

Solomon Principal Newsletter

March 4, 2024

Dear Solomon Family--

This coming week at Solomon is [Read Across America Week](#), and we are celebrating with a spirit week and “drop everything and read” opportunities every day. I hope everyone finds an enjoyable book to dig into next week!

In partnership,

Chris Gamble
Principal
Hannah G. Solomon Elementary School

News and Notes

- 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](#).
- Just a reminder: This is our final week of Winter After-School (OST) programming, which includes our tutoring, Glee Club, and Mad Science after school classes. There will be a new Spring session starting after Spring Break, and we will share program information in the coming weeks.
- Applications are due on Monday, March 4, for any student signing up for spring sports in the CPS Score program. We will be offering 5th/6th Coed and 7th/8th Boys Flag Football with Coach Hiti-Shannon and 5th-8th coed track and field with Coach Wiviott and Coach Estremera if we have enough student applications submitted. Practices will start the week of March 18, with games starting after Spring Break. We are still a few players short on our flag football teams, so let's get those applications in!
- Our 5th grade Girl Scout Troop is collecting toiletries for homeless veterans in the Chicagoland area, and they can use your help. You can bring new, unused hygiene products to Solomon any day during business hours through mid-March to place in the donation bin near the main office. Read [here](#) for more information. Thank you, girls, for your leadership!
- In other Solomon Girl Scout news: It's Girl Scout Cookie Time! The Girl Scouts of Solomon will be holding Cookie Booths after school on Friday, March 8. Please support our Girl Scouts by purchasing your favorite [Girl Scout cookies](#) from our young entrepreneurs! Cash is the preferred method of payment and cookies are \$6/box.
- IAR (Illinois Assessment of Readiness) testing for students in grades 3-8 will be held at Solomon on March 12-14, with make-up testing the following week. The IAR is our state-mandated assessment for all students that do not qualify for any alternative assessments, and we have used results to identify areas for instructional improvement school-wide. For more information about IAR testing:
 - [English IAR Letter for Families](#)
 - [Arabic IAR Letter for Families](#)
 - [Spanish IAR Letter for Families](#)

- [Chinese IAR Letter for Families](#)
- [Tagalog IAR Letter for Families](#)
- [Ukrainian IAR Letter for Families](#)
- [Vietnamese IAR Letter for Families](#)
- [Greek IAR Letter for Families](#)
- [Polish IAR Letter for Families](#)
- [Urdu IAR Letter for Families](#)
- Our Local School Council forum for all candidates participating in the April 2024 election will be held at approximately 6:30 on Tuesday, March 12, after the conclusion of our regularly-scheduled LSC meeting.
- 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:
 - Music House has opened up registration for their summer camps in West Rogers Park and Humboldt Park, and you can click [here](#) for more information
 - Gompers Park Athletic Association is low on registration for 4th-6th grade girls softball, and the early bird discount can still apply if you register now. For more information, please click [here](#).
 - Sign up for [spring programming](#) at Chicago Industrial Arts and Design Center. To find out how to sign up for free classes available for Chicago Public School students, click [here](#).
 - The girls lacrosse coach at Walter Payton College Preparatory High School is starting a lacrosse club geared towards elementary school students in CPS. AIM Lacrosse is all about awareness, intensity, and movement on and off the field. To learn more, please click [here](#).

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, March 12, at 8am in our library. We will discuss planning for Walk, Jog, Roll-a-thon and Staff Appreciation Week.
- Upcoming events include a restaurant giveback night at Chipotle on April 3 and our annual Walk, Jog, Roll-a-thon on Friday, May 3 (rain date May 10). Be on the lookout for more information about both of those events.

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.

School Calendars

- **March 6:** Bilingual Advisory Committee meeting, 9:15 (library)
- **March 12:** Friends of Solomon School PTO meeting, 8:00 (library)
- **March 12:** Parent Advisory Committee meeting, 4:15 (Room 112)
- **March 12:** Local School Council meeting, 5:30 (library)
- **March 18:** 8th grade Picture Day re-takes, 9:15 (lobby)