chef Salad Italian Twist Combo Choose: Oven Baked Beans Veggie Dippers	11 Pumpkin Bread Choose One: Chicken Tenders & Dip Spaghetti & Meatballs Fruit and Yogurt Plate Ham & Cheese Croissant Choose: *New * Prince Charles Blend Romaine Side Salad	12 Scrambled Eggs, Bacon & Biscuit Choose One: Teriyaki Beef Dippers w/Rice & Roll Max Snax Quesadilla w/Salsa Chicken Caesar Salad Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Choose: Creamed Spinach Veggie Dippers	13 Chicken Sausage Breakfast Bites Choose One: Pizza Variety Baja Fish Sticks w/Hush Puppies Chicken Dipper Salad School Favorite Sandwich Choose: Sliced Carrots Coins Mixed or Romaine Side Salad
16 Professional Development Day No School for Students 	17 Chicken Biscuit Choose One: **Feature Entrée** Gianni's Cheesy Breadsticks w Marinara Sauce Tacos: Seasoned Beef or Pork Chicken Caesar Salad Italian Twist Combo Choose: Refried Fiesta Beans, Veggie Dippers	18 Bacon, Egg & Cheese Pizza Choose One: Beef Ravioli w/Roll or Macaroni & Beef Popcorn Chicken Bowl Hummus Salad Plate Ham & Cheese Croissant Choose: Corn / Romaine Side Salad	19 Sausage Gravy Breakfast Toast Choose One: Toasted Cheese Sandwich Hot Dog on Bun Chef Salad Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Choose: Tomato Soup Veggie Dippers	20 Apple Cinnamon Muffin Top Choose One: Pizza Variety Ocean Treasure Fish Nuggets Veggie Double Dipper Salad School Favorite Sandwich Choose: Steamed Broccoli Mixed or Romaine Side Salad
23 Egg & Cheese Pita Choose One: Korean BBQ Chicken w/Rice & Roll Giorgio Cheesy Bread w/Marinara Chef Salad Chicken Caesar Wrap Choose: Seasoned Black Beans Tossed or Romaine Side Salad	24 Sausage Biscuit Student Involvement Day  Menu to be chosen by a group of students at each individual school	25 Pancake Minis Choose One: Potato Turbate w/Roll Chicken Nuggets w/ Dip Fruit N Yogurt Parfait Ham & Cheese Croissant Choose: Sweet Potato Waffle Fries Romaine Side Salad	26 Apple Cinnamon Texas Toast Choose One: **Feature Entrée** Penne w/ Bacon Alfredo Sauce & Garlic Rip-Stick Breakfast for Lunch Farmers Salad Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Choose: Deli Roasted Potatoes Veggie Dippers	27 Cinnamon Roll Choose One: Pizza Variety Cheesy Fish Filet Sandwich Chicken Cobb Salad School Favorite Sandwich Choose: Steamed Broccoli Mixed or Romaine Side Salad
February Birthdays Celebration Wednesday February 4th 	February 2nd is Groundhog Day! It's also known as a woodchuck, whistle pig or marmot. If the groundhog comes out of his burrow and sees his shadow, he will turn around and go back in and there will be 6 more weeks of winter! Groundhog Day came about because of a German superstition			All menus are subject to change. We do our best to provide our customers with all of our planned options, however, occasionally weather, crops and supplies have other ideas!

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