

Solomon Principal Newsletter

October 2, 2023

Dear Solomon Family--

I hope that everyone enjoyed the beautiful weekend with friends and family. Please read all of the announcements below to make sure that you stay in the loop on all of the important events and information at Solomon each week. If you aren't receiving this newsletter via Snap or you are having difficulty in accessing your Snap account, please reach out to our main office (773-534-5226) for assistance.

As a reminder, there is no school next Monday, October 9, due to the observance of Indigenous People's Day. An abbreviated newsletter will be shared next weekend.

In partnership,

Chris Gamble
Principal
Hannah G. Solomon Elementary School

News and Notes

- In the pictures shared in this week's Snap, check out our visit from Peter the Cougar (Mrs. Tamborino). Our new Cougar mascot uniform is a great addition. You can also see our 7th/8th grade Girls Volleyball team warming up for their game last Tuesday against Belding.
- Picture Day is this Friday, October 6, for all students in grades Pre-K through 8th; for our 8th graders, this is not the graduation picture. This is a great day to look smart for the camera! For information on how you can see your child's pictures, please click [here](#). We could use 2 volunteers to help with getting our students prepared for their pictures--pocket mirrors are a must! 😊 If you are available to volunteer at Solomon for this event from 9:00am-2:00pm and have submitted your Level II Volunteer application, please reach out to Principal Gamble directly at crgamble@cps.edu.
- We have a few exciting upcoming events to put on your calendars:
 - With the exception of a few years during the COVID pandemic, we have hosted the [Veterans' Celebration Day](#) at Solomon since 2001, and we are excited to start planning for the 2023 event. Navy Band Great Lakes is ready to perform, and we invite all veterans in the community to join us at Solomon on November 16, 2023, from 9:00-11:30am. Many kudos to Mrs. Reis and her team of supporters for continuing to make this event possible each year!
 - Our first restaurant giveback of the year has been planned, courtesy of our Friends of Solomon School PTO--Jollibee (3534 W. Touhy) on November 11. For more information on the hours and how much of sales that day come back to support the vision and mission of our PTO, please click [here](#).
 - Our Friends of Solomon School PTO has also planned our first parent social of the year, and it is coming up next week--Alarmist Brewery (4055 W. Peterson) on October 12. Again, a portion of sales comes back to support the mission and vision of the organization, and for more information, please click [here](#).

- Kudos to our librarian, Ms. Clark—we have surpassed 1,000 book check-outs so far this year! We have invested approximately \$7,000 in our library this year and last, and it is exciting to see new books and resources come into our space for our students to enjoy!
- The window for administering the Cultivate Survey to our 5th through 8th grade students opens on Tuesday, October 3. To learn more about the Cultivate survey, please click [here](#). At Solomon, Cultivate data is already being leveraged by our Continuous Improvement Work Plan (CIWP) and Instructional Leadership Teams (ILT) to help plan our work for supporting student voice in the classroom and curricular decisions.
- Thank you to our students that gave us feedback on clubs that they would like to see at Solomon. Based on their responses and our staff that is available, we will be sharing our application for the Fall After-School (OST) Programming with families on Tuesday, October 3, at 5pm. Activities will begin on Tuesday, October 10.
- 7th and 8th grade families—save the date for the annual Network 1 High School fair on October 5 at 6pm at Rickover Naval Academy (5700 W. Berateau). This event is a fantastic opportunity for you to gain valuable insights into the GoCPS process and explore a wide range of high schools to find the one that best suits your educational goals. For more information on the fair, click [here](#). If you have any questions or require further assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to our counselor, Mrs. Mulholland, at pamulholland@cps.edu.
- Additionally, kudos to Mrs. Mulholland for coordinating an 8th grade visit to Mather High School on November 2, as well as Von Steuben Metropolitan Science Center visiting Solomon on October 18. We will also host an after-school alumni panel with Solomon graduates that attend a variety of Chicagoland high schools; that information will be shared as soon as the details are finalized.
- [GoCPS](#) for the 2024-2025 application cycle has opened, and it will close on November 9. This application is vital for our 8th graders transitioning to high school, but it is also important for any of our Pre-K families that live outside Solomon's [attendance boundary](#) to apply for a spot here. This application is for anyone outside of our attendance boundary that wants to bring their child(ren) to Solomon in grades K-8 for the 2024-2025 school year. If your child currently attends Solomon in grades K-8, there is no need to reapply for a spot 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, including Fall Fest on October 20!
- Our PTO is excited to announce our first social event of the year for parents, staff, and community members. Alarmist Brewing (4055 W. Peterson) will host us for a Solomon evening on Thursday, October 12, from 7-10pm. Alarmist is generously donating \$1 from each pint sold back to our PTO to fund our mission and vision. Please see [this flier](#) for more information, and we hope to see you there!

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

- **October 5:** Network 1 High School Fair, 6:00 (Rickover Military Academy, 5800 W. Berteau)
- **October 6:** Picture Day
- **October 9:** No School (Indigenous People's Day)
- **October 11:** High School Admissions Test for 8th graders in Room 116
- **October 20:** Fall Fest returns!, 4:00-7:00 (playground and turf)