

## Solomon Principal Newsletter

### November 7, 2022

Dear Solomon Family--

I hope everyone is enjoying their weekend. As a reminder, there is no school for students and staff on Tuesday, November 8, due to Election Day. Go out there and vote!

We have experienced a rise in COVID-19 cases at Solomon (currently 4 staff and 2 students), and I know that you are getting a lot of emails from me. If your child is ill, please keep them home; if your child tests COVID positive, please be sure to complete the district form ([cps.edu/covidresults](https://cps.edu/covidresults)) because it gives us the information we need about the return date to school for your child and next steps for any close contacts. For information on the district's policies for COVID-19, please review them [here](#).

We are going to be [hosting 3 vaccination events at Solomon](#) this winter, the first one being on Parent-Teacher Conference Day, November 21, from 9am-12pm. For more information on the vaccines available, please click [here](#). You can make an appointment at that link, or you can sign up for another vaccination event at a more convenient time. Walk-ins are also welcome. Our other vaccination dates are December 12 and February 6, 2023.

In partnership,

Chris Gamble  
Principal  
Hannah G. Solomon Elementary School

## Solomon Community Ofrenda

The intermediate team is excited to organize a *Solomon Community Ofrenda* / Altar for Día de los Muertos / Day of the Dead. This is a holiday traditionally celebrated on November 1st and 2nd to honor and commemorate the lives of loved ones who have passed. The *ofrenda* will be set up in the main hallway near the office for the community to enjoy from October 31st through Report Card Pick-Up on November 21st.

We will provide brightly colored tablecloths, tea lights, paper marigolds, papel picado, and sugar skulls. **We invite you to participate by sending in a photo of a loved one who has passed to be added to our Solomon Community Ofrenda.**

### Details:

- Photos should not be larger than 5x7. If possible, please send your photo in a frame.
- Please attach a small taped note on the back with your child's name and room number, so we can safely return these special photos to you once the *ofrenda* is taken down.
- Students may start bringing framed photos to their classroom teacher on Monday!

As always, thank you for your support! We look forward to commemorating our loved ones together.

Mrs. Gleeson (3rd)  
Mrs. Luciano (4th)  
Mrs. Bakula (5th)

## News and Notes

In the school pictures shared in Snap!, you'll see some of our Halloween festivities, our Solomon ofrenda, and a visit from Von Steuben Admissions Director, Ms. Escobar, with our 7th and 8th graders this past week.

Solomon will send all 1st Quarter Report Cards home with students the week of November 7, with the exact date depending on when we receive the district materials that will go home with report cards. Also coming home will be Fall 2022 assessment data. We will update you with the date so that you know to look in your child's backpack.

Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled for Monday, November 21, between 9am-12:00 and 12:45-4:00. Parents and guardians have the option of in-person or virtual conferences. Homeroom teachers will be reaching out to families this week to schedule those appointments with you.

To participate in our annual [Veterans Celebration Day](#), please see this note from Mrs. Reis:

- *It is that time of the year again where we are organizing our beautiful celebration for our veterans. We would like to ask the following from you: Please send me a list of any names of personal veterans from our military that you may know (living or deceased) to be honored. Please send it to my email. Please send me their full name and rank and force (Marines, Army, Air Force, Navy, National Guard, etc). Please include a picture if you can! Digital is best! If you have family members who have served or are serving in our military, please send this information to Mrs. Reis at [amreis@cps.edu](mailto:amreis@cps.edu). Thank you for your support, Ann Reis*

We are hosting our next Scholastic Book Fair the week of November 14-18, and we can use your assistance. If you are available to volunteer, please click [this link](#) to provide your information. For more information about the virtual catalog and the e-wallet feature, please click [here](#).

After-school updates:

- 5th and 6th grade boys basketball starts practice with Coach Jay on Monday, November 7, at 8am. For more info on the 5/6 Boys Basketball season, please click [here](#).
- Click [here](#) for more information on our Solomon Art Club, hosted by the YMCA for grades K-2 and 3-5, which started last week.
- *Annie Jr.* musical tryouts will be Monday, November 14, from 4-5:30pm in our gymnasium.

We are excited to host a Solomon alumni panel on Wednesday, November 16. Solomon graduates who attend a variety of different high schools (selective enrollment, charter, IB, neighborhood, private) will speak with our current 7th and 8th graders about their high school experiences. Mrs. Mulholland, our school counselor, will also host [GoCPS](#) office hours on Wednesday, November 9, from [9:15-10:15](#) and [4:00-5:00](#) for any parents or students requesting assistance with their applications.

If you haven't ordered your child's Lifetouch pictures yet, they have shared a code for free shipping on orders of over \$29.99. Enter the code "SHIPFREEF22" at checkout, and click this [link](#) to access your child's order. Picture re-take day is Thursday, November 17.

The Albany Park branch (3401 W. Foster) of the Chicago Public Library hosts homework assistance for students every Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 3-6pm. For more information on their programming, click [here](#).

## Friends of Solomon School Parent Teacher Organization (FOSSPTO)

We are hosting the Solomon Holiday Shop on December 6-8, and we are, looking for crafters to sell their items. If you are interested, please complete [this survey](#).

We are looking for you to join the Friends of Solomon School PTO! By returning [this document](#) to the main office, we will add you to our email list and keep you updated on all of the great Solomon community events.

To learn more about the mission of the Solomon FOSSPTO, click [here](#).

## Important Solomon Links

- Our Solomon [school organization chart](#), which has the contact information for all of our teachers and staff.
- The [opt-in form](#) for COVID testing for your child at Solomon weekly.

- Our Solomon [breakfast and lunch menus](#).
- Our Solomon [school assessment calendar](#) for the year.
- Our Solomon [merchandise link](#) from our partners at Squadlocker.
- The [volunteer registration form](#) for anyone interested in volunteering at Solomon this year.

## Solomon Calendar

All Solomon community events can be found on our school Google Calendar, linked at the Solomon website, [solomon.cps.edu](http://solomon.cps.edu). You can also view our year-long calendar of community events [here](#).

A few of the important upcoming dates:

- **Tuesday, November 8:** No School (Election Day)
- **Monday, November 14 to Friday, November 18:** Solomon Scholastic Book Fair
- **Tuesday, November 15:** Local School Council, 5:30 (virtual/library)
- **Wednesday, November 16:** Veterans Celebration Day
- **Thursday, November 17:** Picture Day Retakes
- **Monday, November 21:** Parent-Teacher Conferences