



Parent Newsletter

Monday, December 5, 2022

Volume 4, Number 18

Updated Calendar

[PTA 22-23 Calendar](#) / [SMMUSD 22-23 Calendar](#)

Sat/Sun		Cameron Field is Open to the Public / 8-3 (Campus is visited throughout the day by security personnel and the children's bathrooms are opened and maintained. This service is paid for by the City Parks Department. Revenue benefits MES.)
Now		Send in your child's Comfort Bag Comfort Bag Plan (Put the teacher's name on the bag.) Annual Parent Survey Opens (Link) (Closes December 9)
This Week		
Tues	12/06	Principal Chris off campus at PTA Function / 9 - 12 and then at Instructional Leadership Training 12 - 3 Greyfox Gate Closed
Wed	12/07	Tide Pool Field Trip Tate & Vences & Sarah / 12:30 - 2:30
Thur	12/08	Nutcracker Show / 9 @ cafeteria (4th and 5th graders perform.) Nutcracker Show / 10 @ cafeteria (1st, 2nd, and 3rd graders perform.) 5th Grade Winter Music Performance/Informance / 10:55 - 11:35 @ cafeteria
Fri	12/09	Spirit Assembly / 8:15 - 8:30 @ Assembly Area (Dreambox 20 Trophy, PJ Day and Estimation Contest) Student Council Spirit Day "Pajama Day" Show your spirit! Staff Holiday Party / 1:15-2:45 @ library (Food and prizes!) PTA Benefit Rock Concert / 5:00 @ West Malibu location (details)
Beyond		
Tues	12/13	4th Grade Winter Music Performance/Informance / 10:55 -11:35 @ music classrooms
Thur	12/15	ELAC / 9-10 @ Zoom (Agenda Link) SSC / 3:30 - 4:45 @ Zoom (Agenda Link)
Fri	12/16	Last Day before Winter Break Holiday Show Performances / K-2 8:30 to 10:00 & 3 - 5 10:30 to 12:00 @ library courtyard (flier)
12/19 - Jan 2		No School - Winter Break
Tues	01/03	First Day Back after Winter Break (MHS is not in session but MES is.)
Wed	01/11	Bingo Night 1 of 2 / 5pm @ cafeteria (Supports 5th grade end of year activities)
Mon	01/16	No School for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Fri	2/3	Report Cards Go Home
Mon	02/20	No School for Presidents' Day
Mon	03/27	No School for Cesar Chavez Day
Fri	03/30	Last Day Before Spring Break
Mon	04/17	First Day Back After Spring Break

[Archived MES Parent Newsletters](#)

District Announcements

[Link](#)

MES PTA Announcements

Home Page: <https://www.malibuelementary.org/> (Purchase Spirit Wear Here)

PTA Newsletter: <https://www.malibuelementary.org/newsletter>

Join the PTA / Membership Link: <https://www.malibuelementary.org/membership>

PTA Amazon Smile: <https://smile.amazon.com> (Select Malibu Elementary PTA!)

PTA Meetings: www.malibuelementary.org/associationmeetings

PTA Calendar: www.malibuelementary.org/calendar

Principal's Pen

Hello MES Families,

We are wrapping up 2022 with a bang at MES! Please see all the wonderful events to attend and cheer on your children in the calendar above. Please do all you can to keep your children in school everyday except when ill. Our teachers are teaching all day long and everyday. We have high expectations for our students and so many skills to teach. The students are eager for knowledge and new skills, and their minds are developing so please do be on time everyday.

The weather is brisk and damp these days. Please encourage your children to dress in layers since they are inside and outside off and on all days. The temperature variance is great.

Our staff holiday party is next Friday. A parent has offered prizes. We are most grateful and I am still hoping for more price donations by Tuesday. If you like to sponsor a pizza or salad from Spruzzos, that too would be most welcomed. Thank you for your kind consideration and please contact me.

I have crafted several articles below. I thank you for reading my publications as I believe they are both timely and informative.

Your partner in education and champion of your children,

Proud Principal Chris Hertz



Parent General Resources

[Link](#)

Student Health Resources

[Link](#)

Thank you for being considerate.

DreamBox - Family Dashboard

DreamBox is a signature program for MES. DreamBox is adaptive and builds conceptual understanding through games. Students are expected to complete five (5) lessons a week. Dreambox is accessible through Clever on our school website: [Link](#). Students who do so will be recognized regularly at MES. DreamBox also provides data to teachers who can in turn customize assignments for students. Our Teacher Leadership Team and the SSC continue to prioritize DreamBox. DreamBox not only helps all students but it is good at supporting EL students' growth and particularly Spanish-speaking students. If you think your child may need more guidance with DreamBox, please write to the teacher, but first please examine these three

Home Support resources for parents:

1. [Home Learning Guide for Parents & Guardians](#) - Set Up Your Family DashBoard! The **Family Insight Dashboard** (sometimes simply referred to as the Family Dashboard) allows parents and guardians to monitor their student's learning trends, gaps, and growth. It allows you to see at a glance if your student is mastering the concepts and making progress with DreamBox. Detailed activity and proficiency reports help you set learning goals and prepare conversations with your student and your student's teacher.
2. [YouTube Support Videos for Parents & Guardians](#) - Watch short videos on best home practices - Spanish too!
3. [Understanding the Family Insight Dashboard](#)
4. [Home Use Guide](#)

Staff Parking Spots

Parents please make note that there is NO PARKING in the staff parking spots in the morning. All the perimeter spots are for staff. Many staff start their day right at 8:15. Some staff come right before or after the bell and when there is someone in their spot, they then can't get to working with your students.

Private School Recommendation Letters

As a district we are respectfully declining to write letters of recommendation for students applying to private schools. We want to best use our limited time and resources for activities that impact all of our students in our schools. Writing letters takes us away from our work with our students.

If you are applying to a private school for your child, we will send a form letter to the school explaining our reasoning, and that the district's lack of recommendation letter in no way suggests a negative reflection of your children. Teachers will not be completing recommendation letters nor will they be completing any checklists. We can provide report cards, and any information already in your child's file; however, teachers will not create any new information or provide anytype of recommendation for private schools.

We believe students who have attended MES are well positioned to be a positive addition to any school community— and we hope you will all continue to consider SMMUSD school options as wonderful learning environments for your children.

Regardless, we always wish our students all the best. Thank you for your understanding.

Sample Letter from Principal

[Link](#)

Independent Study - The Rules

Independent Study is appropriate for Emergencies, catastrophic family situations, legal/government situations, severe health or other special circumstances. **Independent Study is NOT for extending the length of school holidays, vacations or visiting family or friends.**

The school must be informed in advance (two weeks / we realize this isn't always possible in an Emergency). A contract needs to be filled out and signed by the parent, teacher and Principal. If work is not turned in or is not complete, partial credit or no credit may be given.

- Independent Study Informational Overview: [Link](#)

- Independent Study SMMUSD Website: [Link](#)
- Independent Study Written Agreement Form: [Link](#)

Malibu Elementary Benefit Concert

The Rock Concert is going to happen and details are below. Big-name artists are pledging to perform to help our school. At this time PTA is collecting auction items for the upcoming fundraiser. Please read the Donation Request Letter and turn in the Auction Donation Form to pta@malibuelementary.org

- [MES Donation Request Letter](#)
- [MES Auction Donation Form](#)

Benefit Concert Ticket Sales & Auction / Rock On!
www.fundraiser.support/MalibuElementaryBenefitConcert

MBGC Information
[Link](#)

Zoe’s Lunchtime Theater - Nutcracker is Next!

Zoe’s Lunchtime Theater’s next production is the Nutcracker! Students in grades 1st - 5th are all welcome to practice during their lunch breaks. The program has no fee for students’ families due to the generosity of parent Dina Flanagan. If you loved CoCo, you will love the Nutcracker too! Show times are in the calendar above.

City Winter Recreation Guide

The City’s Winter 2023 Recreation Guide and City Newsletter is available online at MalibuCity.org/CommunityServices. The Guide features the City’s many excellent programs and parks and includes informative articles and contact information for City departments and services.

Residents can find information for upcoming Winter programs offered December through February, including Afterschool Programs, Aquatics, Outdoor Recreation at Charmlee Wilderness Park, Parent and Me Programs, Senior Programs and Excursions, and Youth Sports.

Registration for Winter Programs opens on Monday, November 14 at 8:00 AM at MalibuCity.org/Register. For ongoing, up-to-date information on Community Services programs, visit [Aquatics](#), [Day Camps](#), [Community Programs](#), and [Adult Sports](#).

