



Dear MLS Families,

This month we celebrate our January national holiday -- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday. Our Dean of Students, Mr. Robert Love, captured the day with this message to our staff:

As we celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day, I encourage everyone to take some time to review or listen to the entire speech that Dr. King gave on that day, August 28, 1963. We are all very familiar with the selection "[I have a dream](#)". If you listen to the speech in its entirety, which is about sixteen minutes long, you will notice that some of the issues Dr. King spoke about are the same concerns we share in 2022. I challenge you all as we attempt the fulfillment of the entire message. For those of you that are involved in some type of community activities on his birthday, thank you! Enjoy this day and know that the struggle continues to be real, but the group here at Martin Luther School strives to be better.

We do indeed strive to be better at Martin Luther School. Our leadership team's goals are aligned to each of our big ideas:

- Instructing the Mind = High Expectations and High Support for ALL
- Engaging the Heart = Racial Justice and Cultural Proficiency
- Empowering the Will = Consistency of Expectations

We are committed to working together with our staff, students and you, our families, to live out the ideals of Dr. King's legacy.

Respectfully,
Ms. Eva



Martin Luther
KING
DAY

Important Dates/Reminders

February 3 and 4: Winter Benchmark Assessment
February 21: School closed, Presidents Day
February 22 and 23: Conferences cancelled
March 11: Second Trimester Ends



Families/Guardians,

Please note that we have removed our scheduled February conferences to allow for 2 additional in-person days. An updated school calendar will be emailed for your convenience.



WORC Wonders

This month, we have been building the social-emotional skills required to maintain a positive and productive environment in the WORC room. Our lessons have focused on identifying and coping with small, medium, and big problems across several different settings. Students have already learned why it is important to use flexible thinking to improve positive relationships, adapt to changes in their routine, increase creative thinking, and improve independence through problem-solving skills. Students are encouraged to think of goals differently by incorporating the SMART (specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, time-bound) method in goal writing for the new year.

Here's how you can continue to develop your skills at home:

- Encourage your child to engage in new experiences to increase their ability to change and think creatively
- Continue to model a variety of coping skill tools such as deep breathing and taking breaks
- Provide examples of goals and different ways to achieve them

Practicing at home will help support the development of these skills and build your child's confidence.



Teacher Apprentice Program

We are excited to share the official start of our Teacher Apprentice Program (TAP). Our school has partnered with Cabrini University to create a pathway for our Teaching Assistants to pursue their dream of becoming a teacher. This partnership will allow TAP members to earn a degree and teaching certificate alongside their day-to-day work with students. We will be offering individualized learning pathways for each TAP member and supporting them in completing their fieldwork at our school. Our Teaching Assistants already do so much for our students; we can't wait for them to share their talents as future lead teachers.



Safety Corner

Stay Safe. Get Vaccinated

The COVID-19 vaccine is now available for children ages 5 and older. The vaccine has been proven safe and effective in protecting children from infection and illness from the virus. We recommend that you get your children vaccinated today to protect yourself and your loved ones. If you have any questions, please contact MLS Healthcare at mishealthcare@martinlutherschool.org.

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Martin Luther School | 512 W. Township Line Road , Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

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