

# Solomon Principal Newsletter

## May 13, 2024

Dear Solomon Family--

WJR was our kick-off to our events that make our end of year so memorable for students and staff. We continued the fun this week with our 8th graders heading over to Gompers Park for some fishing and conservation education with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, followed by Barn Hill visiting the whole school on Friday, with their owls, chickens, lizards, armadillos, and such. Our Special Olympians in rooms 117 and 122 got their opportunity to compete in the city-wide competition this week as well.

We wrap up some of our parent leadership meetings this Tuesday, with the PTO, PAC, and LSC having their final meetings of the year. A little bit of wrap-up from this year's events, and of course some looking ahead to the next school year. We would love to see you there!

As a reminder, this is our final week of after-school OST programming, with the exception of one make-up session for our Tot (Grades 1-2) Basketball on May 22. I want to thank our staff and volunteers for leading our students in these enriching activities, and we will resume programming in October 2024.

In partnership,

Chris Gamble  
Principal  
Hannah G. Solomon Elementary School

## News and Notes

- In this week's pictures in Snap, we have scenes from our 8th grade fishing trip to Gompers Park, the Barn Hill visit to Solomon, and our send-off for Special Olympics athletes prior to their competition.
- Thank you to all of the families that recognized Solomon staff last week as a part of Staff Appreciation Week!
- If you would like to [purchase next year's school supplies through School Specialty](#), June 7 is the deadline. All students in general education homerooms (grades K-8) can order their kits to have them delivered to their homes in August, or you can use these supply lists to buy them on your own. A portion of the proceeds from these sales support the core mission of the Friends of Solomon School PTO.
- Registration for the 2024-2025 school year is now underway, any day between 9:15-1:00 and 2:00-3:45 in our main office. If your child is currently enrolled in grades K-7, there is no action required--your spot is reserved. For incoming Kindergarten families, as well as any student new to the neighborhood or joining us through a GoCPS application, we will need you to come to the main office to register. Click [here](#) for what information you will need to bring with you.
- For all of our incoming Kindergarten students and families, we are hosting our annual [Kindergarten Meet and Greet](#) on Thursday, May 23, at 9:15am. Students will have a chance to be together in the Kindergarten classroom with Ms. McReynolds and Ms. Leiva, and parents will have the opportunity to learn more about the school and each

other. Parents, if you like, you can stick around afterwards to complete the registration paperwork.

- Additionally, we are offering a “Kick-off to Kindergarten” program for our incoming Kindergarten students, from June 24 to July 26. Advanced sign-up is required. We are getting close to meeting the minimum number of registrants that we will need to be able to administer the program, which will be taught by our Kindergarten teaching staff of Ms. McReynolds and Ms. Leiva. For more information about the program, please click [here](#) or call our main office at 773-534-5226.
- Registration for new Pre-Kindergarten families for the full-day program in the 2024-2025 school year is scheduled for Wednesday, June 5, and Thursday, June 6, from 1:15-4pm both days. Application results will be shared by the district this month. Again, registration is not required for returning families.
- Registration continues for the YMCA of Chicago’s fee-based program at Solomon, lasting from June 10 to August 9 this summer. For more information about the YMCA programming at Solomon, please click [here](#).
- The Diverse Learners Recovery Fund is a collaboration between the Mayor’s Office for People with Disabilities and Ada S. McKinley Community Services, Inc., dedicated to aiding families of students with disabilities affected by COVID-19. It operates as a lottery-style grant drawing, offering a one-time cash grant of \$500 to eligible K-12 students with disabilities. Up to 8,000 applicants will be selected through the lottery to receive the grant. Submitting an eligible application does not guarantee you will receive the funds. For more information, please click [here](#).
- Chicago Public Libraries is asking all children to take part in [their summer program](#). Kids can sign up at their local library or online starting June 8. When they come into the library, they will get an Explorer’s Guide with activities for them to do and a log to keep track of their reading. CPL will also be giving out Grab and Go kits for them to do some art projects at home. All kids who complete 500 minutes, do 5 activities, and reflect on them to earn a t-shirt (while supplies last).

## 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.
- Join us at our final regularly-scheduled meeting of the year on May 14 at 8am in the Solomon library. We will be discussing the end results of Walk, Jog, Roll-a-thon and the school supply kit ordering timeline, as well as plan for the 2024-2025 school year.

## 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

- **May 14:** Friends of Solomon School PTO meeting (library, 8am)
- **May 14:** Parent Advisory Council meeting (Room 112, 4:15pm)
- **May 14:** Local School Council meeting (library, 5:30pm)
- **May 27:** No School for Memorial Day
- **May 31:** International Night (Solomon gym, 6pm)
- **June 3:** 8th Grade Graduation (Solomon turf field, 10am)
- **June 6:** Final Day of School for Students