

MILDRED HELMS ELEMENTARY

MESSENGER

September 2023



PRINCIPAL'S POINTS OF PRIDE

Dear Mildred Helms IB Families,

Welcome to the 2023-24 school year! We had an amazing start with our Meet & Greet and have continued to grow our learning community by welcoming new scholars, teachers, staff and community members. In our first month, our scholars are learning expectations, IB Learner Profile traits and focusing on developing academic and personal goals. We look forward to sharing all of this with you at our rescheduled Title I Annual Meeting and Open House on Wednesday, September 6th beginning at 5:30pm. Open House will have 2 sessions available to assist families.

Communication between home and school is vital. Please join Class Dojo with directions provided by your child's teacher and check your child's agenda daily. Log onto our school website to keep apprised of schoolwide information, events and calendars. Check out our school newsletters which include our monthly calendar, success stories, flyers for upcoming events and links to sites that support student enrichment through learning. School Messenger messages are sent out using information you entered in FOCUS. Ensure that your phone number and email address are updated and correct. Any changes can be made by parents online.

Attendance is critical to student success and includes students being on time to school. Gates open for all students at 8:35am and breakfast is available from 8:35am through 8:55am. Please ensure that if your child needs to eat, they arrive no later than 8:40am and they go directly to the café. We expect all students to be in class at 8:55am preparing for the day and morning announcements. The tardy bell rings at 9:00am at which time breakfast closes. Early release of students should only occur for emergencies or medical appointments only. All changes for dismissal plans are to be called into the front office prior to 2pm. Dismissal of students is completed at 3:10pm so please be on time to car circle and/or the walker's gate.

Our first PTA General Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 7 prior to our Grandparents Night event. PTA will introduce their new Board members and share their ideas for the year. These two events will be held in the MHES Café. You may park in the new southwest lot or in the north parking lot and enter through the car circle gate. See the flyer for additional details.

Join us as a partner in your child's education throughout the year. Together we can help all our scholars experience a successful 2023-24 school year. Thank you again for your support.

Respectfully yours,
Mrs. Brennan

Join us for
Open House!

September 6th

5:30pm Title 1 Annual Meeting

Session 1: 5:45pm - 6:15pm

Session 2: 6:15pm - 6:45pm

6:45pm Title 1 Annual Meeting

See you there!



WELCOME TO OUR NEW ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL!

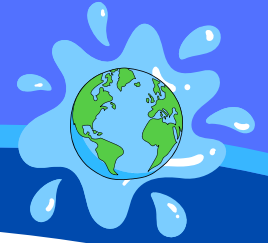
Hello! My name is Karris Cooper and I am thrilled to introduce myself as your new Assistant Principal. I am a proud graduate of the University of South Florida (Go Bulls!). I have been in education for over 9 years as a classroom teacher, a MTSS coach, and most recently a district MTSS coach for the School Climate & Behavior Team.

I firmly believe that strong partnerships between families, educators, and the school are vital for a child's success. Together we can help our students achieve their goal and ensure their success. Communication is the key to our collaborative efforts. I am committed to listening to your feedback and celebrating the accomplishments of our students together. I am dedicated to fostering a positive school climate that promotes a love for learning. I am excited to meet everyone soon!

Please feel free to email me at:
cooperkar@pcsb.org.

New School Hours!
9:00am - 3:10pm

PYP MONTHLY

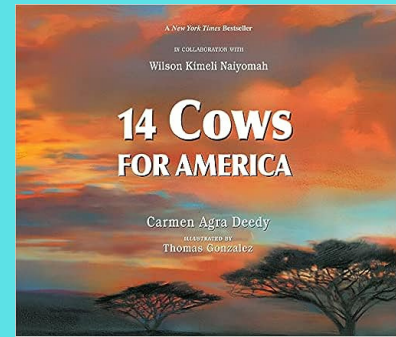


LEARNER PROFILE OF THE MONTH

Communicator

We express ourselves confidently and creatively in more than one language and in many ways. We collaborate effectively, listening carefully to the perspectives of other individuals and groups.

Book of the Month



INQUIRY UNIT #1

Pre-K 3 - Who We Are: Everyday is an opportunity to learn about me.

VPK - Who We Are: We have relationships and routines at school.

K - Who We Are: A school community is made of diverse individuals who learn together.

1st - Who We Are: Roles, rights, and responsibilities establish purpose in a community.

2nd - Who We Are: Global citizens make contributions to their community.

3rd - Who We Are: Relationships and community are built through interactions.

4th - How the World Works: Humans understand the world through patterns.

5th - Who We Are: Relationships promote reflection, growth, and impact others.

Congratulations to our August Risk-Takers of the Month!

PK3, VPK - Princess D., Oliver M., Ilian M., Owen D.

Kindergarten - Jedidiah T., Austria P., Bethany C.,

1st Grade - Noel M., Jeweliette G., Paysen R., Christian N.

2nd Grade - Jhonmir H., Leo F., Andrea R., Trinity E., Madison B.

3rd Grade - Alden S., Simaima F., Jordan D., Layla H.

4th Grade - Josiah H., CJ R., Emely C., Naliet R.

5th Grade - Mayah P., Angelina L., Jason L., Eon C.

MHES COMMUNITY



PTA NEWS!

MILDRED HELMS ELEMENTARY



Our Parent/Teacher Association promotes the success of our children through family involvement and fundraising to provide fun & educationally enriched programs.

WHAT DOES PTA DO?

- Classroom Reps
- Family Fun Nights
- Fundraising
- In School Assemblies
- Campus Beautification
- Student Appreciation & Recognition
- MHES Staff Appreciation

23-24 Meeting Schedule

All Meetings are at 6pm

Sept 7

January 13

March 19

April 9

Dates subject to change!

We can't do
what we do
without you!

visit us online:
mildredhelmsptamemberhub.store

Pay by credit card,
ONLINE!



Scan to join today!

Thank you! Your donations matter!

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

Elison Pinecrest

Jets Pizza

Barbara Branseum

The Backpack Lady

Interior Design Concepts

Keller Williams

Town of Belleair

2023-2024 Uniform Policy

All students must adhere to the requirements of the modified uniform policy which remains in effect for the 2023-2024 school year as follows:

Shirts: solid-colored, collared polo-style shirt in light blue, navy blue and red only. Shirts should be free from design or logos greater than a quarter. Mildred Helms school spirit shirts may be worn on Fridays.

Bottoms: khaki or navy colored uniform bottoms. This includes shorts, pants, capris, skirts, jumpers (shorts or leggings of the same solid color/length may be worn underneath skirts/jumpers). Shorts should follow Pinellas County dress code of mid - thigh length or longer.

Closed toed shoes are required.

2023 - 2024 Supply Lists



Mildred Helms Elementary IB World School
2023-2024 Suggested Supply Lists



Kindergarten

Please label all supplies with your child's name, including clothing.

- Zippered backpack**
(large enough to carry a large library book, no rolling backpacks, please)
- Regular size bath towel for rest**
(no beach towels, plastic mats, pillows)
- Complete change of uniform clothing in a gallon size baggie**
- 1 set of headphones in labeled baggie
- 1 Plastic snap lid pencil box with jumbo pencils
- One 1" binder with clear front pouch
- 3 wide ruled composition notebooks
- 4 glue sticks
- 1 pack Crayola crayons (Jumbo Crayons preferred)

Class Wish List:
Variety of baggies
Boxes of tissue
Thick & thin markers
Hand sanitizer & soap
Dry erase markers
Paper towels

1st Grade

Please label all supplies with your child's name.

- 1 set of headphones in labeled baggie
- One 1" binder with clear front pouch
- Glue sticks
- Pencil box with pencils
- 2 boxes of 24 count crayons
- Black expo markers (4 pack)
- 2 folders
- One black composition notebook

Class Wish List:
Variety of baggies
Boxes of tissue
Hand sanitizer & soap
Black dry erase markers
Lined index cards

2nd Grade

Please label all supplies with your child's name.

- 1 set of headphones in labeled baggie
- 2 composition notebooks
- 2 Folders
- Pencils & Pencil Box
- 3 Dry erase markers
- 2 boxes of 16-count crayons
- Pencil top erasers

Class Wish List:
Sticky notes
Dry erase markers
Boxes of tissue
Hand sanitizer & soap

Mildred Helms Elementary IB World School Modified Uniform Dress Code

All students must adhere to the requirements of the modified uniform policy which remains in effect for the 2023-22 school year as follows:

Shirts: solid-colored, collared polo-style shirt in light blue, navy blue and red only. Shirts should be free from design or logos greater than a quarter in size. Mildred Helms school spirit shirts may be worn on Fridays.

Bottoms: khaki or navy colored uniform bottoms. This includes shorts, pants, capris, skirts, jumpers (shorts or leggings of the same solid color/length may be worn underneath skirts/jumpers). Shorts should follow Pinellas County dress code of mid-thigh length or longer. 3/4 length shorts, leggings, jogger pants or jeans.

Open shorts, leggings, joggers, yoga pants or jeans are not permitted. Uniforms can be found throughout Pinellas County at Walmart, Target, JC Penney, Old Navy, Kohl's and many other local stores.



Mildred Helms Elementary IB World School
2023-2024 Suggested Supply Lists



3rd Grade

Please label all supplies with your child's name.

- 1 set of headphones
- 1-1" white binder (Clear front cover)
- 3 Composition notebooks
- 1-4 pack black dry erase markers
- 1 Pencil box with pencils, glue sticks, crayons, scissors
- 4 Pocket folders with prongs (1-red, 1-blue, 1-green, and 1-yellow)

Class Wish List:
Boxes of tissues
Hand Sanitizer and soap
Sandwich and gallon size baggies

4th Grade

Please label all supplies with your child's name.

- 1 set of headphones in labeled baggie
- 5 composition notebooks
- Pencil box with crayons, pencils, colored pencils, markers
- One 1" binder with pockets
- 4 folders with pockets and prongs
- 1 pack of glue sticks
- 1 pack of dry erase markers
- 1 pair of scissors
- 1 Composition notebook for Spanish
- Pencil cap erasers

Class Wish List:
Hand sanitizer & soap
Post-it notes
Baggies
Boxes of tissue
Glue Sticks

5th Grade

Please label all supplies with your child's name.

- 1 set of headphones in labeled baggie
- 5 composition notebooks
- Pencil box with crayons, pencils, colored pencils, markers
- 1 pack of dry erase markers
- One 1" binder with pockets
- 4 folders with prongs & pockets
- 1 Composition notebook for Spanish

Class Wish List:
Hand sanitizer & soap
Boxes of tissue
Sticky notes
Dry erase markers
Markers
Glue sticks



First Day: Thursday, August 10, 2023

School Hours 8:45a.m. - 2:55p.m.

Breakfast 8:15-8:35a.m.

Stay up to date with
everything Mildred Helms by
visiting our website at
pcsb.org/mildred-es.

Volunteers Needed!

Get Involved with our Future

Volunteer, Mentor, Tutor, Speakers, PTA/PTSA, School Advisory Council, Business & Community Partnerships, Family Engagement and more...

Mildred Helms Elementary IB World School's mission is committed to developing knowledgeable, inquiring, and caring lifelong learners within an intellectually challenging, transdisciplinary program emphasizing international-mindedness.

We hope we can count on your support!

Complete the *online registration* and upload your driver's license or a photo legal ID.

Your application will be processed, and you will receive an email approval with a User ID and password to log your volunteer hours.

Sign Up Online!



www.pcsb.org/volunteer



September
2023

Volume 9 Issue 9

Early Learning Parents' Pages

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE DIVISION OF EARLY LEARNING



Tips for Talking With Your Preschooler

If your child is participating in Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) or attending one of Florida's quality child care centers, help your child practice their language skills by encouraging them to talk about their new and exciting learning experiences.

The following are some suggestions to guide you in having meaningful conversations with your child:

- **Ask open-ended questions:** Avoid asking "yes" or "no" questions and encourage your child to elaborate on their answers by asking open-ended questions. For example, you could ask, "What did you enjoy the most at school today?"
- **Actively listen:** Give your child your full attention, maintain eye contact and avoid distractions that may interrupt the conversation. This is a great way to model active listening skills for your child.
- **Use visual aids or props:** Consider using props, such as school supplies, pictures or books about school to facilitate your talks with your child. These tangible items can spark their imagination and help them express their thoughts more easily.
- **Role-play scenarios:** Engage in pretend play where you and your child act out different situations they might encounter at school. This can include meeting new friends, participating in class activities or asking the teacher for help. Role-playing can boost your child's confidence and prepare them for challenging situations they may face at school.
- **Keep communication ongoing:** Continuously check in with your child and ask about their experiences, challenges and achievements at school. Not only will these ongoing conversations build on your child's language development but will also go a long way toward building a strong bond with your child.



Do you have questions about your child's development? Florida's Early Steps program provides early intervention services to children from birth until age three. These individualized services may take place in your home or school and include occupational, physical and speech therapies, hearing and vision services and more.

To find out more about eligibility and enrollment, visit the [Florida Early Steps](#) web page.

Be sure you don't miss an issue! Scan the QR code
and sign up to receive Parents' Pages.



Use These Tips For a Successful School Year

A new school year is both a momentous occasion and one that can make parents and children experience some hesitation. Below are some tips to help both you and your child feel confident and in step together.

Communicate: Preschool programs usually notify parents about potential routines throughout the school day. Regularly read and share these routines with your child to boost their anticipation for the day.

Plan together: Work together to select clothes for the following day. This will also give you more opportunities to have meaningful conversations that build their developing language skills (see page 1, "Let's Talk About It!").

Establish a routine: Take time to plan and create a reasonable daily schedule that works for your family. This will help you and your child know what to expect, help them feel comfortable with their routine and environment and give them a sense of security.

Get to know your preschool: Now that your child is in preschool, your family has become part of a whole new community. Support your child's future by asking about volunteer opportunities.



Florida Head Start
State Collaboration Office

The content for this article was provided by the Florida Head Start State Collaboration Office.

Friends and Family Can Support Your Child's VPK Experience

Now that your child has started VPK, consider recruiting siblings, cousins or neighbors who are VPK alumni to help your child start talking and thinking about their upcoming adventure. Set up "an interview" and give your child these questions to ask:

- What did you like most about VPK?
- Was snack time or lunch a part of your day?
- Did you meet new friends?
- How often did you go outside to play?
- What types of things were in your classroom?

Once your child has settled into their new routine, use questions like these to spark important ongoing conversations. These conversations can take place after you pick them up at the end of the day, during dinner or at bedtime so they can start dreaming about the next day.



If you are looking to add to your home or school library, check out Florida Education Commissioner Manny Diaz, Jr.'s [Commissioner's Book of the Month](#). This monthly reading challenge promotes literacy and reading engagement while helping children succeed both academically and in life.

Additional resources to support early literacy:

- [New Worlds Reading Initiative](#)
- [Helping Your Child Become a Reader](#)
- [Florida Grade-Level Reading Campaign](#)
- [Just Read, Families!](#)

MHES CALENDAR



September 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 Labor Day No School! 	5	6 Open House! Title 1 Annual Mtg 5:30pm Session 1 5:45pm Session 2 6:15pm Title 1 Annual Mtg 6:45pm	7	8	9
10 Grandparents Day! 	11	12 Mid Terms	13	14 PTA Meeting 5:30pm Grandparents Night! 6:00pm	15 Fall Pictures! 	16
17	18 	19 	20 	21 International Day of Peace!	22 	23
24	25 Pro-Ed Day No School for Students! 	26	27	28	29	30



Visit us at <https://www.pcsb.org/mildred-es>
for the most up to date information!

