

GULFPORT ELEMENTARY



BULLDOGS

Gulfport Elementary/Montessori Academy

gulfport-es.pinellas.k12.fl.us

December 2014

Principal
James Pribble

Vice-Principal
Brenda Butler

School Hours
8:35 to 2:35
"We teach bell to bell"

Uniforms: Yes

Title I School: Yes

Magnet or Academy Program: Montessori Academy

Points of Pride: On the forefront of Florida education with the Marzano Pilot. Before and after school tutoring.

Mascot: Bulldogs

Gulfport Elementary
2014 52nd St. South
Gulfport, FL 33707

(727) 893-2643

Images From Trunk or Treat 2014



Thank you all for everything you do to help your children and our school out every day. I enjoy working with you to help make your children and our school successful. It is great to see families and teachers interacting together at events like Trunk or Treat. Those relationships build great success. With the 2 weeks of Winter Break just around the corner, take the time to build those relationships with your children and enjoy them. What you do together now, shapes the future. It is not all about the gifts, but it is all about the gift of yourself :) Enjoy the Holidays! Principal Pribble

Winter Celebration Concert, December 11

All students in **kindergarten , first and second grade** are invited to participate in an evening of music. Students should arrive at Gulfport Elementary at 6:00 pm. The concert will begin with first and second grade students starting at 6:15. Followed by the Gulfport 4th and 5th Grade Chorus. After the chorus sings, the Kindergarten students will take the stage. The finale of the evening will be with all the student on stage singing one final song together. I hope that you will join us for a fabulous evening of music and celebrate the musical success of all of the wonderful students at Gulfport Elementary School.



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

12/1 - PTA Toys for Tots Drive Continues

12/8 - Montessori Monday (for Montessori magnet) 6 p.m.

12/8-12/19 - Go Green Charity Clothing Drive. Clean out your closets before the holidays!

12/10 - Gulfport Montessori Magnet Discovery Night 6 -7 pm (learn about the Montessori Magnet. Tell your friends to come learn more!)

12/11 - Winter Concert (Kindergarten, 1 - 2 grades & Chorus perform). All are welcome!

12/12 - Last day of PTA Toys for Tots Drive

12/22 - 1/5/15 NO SCHOOL - WINTER BREAK!!!!

1/5 - Teacher Day. NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

1/6 - TUES SCHOOL BACK IN SESSION!!! 8:35 a.m. SHARP! Note: This is Tuesday, NOT Monday!

Montessori School News

I love this time of year! We go from taking the time to reflect on all we are thankful for to the winter holiday season. The ads try to take us to a busy, materialistic place which can make anyone stressed especially our children. So, I'm making a conscious effort to take those deep breaths and stay calm.

On the note of the holidays, I'd like to pass on a family tradition we started when my oldest was 7 (he's 35 now). We began a Christmas journal (could be any holiday or winter journal). In the journal I wrote about the events happening that year and the gifts we exchanged. As we were packing up the decorations, I always asked what everyone's favorite thing was about that year. Now that my children are 35, 30, 21, and 21 we love to get it out and read it each year. Ours isn't fancy but now there seem to be pretty journals everywhere.

Following the method of education developed by Maria Montessori in 1901 is still relevant today. The things she observed and developed are coming into the "traditional" school setting today. She believed in looking at the whole child to develop the school plan to follow for them.

The Montessori program includes:

- * A rich and extensive curriculum
- * Cross discipline learning (math, science, social studies, language combined)
- * Individualized instruction and curriculum
- * Development of self- discipline
- * Teaching manners and courtesy
- * Using hands-on materials
- * Instilling value and appreciation for cultural differences
- * Caring for our community

:Since the system was re-introduced to the United States around 1960, thousands of private and public Montessori schools have opened. I'm proud of our program at Gulfport. Parents, teachers and children working together in cooperation develop your child to his/her potential.

Kathy Ludlum
Montessori Coordinator
ludlumk@pcsb.org
727-893-2643 X 2077



ads

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News Updates

\$ SAVE THOSE BOX TOPS AND MORE THROUGHOUT THE HOLIDAYS! \$

Take a close look at those Green Bean cans before recycling them. Look underneath those Tissue boxes. There are hidden Box Tops, Labels for Education, Tyson A+ Labels, Coke Rewards (on 12 packs where you pull off for the handy distribution and under the caps of others), and Capri Suns emptied without the straw.

Just stash an envelope in the corner of the kitchen and look over all of those items before you throw money in the trash or recycle center. Drop them off to the front desk, and the school earns money for each of them!!!

AMAZON SMILE: Shopping on Amazon as the holidays approach? Use THIS for your School..... go to... (www.smile.amazon.com), buy whatever you like, and then at checkout they can select "Gulfport Montessori Elementary PTA" and a portion of their purchase price will go to the PTA. Mark this as your favorite! Prices are the same, and our kids earn a profit!!!!

WALKING SCHOOL BUS: Monday – Wednesday – Friday: 8:00 a.m. at the Skate Park on Tangerine. Thanks to Ms. Savage for leading this event weekly. This provides a safe, healthy way for your child to walk to school. Be part of our latest community effort.

Gulfport's STEM Academy is back in action: TWENTY 4th and 5th graders from our school are participating in the STEM Academy on Monday afternoons. The program is designed to enrich the curriculums of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics in a way that is hands-on, challenging, and rewarding. Mrs. Kaleita is once again the STEM facilitator, and loves sharing her passion for STEM with the students. Currently, STEM students are working on Entrepreneurship, and learning what it takes to create a business, as well as what capital, natural, and human resources are.



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PTA GIVES THANKS

*** Volunteered their cars, candles, refreshments and services to make our first ever Trunk or Treat a success! THANK YOU for being true Bull Dogs!!**

*** All of the Book Fair volunteers who manned the fair for 5 days and 1 night, plus set up and took down the displays!**

*** All of the families who came out to enjoy the Readers of the Roundtable evening and shopped our Book Fair during the week!!! Go read a good book!!**

PTA Corner

TO SCREEN OR NOT

Ever wonder how much screen time is too much for kids? Even tech gurus like Apple founder Steve Jobs and Twitter founder Evan Williams strictly regulate what and how much their kids are doing on screens. Some parents have developed time limits, from nothing at all to 30 minutes a day for weeknights, an hour a day for weekends. Many parents do not allow screens at the dinner table, and, interestingly, the number one rule among tech parents is: no screens in the bedroom, ever.

However, most experts agree that there is a difference between time spent consuming (watching YouTube or playing video games, for example), and time spent creating (reading on a tablet, doing math, creating art, or even playing a computer programming game like Minecraft). Not only are there many excellent educational programs and apps out there for kids, some experts think that outright forbidding screens can pose potential problems later in life. If kids are not exposed and taught how to handle screen time responsibly, they may go overboard and become addicted to video games when they are older.

In short, a little, carefully monitored screen time can be beneficial to kids. Below is a short list of educational apps, programs, tv shows and websites:

Dance mat typing - BBC program for kids 7-11 to learn how to type properly

Montessori Crosswords - fun app to develop spelling, reading and writing skills

Monkey Preschool Lunchbox - Voted no. 1 preschool app for teaching about shapes, colors, counting, puzzles and more

Sky Guide - phone app for learning about the stars, moon, planets and constellations

MeeGenius - reading app for children

Math Bingo - play Bingo by correctly answering math questions

Hungry Fish - math app for ages 4-8 for practicing addition and subtraction

Minecraft - this teaches about computer programming by building with blocks and then having adventures

Township - build cities and farms

Smarter Every Day - YouTube channel which aims to teach something new every day

math-aids.com - math website with free, printable math worksheets for all math subjects and levels

Stack the States/Stack the Countries - learn all about states and countries, their capitals and facts about them

Minute Physics - YouTube channel which discusses cool physics and other science in one minute

Sick Science - YouTube channel with science experiments you can do at home

Veritasium - educational science YouTube channel

Mythbusters, Cosmos - two educational TV shows

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Volunteers Wanted

Thank you to all the participants of the Great American Teach-In!

Please remember to complete a Volunteer Registration Form and allow approximately two weeks to have the background check completed. This process will be necessary if you would like to accompany your child on a field trip. Fifth grade parents who plan to attend Enterprise Village are encouraged to begin the process now.

Current volunteers, please record your volunteer hours.

Volunteers are need for:

- Media Center
- Parent Teacher Association functions
- Mentors for individual students
- Tutors for individual students or small groups-Chaperones for field trips

Please contact Mrs. Bumgarner, Volunteer Coordinator, if you have any questions or need a copy of the Volunteer Registration form. (727-893-2643 x 2004)

Birthday Shouts!

Happy December Birthday to:

12/2	Ms. Bea Walpole (3 rd)
12/2	Ms. Jessica Anderson (Music)
12/3	Ms. Rachel Mita (pre-K)
12/4	Ms. Penny Dawson (Mont 1/2)
12/15	Ms. Senen Balce (Mont K)
12/17	Ms. Annette Anthony (Mont 3/4/5)
12/18	Ms. Iris Manley (fabulous volunteer)
12/19	Ms. Bernadette Dorset (3 rd)
12/19	Ms. Amanda Wahl (4 th)
12/24	Ms. Tracey Kalieta (5 th)
12/28	Ms. Julia Paolillo (K)



5145 Gulfport Blvd

(727) 329-8624

Things to Do in St. Petersburg

Pinellas Pioneer Settlement Christmas Jamboree: Saturday, December 13 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Free admission, Donations Accepted. 2900 31st Street South (www.pinellaspioneersettlement.org). Step back in time to see a Victorian Christmas, Hayrides with Santa (\$2), and Shopping with local items/crafts.

Saturday Morning Market: The largest outdoor market in the Southeast, with dozens of vendors offering produce, clothing, jewelry, local made products. There are food trucks and live music, as well. Just off the Pinellas Trail, if you feel like biking. Located next to Al Lang Stadium, Saturdays 9-2.

Morean Arts Center: On Saturdays there is a free art exploration program for families with children aged 5-10. Saturdays, 10-4.

Dali Museum: Every Thursday evening from 5-8 the museum offers discounted ticket prices.

The Florida Orchestra: The orchestra is now offering free tickets to any child under age 18, with a paying adult. \$10 student tickets are available also, regardless of age.

Boyd Hill Nature Preserve: Located a few minutes south of downtown, this wonderful nature preserve offers many activities and educational programs for all ages, day-time and evening. 1101 Country Club Way South. Visit stpeteparksrec.org for more information.

The Pinellas Trail: This former railroad line runs from one end of Pinellas County to the other, beginning in downtown St. Pete and continuing up through Clearwater, Dunedin, and ending in Tarpon Springs. Many sections of the trail have amenities, including restrooms and restaurants. Visit pinellascounty.org for more information, or railstrails.org for information on other trails in the area.




Habana Café
5402 Gulfport Blvd S., Gulfport, FL 33706
727.321.8855



Encourage Your Kids to Give

- * Gulfport Elementary is hosting a Toys for Tots drive, now through Dec. 12. Kids can use their allowance or help their parents pick out toys from the Dollar Store, Target, Walmart, Kohl's, etc. and bring in a new, unwrapped toy to drop off in the Toys for Tots bin in the front office.
- * Drop some coins or dollar bills into a Salvation Army kettle while at the grocery store.
- * Pay off or pay down a stranger's layaway at Walmart, Kmart or other store with layaway options.
- * Donate canned foods to a local food bank or to the canned food drive at Gulfport Elementary.
- * Donate money or goods to a local charity or thrift store (CASA, Dollars for Scholars, Big Cat Rescue, Pet Pal, etc), or purchase holiday presents through charity stores.
- * Donate time to a local organizations, from Habitat for Humanity to coastal clean-up to spending time with or walking animals at shelters.
- * Think of a neighbor, friend or family member who might be alone during the holiday season and bake cookies, send a card or letter, or pay a visit to them.
- * Send a card or package to someone in the military.




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Tidbits and Treasures

During this season of giving thanks, **Ms. Dawson's class** would like to take the opportunity to show their gratitude to those who have given us so much, already, this year. First, a "Bulldog Bark Out" to the families of Willow Folcarelli and Mad-die Zook for adopting our class financially. Their donations cut the price of our field trip to Old McMicky'S Farm in half! Next, we would like to thank Jordan Kerns' family for our class pet: the betta fish Bubbles. He's a happy fellow, and the children enjoy taking turns caring for him. Another big "Thank you" goes to Lilli Intravichit's grandmother, who joins us most Mondays as a volunteer in the class. Next up are the families who donated books to our class from the Book Fair: the Anderson, Marsh, McFadden, and Zook families took our wish list and bought it out! Finally, we would like to thank ALL of you for your support in so many ways: class snack, fundraisers, clothing donations, and showing up for PTA and Montessori Nights. Thank you all! J

SCHOOL CHOICE CONTINUES....

For ALL outgoing 5th graders and incoming Montessori magnet Kindergarten through 5th grade levels, take note of School Choice Information. This year the School Board site has combined information on nearby magnet, fundamental and specialty program Discovery Nights and Tour Days listing them in one convenient place on its website. Check out the link below. Don't wait until the last minute. School choice Application Period runs January 7 – 16th.

<http://pcsb.schoolwires.net/Page/837>

SEMINOLE LANES will provide Free "Games for A's" during the year. Students should bring their Report Card to Seminole Lanes to receive up to 5 free games per grading period or 20 free games from the Final Report Card (one for each "A" or "E") to be used before **August 31st, 2015**.



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Citizens of the Month (Sept-Nov)

KINDERGARTEN: Fizzah Badani, Dylan Wright, Na'Zaria Boyd (Mrs. Manley); Chase Potter, Marlie Kern, Kaleb Hicks (Mrs. Balce); Alec Muscat, Hassnae Benkhaled, Hayden Jonassen (Ms. Mulholland); Vincent Cole, Josiah Blakely, Laquel Clinton (Ms. McCullers); Nicyla Williams, Moriah Daniels-Womack, Kharma Gamble (Ms. McCord); Fatima Beacham, Jania Brooks, Havon Glowacki (Mrs. Paolillo); Abrianna Pentasuhlia, Makaio Potta, Gianne Gilpin (Ms. Lawless)

FIRST GRADE: Jordan McPherson, Isaiah Green, Sani Jordan (Mrs. Neil); Ty'unna Calhoun, Nygel Houston, Journee Bryant (Ms. Kopnitsky); Aleia Fritz, Taraji Ford, Ty'tiana Rentz (Mrs. DeWindt); Nathan Wallace, Nivedh Panicker, Sherman Wright (Ms. Gorman).

SECOND GRADE: Nicole Zheng, D'Asia Johnson, Jameka Johnson (Mrs. Forte); Kaycee Loesch, Mia Serrano, Jaylen Johnson (Mrs. Freeman); Ke'Marian Albert, Natia Scott, Jamarion McGirt (Mrs. Clary); David Gunn, Reilly McConnell, Jordan Mosley (Ms. Riley).

THIRD GRADE: Najayla Sims, DeClan Mooney, Myanna King (Ms. Kinsley); Nahria Edwards, Jamarion Borden, Leah Johnson (Mrs. Dorset); Payton Carlson, Ian Duarte, Nathan Wyman (Mr. Sankovitch); Makayla Turner, Joikobe Bartee, David Martin (Ms. Walpole).

FOURTH GRADE: April Dempsey-Adams, Breeona Walker, Mykayla Barney (Ms. Roach); Ayanna Hanley, Ember Walden, Sergio Ferrari (Mrs. Wahl); Madeleine Reyes, Alzaveon Harris, Davian Richards (Mrs. Jackson).

FIFTH GRADE: Sonny DePrisco, Angelina Pentasuglia, Troy Daniels (Mrs. England); Ja'nyia Johnson, Egypt Hicks, LeMetria Lane (Mrs. Kaleita); Nephe' Ellis, Alina Khosaeva, Dylan Watkins (Ms. Snodgrass)

MONTESSORI 1-5: Corbin Williamson, Maddie Zook, David Bell (Ms. Dawson); Sierra Zampach, Tanaya Wooten, Symone Jones (Mrs. Davis); Kalie Hicks, Elijah McLaughlin, Maya Covington (Ms. Reynolds); Julian Reyes -- Sept & Oct., Johnnay Harris (Ms. Barnard); Morrissey Floyd, Subha Podo, Joshua Arreaga (Ms. Rothrock); Mia Shields, Autumn Carroll, Alissa Butler (Mrs. Anthony); Carly Keith, Amelia Kirtland, Logan Timko (Mrs. Campbell); Kaiden Wallace, Kenesha Bynum, Max Savage (Ms. Evans)



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Fun Fact! December Pinellas Elementary School Lunch Menu



On December 17, 1903 At Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, the Wright Brothers flew the first powered airplane. Built from spruce and ash, a 12 horsepower, 4 cylinder water-cooled inline engine.

Bill of Rights Day is celebrated December 15th



National Hand Washing Month



DAILY BREAKFAST CHOICES

Choose up to 2 Grain Choices such as cereal (=1), toast (=1), pancakes (=2), cinnamon Texas toast (=2)

OR

Choose a 1 Grain and 1 Meat Choice such as a breakfast sandwich (=1G/1M)

Must choose at least 1: Fruit or Juice
May choose 1: Milk

DAILY LUNCH CHOICES

Choose 1: Entrée
May Choose: 1 Milk
Must choose at least 1: Fruit or Vegetable (may choose as many different fruits & veggies as student would like)

Available Daily: Meatless Entrée, Entrée Salads, Cold Sandwiches
Low Fat White Milk, Fat Free Flavored or Skim Milk, Variety of Fruit & Juice

8 oz. water is also available at no extra charge with a complete lunch meal

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
<p>1 Eggo Mini Waffles or Pancakes</p> <p>Choose One: Hamburger/Cheeseburger Popcorn Chicken w/ Biscuit Farmer's Salad Chicken Caesar Wrap Choose: Curly Fries, Tossed or Romaine Salad</p>	<p>2 Chicken Biscuit</p> <p>Choose One: Tacos: Seasoned Beef or Pork Max Cheese Sticks w/ Marinara Chicken Caesar Salad Italian Twist Combo Choose: Refried Fiesta Beans, Veggie Dippers</p>	<p>3 Bacon, Egg & Cheese Pizza</p> <p>Choose One: **Feature Item** Mini Pizza Bagels Macaroni & Cheese Hummus Salad Plate Ham & Cheese Croissant Choose: Corn Nibbles, Romaine Salad</p>	<p>4 Sausage Gravy Toast</p> <p>Choose One: Corn Dog Nuggets Fernando's Cheesy Quesadilla w/Salsa Chicken Dipper Salad Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Choose: Broccoli, Veggie Dippers</p>	<p>5 Dunk'n Stick</p> <p>Choose One: Pizza Variety Ocean Treasure Fish Nuggets Veggie Double Dipper Salad School Favorite Sandwich Choose: Sliced Carrots, Mixed or Romaine Salad</p>
<p>8 Pizza Pocket</p> <p>Choose One: Teriyaki Chicken & Rice Bowl w/Roll Giorgio Cheesy Bread w/Marinara Chef Salad Chicken Caesar Wrap Choose: Stir Fry Vegetables, Tossed or Romaine Salad</p>	<p>9 Sausage Biscuit</p> <p>Choose One: **Feature Item** Gilardi Stuffed Crust Pepperoni Pizza Rib B Que Sandwich Farmer's Salad Italian Twist Combo Choose: Baked Beans, Veggie Dippers</p>	<p>10 Maple Pancake Minis</p> <p>Choose One: Chicken Nuggets w/Dip Spaghetti & Meatballs Yogurt Parfait Ham & Cheese Croissant Choose: Sweet Potato Waffle Fries, Romaine Salad</p>	<p>11 Egg, Ham & Cheese Croissant</p> <p>Choose One: Breakfast for Lunch Mini Calzones w/Marinara Chicken Caesar Salad Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Choose: Deli Roasted Potatoes, Veggie Dippers</p>	<p>12 Rich's Cinnamon Roll</p> <p>Choose One: Pizza Variety Cheeseburger Sliders Tuna Chef Salad School Favorite Sandwich Choose: Spinach or Collard Greens, Mixed or Romaine Salad</p>
<p>15 Apple Cinnamon Texas Toast</p> <p>Choose One: Stuffed Shells w/ Coles Garlic Toast Crispy Chicken Sandwich Chef Salad Chicken Caesar Wrap Choose: Sliced Carrots, Tossed or Romaine Salad</p>	<p>16 Breakfast Sausage Bagel</p> <p>Student Involvement Day</p> <p>Menu to be chosen by a group of students at each individual school</p>	<p>17 Scrambled Egg, Bacon & Biscuit</p> <p>Choose One: Chicken Drumstick w/Hush Puppy Loaded Potato Skins w/Baked Pretzel Fruit N Yogurt Plate Ham & Cheese Croissant Choose: Baked Beans, Romaine Salad</p>	<p>18 Banana Bread</p> <p>Choose One: **Feature Item** Turkey BLT Club Burger Teriyaki Beef Dippers w/Rice & Roll Farmer's Salad Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Choose: Broccoli, Veggie Dippers</p>	<p>19 Breakfast Burrito</p> <p>Choose One: Pizza Variety Cheesy Fish Filet Sandwich Chicken Caesar Salad School Favorite Sandwich Choose: Green Beans, Mixed or Romaine Salad</p>

Winter Holidays



A seasonal variety of fresh fruits, canned fruits and 100% fruit juice are available daily!



29 All menus are subject to change. We do our best to provide our customers with all of our planned options, however, occasionally weather, crops and supplies have other ideas!

School begins Tuesday
January 6, 2015

December Birthdays Celebration
Wednesday December 3rd.



In accordance with Federal Law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, Pinellas County School Food Service is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington D.C. 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.