

Solomon Principal Newsletter

November 13, 2023

Dear Solomon Family--

I hope that you enjoyed the holiday weekend. We have a big week planned at Solomon before we head into Thanksgiving Break: Scholastic Book Fair, Veterans' Celebration Day, Literacy Night, (Make-up) Picture Day, a bunch of parent leadership meetings, and the usual hijinks. We hope to see you at some of these events!

There will be no newsletter on November 20 or 27 during the holiday; the regularly scheduled newsletter will return on December 4.

In partnership,

Chris Gamble
Principal
Hannah G. Solomon Elementary School

News and Notes

- No pictures this week; instead, I want to share kudos for our Student Voice Committee, sponsored by Mrs. Gleeson, for instilling a culture of gratitude at Solomon through their Leaves of Love work.
- The Scholastic Book Fair is Monday through Thursday this week. One great feature is the [E-Wallet](#), which allows students to purchase books and materials with funds that you can upload to their account. Thank you in advance to all of our volunteers that will be joining us throughout the week, as well as our event organizers, Mrs. Coppa and Mrs. Wiviott!
- Last call for all of our veterans (and friends and family of veterans): We invite all veterans in the community to join us for [Veterans' Celebration Day](#) at Solomon on November 16, 2023, from 9:00-11:30am. Additionally, if you have names of veterans past or present that you would like to be included in our Honor List read at the event, please email their names, military force, rank, and a picture to Ann Reis at amreis@cps.edu.
- Solomon is hosting a [Literacy Night](#) on Thursday, November 16, after school from 4:30-6:30. Local author Lori Orlinsky will read from her book, *The Adventures of Lefty and Right: The Windy City*, plus we will host some craft-making and a book swap. The book fair will stay open through the event as well. This is an event designed for our younger students, with any student in PreK-5 invited. I'll be reaching out to some of our middle school students early this week about some volunteering opportunities. Thanks in advance to the events' organizers, our librarian Ms. Clark and instructional coach Mrs. Carlson.
- Picture retakes with Lifetouch are scheduled for Friday, November 17, for anyone who missed the first picture day or would like to have a re-take.
- On Tuesday we have the following parent and school leadership meetings: PTO (Tuesday, 8am, library), PAC (Tuesday, 4:15, library), and LSC (Tuesday, 5:30, library). Everyone is welcome to attend.

- Tuesday night we are also hosting a [17th Police District Council public meeting](#) in our gymnasium from 7-9pm. All parents and community members are invited to attend.
- Attention families of 3rd graders: We have a group looking to form a Girl Scout troop for our 3rd grade girls. For more information, click [here](#).
- We are going to be working with Anna Murphy, a muralist our team selected last year, to complete a mural outside of Door #3, and we need your help in identifying what themes you want to see represented for our community. Please take a few moments and give us your thoughts in [this short survey](#) that will be shared with the artist. From this, we will conduct a community forum to discuss further, date and time TBD. Thank you!

Friends of Solomon School Parent Teacher Organization

- Thank you to all of our families that stopped by Jollibee on Saturday, November 11th, for the first restaurant giveback of the year. There are more to come!
- 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.
- The PTO is excited to announce the dates of this year's **Holiday Shop!** We look forward to transforming our gym into a festive and exciting place for our students to shop for holiday gifts for their family. Our shop will be open **December 6-7-8** for business, but we need support from our Solomon community to make it a success. [Here's how you can help:](#)
 - **Sign up to volunteer at** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084BAAA72CAAFF2-holiday>. We have a variety of shifts (before, after and during the school day) that need coverage. If you and your child(ren) are enjoying the events that PTO organizes, please consider donating some of your time.
 - In addition to the merchandise provided by an outside vendor, **we are looking for local artisans and crafters** to set up shop and sell their creations to our students. We do not charge a fee for the table, the price range should be from a few dollars up to about \$10-\$15 for whatever they sell, and it is not necessary to be at the shop all 3 days. If you or anyone you know would like to hear more about this opportunity, please contact the Holiday Shop Chairperson Joyce Baca directly at joyce.baca77@gmail.com or complete [this form](#).

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 Calendar

- **November 13-16:** Scholastic Book Fair (lobby)
- **November 14:** Friends of Solomon School Parent Teacher Organization meeting, 8:00 (library)
- **November 14:** Parent Advisory Council meeting, 4:15 (library)
- **November 14:** Local School Council meeting, 5:30 (library)
- **November 16:** Veterans Celebration Day, 9:00 (gymnasium)
- **November 17:** Pre-K to 8th grade picture retakes (lobby)
- **November 20-24:** No School (Thanksgiving Break)