

# Solomon Principal Newsletter

## March 18, 2024

Dear Solomon Family--

I'm wishing everyone the luck of the Irish on St. Patrick's Day! This is our final week of the 3rd Quarter. Spring Break begins after the end of the day on Friday. Solomon's main office is closed from March 25 through March 29, and then Monday, April 1, is a day of non-attendance for students because it is a professional development day for staff.

Report cards will be distributed at our Parent-Teacher Conference Day on Wednesday, April 10, which is another day of non-attendance for students. Conferences will be scheduled between 9:00-11:45am and 12:30-4:00pm that day, with in-person and virtual options available. Thursday, April 11, is a regular day of attendance for all CPS elementary school students.

I will take a week off from the newsletter, so you can expect the next newsletter to be posted on April 1. I hope you have a restful and enjoyable Spring Break with family and friends.

Chris Gamble  
Principal  
Hannah G. Solomon Elementary School

## News and Notes

- Good luck to 6th grader Isabella, who will be representing Solomon in the city-wide Spelling Bee on Tuesday, March 19!
- While we have completed IAR (Illinois Assessment of Readiness) testing for most students in grades 3-8, we have a few make-ups to be scheduled this week for students who were absent. A big thank you to Ms. Clark, our Test Coordinator, and all of our staff that served as proctors for creating a safe and supportive testing environment this past week!
- We are in the process of making summer plans at Solomon, but one thing that has been confirmed is that we will be hosting summer programming with YMCA of Chicago on our campus between June 10-August 9. For more information about our YMCA programming at Solomon, please click [here](#).
- Kudos to our 5th/6th graders for some hard-fought basketball games versus Sauganash in the first round of playoff on Saturday. The 5th/6th grade girls team won and continues onto the semi-finals for the Network 1 conference. Their next game is Tuesday, March 19, at 5pm versus Oriole Park. If they win that game, they will play in the championship game immediately after. Our 5th/6th grade boys team lost, ending their winning streak, and they will play their final game on Monday, March 18, at 7pm versus Oriole Park. The Monday and Tuesday night playoff games will be held at Rickover Naval Academy, 5700 W. Berteau. Let's go get it, Cougars!
- Our spring sports teams begin practices the week of March 18:
  - [5th-8th grade Co-Ed Track and Field](#): Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8am (gym or turf--weather permitting), plus an extra introductory practice at 4pm on Monday, March 18.

- [5th/6th Co-Ed and 7th/8th Boys Flag Football](#): Wednesdays and Fridays at 4:30 (turf). Our 5th/6th graders will not start practicing until the week of April 15.
- Speaking of our 5th graders, they will be performing their original adaptation of *The Phantom Tollbooth*, under the direction of Mrs. Bakula and our partners from the Lyric Opera, this Monday, March 18, at 10:15 in our gymnasium. Parents of our 5th graders are invited to join us!
- 8th grade graduation picture day for any re-takes is scheduled for Monday, March 18, at 9:15am.
- Community update from a few of our friends in the neighborhood:
  - On Saturday, March 24, there will be an Egg Hunt for children 5th grade and younger at Hollywood Park (corner of Peterson and Jersey). For more information, please click [here](#).
  - The 39th Ward is partnering with the Cook County Commissioner's office for a [toiletry and diaper drive](#), and items can be dropped off at the 39th Ward's office (4200 W. Lawrence) during business hours (Mondays 9-7, T-Th 9-5, and Fridays 9-3).

## Friends of Solomon School Parent Teacher Organization

- Our Friends of Solomon School Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) is a parent and staff leadership group that promotes community and supports Solomon in our strategic plan. Please click [here](#) to read more about their mission and vision, as well as the dates for many of this year's PTO-led events.
- Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 9, at 8am in our library. We will discuss planning for Walk, Jog, Roll-a-thon and Staff Appreciation Week. You can expect to get more information about this year's Walk, Jog, Roll-a-thon in the April 1 newsletter.
- We have two restaurant givebacks in the next month—April 3 at [Chipotle](#) and April 19 at [Oberweis](#). April 19 is the date of our musical performance, so we can all have an ice cream treat to celebrate!

## Important Solomon Links

- To report a COVID-19 positive test, click [here](#).
- To find Solomon's breakfast and lunch menus, click [here](#) (search for "Solomon"). To learn more about the district's meals and nutrition program, click [here](#).
- To see our entry and exit procedures, please click [here](#).
- To find any Solomon staff member, their position, and their contact information, click [here](#) for our organizational chart.
- To register for before and/or after-school child care with the YMCA of Chicago, hosted in our lunchroom, please follow the directions in [this link](#).
- Please click [here](#) to read more about the differences between Level I and Level II volunteers and to complete the application process.
- To see our year-long community calendar, click [here](#).
- To see our year-long assessment calendar, click [here](#).
- Solomon spirit wear purchases can be made through our partner, Squadlocker. Check out unique Solomon gear [here](#).

- Student fees were approved by our Local School Council this past July. Please click [here](#) to see the student fee structure for this year and the methods of payment.
- Class supply lists are linked [here](#) and at our school website, [solomon.cps.edu](http://solomon.cps.edu).

## School Calendars

- **March 18:** 8th grade Picture Day re-takes, 9:15 (lobby)
- **March 22:** Last day of the 3rd Quarter
- **March 25-29:** Spring Break (no school for students or staff)
- **April 1:** School Improvement Day (no school for students)
- **April 10:** Report Card Pick-Up Day/Parent-Teacher Conferences, 9:00-11:45 and 12:30-4:00 (no school for students)
- **June 3:** 8th Grade Graduation (Solomon turf field), 10am