



Principal's Message

Families,

Can you believe it's May? In a little more than 6 weeks, we close out this school year. The final quarter of school actually makes me a little sad. I know that kids, families and teachers look forward to summer break, but I also wish we had more time! It's been an amazing year so far, but we've got more to do—more things to learn and more opportunities to reach goals and enjoy each other! Let's make the most of it.

Some News:

- We had a terrific turnout for rising kindergarten orientation last month, but we know that there are still Coates families out there who have not yet visited school to register their child. If you have a neighbor whose child will be kindergarten-age or is new to the community, please encourage them to come to school and register for next year! We're open every day in the summer.
- See page 3 of this newsletter for important PTA news!
- Interim reports are coming home on May 16 for students who need improvement. I know the end of school is near, but all kids still have a chance to make improvements and finish strong!
- It's a ways off, but we hope to see lots of parents on **Field Day** on June 7. We'll need help running activities and cheering on students. Watch for a flyer in future Thursday Folders from our PE teachers.
- Our 10th Anniversary Celebration was a blast! Thanks to the legion of Coates Stars (present and former teachers, students, and parents) who came out to reminisce and celebrate!
- Finally, attached to this newsletter is an optional parent input form that helps me create next year's classes. I encourage you to complete the form and return it to me if you have thoughts related to your child's class placement for 2019-20. Forms are due to me by May 31.

As always, thanks for working so closely with us! *-Jesse Kraft*, Proud Principal



What a great time at the Coates 10th Anniversary Celebration!

The Positivity Project

We continue to teach character strengths each week, and we love when parents talk about the traits at home!

Here's our focus for the coming weeks:

Apr 29-May 3 Purpose

May 6-10 Leadership

May 12-17 Other People Matter Mindset

May 20-June 13 We have completed instruction on all 24 character strengths. Teachers will review strengths and continue teach how other people

Contact Coates:

Front Office: (703) 713-3000
Attendance: (703) 713-3030

Jesse Kraft, Principal
jkraft@fcps.edu

Jessica Shroyer, Ass't Principal
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Mark Your Calendar

May—(SOL Testing Schedule Below)

May 6-10 —Teacher Appreciation Week!

May 15— 6th grade panoramic picture

May 16— Interims go home (for students needing improvement)

May 17—PTA Meeting/International Night 6:pm

May 27—Memorial Day / No School

May 28 —Spring Concert at Rachel Carson MS, 7pm

Looking Ahead to June

June 7– Field Day

June 10– Rising Kindergartener mini school tour 10am

June 12 -6th grade Promotion Ceremony, 2:00

June 13-Last day of school; Dismissal at 1pm

Looking Ahead to August

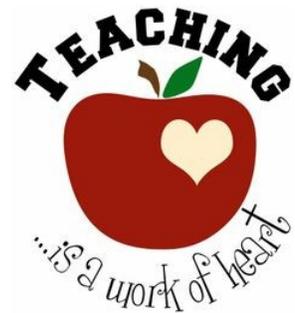
August 22– Open House /Back to School Night

August 26– School Begins

The Most Important Thing to Know
Right Now:

**May 6-10 is
TEACHER APPRECIATION
WEEK!**

See the flyer in Thursday Folders for ideas on how to show appreciation for the hard work and TLC of your child's teacher. Let's make this a great week for them. (Don't forget the specialists and assistants!)



Helping Families

We are fortunate to have the opportunity to host many programs that help families with specific needs. A million thanks to our parent liaison, Mrs. Solangie McPherson, who has brought these opportunities and event to families. Many of these are not widely advertised since they are targeting specific needs. Still, we want all Coates stars to know that our school is a caring place and that these events and classes are going on for those who would benefit from them. If you ever have a question or need, let us know!

Highlights of our Family Support Programs:

- Thanks to Mrs. Eagan, school counselor, & Solangie for organizing an amazing Coates Spring Boutique this past Saturday—this spring/summer clothing drive helped many families! Special thanks to Open Door Presbyterian Church for their massive donations!
- We're proud to host the following opportunities for parents this spring:
 - ◆ The ACT program—parent strategies for very young children
 - ◆ Strengthening Families— parent and teenager strategies for navigating teenage years
 - ◆ Early Literacy—for parents of future kindergartners
 - ◆ HIPPY—home instruction for parents of young preschoolers
 - ◆ Es Nuestro Idioma—helps native Spanish speakers improve their own communication skills and better connect with school.

Special thanks to the Edu Futuro organization, and the volunteers who help run these offerings. There is no cost to the school for any of these. A huge shout out to the parents who participate in these programs. The best thing we can do for our kids is be a role model. By attending a class, you're proving that learning is important in your family. We hope to continue to create and find programs for parents at Coates. Please bring any ideas or express interest in participating to Solangie at (703) 713-3232 or svmcpherson@fcps.edu.

From the PTA

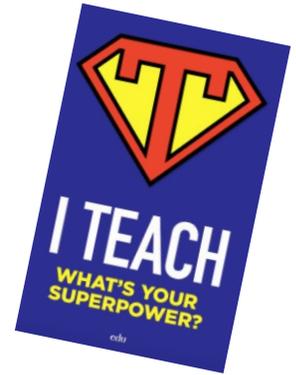
Coates Families,

Can you believe we are already in the last full month of the school year?! Summer will be here soon! Here are a few important PTA reminders for our last few weeks together:

1) Teacher Appreciation Week - May 6th to May 10th (TEACHERS DON'T READ THIS :)

Next week is Teacher Appreciation Week! We're so excited to show our teachers and staff just how SUPER they are!

Please check your Thursday folder for a list of suggestions for how your child(ren) can share their appreciation each day next week. If you are in need of a card for your teacher, we have plenty available in the Front Office near the Visitor Check - In computers. Please feel free to take a few.



DONATIONS STILL NEEDED: As a PTA, we've got a few surprises planned on Tuesday and Thursday of next week. Shhhh!

On Monday, May 6th and Wednesday, May 8th, we'd like to treat them to a Breakfast Buffet and Dessert Buffet! Please sign up below to donate where you can. Every donation helps!

Donations Link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050c4aaba82ea7fc1-teacher>

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We are still in need of a few more volunteers to help decorate the school and spend around 20 minutes each morning ensuring gifts are ready when the teachers arrive. If you would like to join us to decorate on Saturday, May 4th at 1PM, please email our Teacher Appreciation Chair, Mrs. Christine Crawford at ACCrawford1@fcps.edu

2) May 15 @ 6:30 PM - Last General PTA Meeting of 2019 - 2020 Board Elections

Our last PTA meeting of the year will take place at 6:30PM at school. We need you there! Join us as we vote on our new Board of Directors and take suggestions for next year's PTA budget. Now is the time to have your voice be heard and help shape next year's planning!



3) End of Year Bash - Chuck E. Cheese - Friday, June 7th 4 to 9PM

Join us as we celebrate one last time with our 6th graders before sending them off to Middle School AND we welcome our incoming Kindergarten families! Our End of Year Bash will take place the last Friday of the school year at Chuck E. Cheese in Herndon from 4PM to 9PM. We will have Spirit Wear available for sale!

4) International Night - Friday, May 17th 6PM

Check your Thursday folder for a new flyer for our upcoming International Night on Friday, May 17th at 6PM. Everyone is working so hard on their booths and performances. We hope to see you there!

Thank you for your support in making a difference for our children!

Yours in Service,

Ms. Tisha Bowman, Coates PTA President 2018-2019



SOL Testing Schedule for Gr. 3-6

May 13 Gr 6 Reading

May 20 Gr 6 Math

May 14 Gr 5 Reading

May 21 Gr 5 Science

May 28 Gr 5 Math

May 15 Gr 3 Reading

May 22 Gr 4 Math

May 29 Gr 4 VA Studies

May 16 Gr 4 Reading

May 23 Gr 3 Math

L.L. Coates Elementary School

CLASS PLACEMENT PARENT INPUT FORM (Optional)

2019-20

If you have information that you would like to share, please take a few moments to answer the questions below. We know that a good teacher-student match and a productive mix of children are ingredients for success, and we carefully consider each child's strengths and needs during this process. **DO NOT** request specific teachers by name, for this does not take into account the many variables to be considered. It is far more valuable to share particular academic or behavioral information.

This form is available on the Coates ES website. Completion of this form is optional. It must be returned to Mr. Kraft either through email (jkraft@fcps.edu) or a hard copy may be sent to the office by **May 31**. Please know that input from forms turned in over the summer are difficult to honor since the grouping process may have already started.

NAME OF CHILD: _____

CURRENT TEACHER & GRADE: _____

What do you consider to be your child's academic strengths?

What do you consider to be your child's academic challenges?

Realizing that children make friends quickly, are there children you believe your child *should* be paired with next year? Why?

Are there children your child should *not* be paired with next year? Why?

Describe the learning environment that would best support and challenge your child.

Parent Signature: _____

