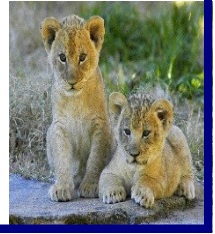




Galway Chronicle



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The Galway Pledge : We pledge to respect one another, to be trustworthy and fair. We will care about each other, and be good citizens. Above all else, I will take responsibility for my actions, in a quest to build a better you...and a better me.

Our Vision: Galway Elementary School will empower students to be valued, productive members of a global society.

Principally Speaking: *“Celebrating the Holidays”*

Many of us are thinking about how we will celebrate the holidays with the rising Covid rates and how we prepare our children for the changes this period. These tips will help you explain the changes to your children without alarming them. Your response will be a signal to them on how they should think about the holidays and if they should be alarmed about the changes.

The safest way to celebrate this year is to pay attention to the local information for Montgomery County and the state of Maryland. We are so fortunate to live in an area where local authorities keep us up to date with current information.

Celebrating the holidays is important to all of us and here are some ways you can still continue long-held family traditions and begin new ones together:

- ◆ Don't be afraid to skip gatherings. It is important to consider that staying at home with the people you live with may be a safer alternative to large family gatherings.
- ◆ Tell your children as soon as possible about any changes in family traditions.
 - ◆ Let children know you will still celebrate but it will be different.
 - ◆ Have a family meeting and ask your children to give you some ideas about how to make the holidays special. Try to incorporate some of their ideas.
 - ◆ Let them know that this year is temporary, not permanent.
- ◆ Identify the family tradition that is most important to the family and decide how you will keep that tradition in a safe manner.
- ◆ Try something new to make the holiday exciting. Bake something together or play a game together you haven't played before. Start a new tradition.
- ◆ Identify ways to serve others. Service is a good way to help children get their minds off themselves and focus on someone else. They could write notes of gratitude to other family members, their teachers or nursing home patients.
- ◆ Celebrate virtually with love ones. As much as we hate Zoom, Face-time and the social networks and want a break, we can still spend time with family when we are not together in the same space. Make it fun!



UPCOMING EVENTS

December 8

PTA General Meeting 7:30-8:30

December 14-20

Chef's Week-Angel's Pizza & Pasta
PTA Fundraiser

December 16

Learning Center Parent Night
6:30-7:30

December 17

Food Distribution 4:00 pm

December 21-23

Spirit Week

December 23-January 1

Winter Break-Schools Closed



PARENT PREFERENCE SURVEY

The Parent Preference Survey launched Nov. 11 and the responses will play a critical part in our planning for the return of students. We understand this is a difficult decision to make given that details on what in-person learning will look like are yet to be determined. MCPS is asking parents to make a selection now because the number of students who want to return and other information shared through the survey will help inform the design of the in-person instructional model, the number of school buildings we can open and scheduling. This [one-page guide was developed](#) to help parents determine what works best for their specific family circumstances. December 7 is the last day to complete the survey. Students will automatically stay virtual if the survey is not completed. Families can expect to receive more information about their school-specific plan and instructional model in January.



PTA Meeting Tuesday, December 8, 2020 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Please join the [Galway Lions PTA](#) for our General Membership Meeting on Zoom. We would love to see you online to hear your opinions on events so far, to give us ideas on what you'd like to see in the PTA in 2021, and to simply chat.

Zoom Meeting Info: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89304714515> Meeting ID: 893 0471 4515

Equity Hubs Open to MCPS Students



The Children's Opportunity Fund and the Black and Brown Coalition for Educational Equity and Excellence are coordinating low-cost child care and distance learning support for MCPS students at facilities across the county. Priority is given to low-income, kindergarten through Grade 5 students, and students needing additional assistance with virtual learning. Learn more at EquityHubs.org or by telephone at 240-200-4999. We are scheduled to have a hub at Galway run by Academy@Galway. Please contact Jade Gilchrist, PCC, Jade_L_Gilchrist@mcpsmd.org if you are interested.

Centros de equidad (Equity Hubs) abiertos a los estudiantes de MCPS

El Fondo de Oportunidades para Niños (Children's Opportunity Fund) y la Coalición para la Equidad y Excelencia Educativa para Personas de Raza Negra y Morena (Black and Brown Coalition for Educational Equity and Excellence) están coordinando cuidado infantil de bajo costo y apoyo al aprendizaje a distancia para estudiantes de MCPS en instalaciones de todo el condado. Se da prioridad a los alumnos de Kindergarten al Grado 5 de bajos ingresos y a los estudiantes que necesitan ayuda adicional con el aprendizaje virtual. Conozca más en EquityHubs.org o por teléfono, llamando al 240-200-4999. Estamos programados para tener un centro en Galway dirigido por Academy@Galway. Póngase en contacto con Jade Gilchrist, PCC, Jade_L_Gilchrist@mcpsmd.org si está interesado.

Don't Forget to Activate Your ParentVue Account

ParentVue is the brand new, powerful, single location for all information about how your child is doing in school. ParentVUE also is a new tool we use to stay connected with you. When you are logged into ParentVUE you can:

- See your child's schedule;
- Check your child's grades (and report card);
- Check your child's assignments;
- Send a message to your child's teacher; and
- Update your contact information.

Soon, you will even be able to see a report on Student Service Learning Hours (SSL). If you haven't yet activated your account, please be on the lookout for an e-mail and/or a notification via U.S. mail because MCPS will send you a new activation letter. Once you've received your activation letter, simply visit www.MCPSParentVUE.org to activate your account.



Galway Lions PTA

News for December 2020



Looking Back on Galway's Read-a-Thon (November 9 – 22, 2020)

The Galway Lions PTA board would like to thank everyone who participated in Galway's Read-a-thon. We are very proud of our Galway Lions who read 12,786 minutes (213 hours) in the two weeks of the Read-A-Thon. Our top 5 readers are Abena in Ms. Daffan's class (1,440 min), Sebastian in Ms. Moreland's class (935 min), Maila in Ms. Daffan's class (748 min), Nayeli in Ms. Grodsky's class (730 min) and Laura in Ms. Ruffa's class (581 min.) The K-1st Grade Class prize goes to Ms. Grodsky's class who read 1,803 minutes, Ms. Moreland's class wins the 2nd – 3rd grade class prize with 1,288 total minutes read, and Ms. Daffan's class wins the 4th – 5th grade class prize with a total of 2,908 minutes read. Congrats! The Galway Lions PTA will be in touch with our winners about distribution of prizes. We are also happy to announce that the Read-A-Thon raised \$2,890.05 for the school and thank everyone for supporting this event.

Writing Notes of Gratitude (due on December 14, 2020)

Our Galway teachers and staff are working very hard for our kids during these unusual times! We would like to show them how much we appreciate them by sending *Notes of Gratitude*. Please consider taking time to write a note (or a few of them) to staff members. The PTA will collect a picture of the hand-written note or drawing and put them in a slide show to share with staff and teachers before the holiday break. Please email your note and/or drawing to info.galwaylionspta@gmail.com before December 14, 2020.

Collecting Recipes for "Feeding our Galway Lions – A Recipe Book from Galway's Community"

Thanks to a PTA member's wonderful idea, the PTA would like to put together a "Recipe Book". Our community has so many different backgrounds, it would be fun to show our diverse culture through delicious recipes. Please email your favorite recipe (appetizer, main dish, dessert) in a word document to info.galwaylionspta@gmail.com.

Mark your Calendars for Upcoming PTA Events:

- Welcome Winter Celebration: Virtual Event on Friday, December 4, 2020 at 7:00p.m.**
Please join us for some reindeer games, freeze dance, and a fun, virtual celebration to welcome the start of winter. Zoom information to follow.
- General Membership Meeting on Tuesday, December 8, 2020 from 7:30-8:30p.m.**
Please join us on zoom for our General Membership Meeting. We would love to see you there and discuss what you would like to see in the PTA in 2021. Zoom information to follow.
- Chef's Week at "Angel's Pizza and Pasta" in Wheaton from Monday, 12/14 – Sunday, 12/20**
Please consider supporting our school and a local restaurant at the same time by visiting "Angel's Pizza and Pasta" (11160 Veirs Mill Rd, Wheaton, MD 20902) during the week of December 14-20 or order lunch or dinner online (<https://angelspizzaandpasta.com/>) and simply mention Galway ES when you do. A percentage of the order will go towards our school.

Consider becoming a Galway Lions PTA member

This year, dues are only \$5 (plus a \$0.88 online convenience fee). Please go to the link provided below to join the PTA: <https://galwaylionspta.new.memberhub.store/store>. We'd love to have you! Also, please visit us on our FaceBook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/galwaylionspta> or reach out via email. We are looking forward to hearing from you!

Happy Holidays and a happy New Year,
Your Galway Lions PTA Officer Board 2020-2021



PTA Leones de Galway



Eventos del mes de Diciembre 2020

Maratón de Lectura (Read-a-Thon) (realizado del 9 al 22 de noviembre del 2020)

La PTA de los Leones de Galway (Galway Lions PTA) quiere agradecer a todos los lectores que participaron en el "Read-a-thon" de nuestra escuela. Estamos muy orgullosos de nuestros Leones de Galway que leyeron un total de 12,766 minutos (213 horas) durante las dos semanas que duró el evento. Los cinco primeros lugares fueron para, Abena en el salón de la Sra. Daffan en el primer lugar con 1,440 minutos, Sebastian en el salón de la Sra. Moreland en el segundo lugar con 1,105 minutos, Nayeli en el salón de la Sra. Grodsky en el cuarto lugar con 800 minutos, Maila en el salón de la Sra. Daffan en el tercer lugar con 748 minutos y Laura en el salón de la Sra. Ruffa en el quinto lugar con 581 minutos. Los premios por grupo fueron para los siguientes grados: de Kinder a 1er grado fue el salón de la Sra. Grodsky que leyeron un total de 1,864 minutos, de 2do a 3er grado fue el salón de la Sra. Moreland que leyeron un total de 1,486 minutos, y de 4° a 5° grado el salón de la Sra. Daffan que leyeron un total de 2,908 minutos. ¡Felicitaciones a todos los ganadores! Nuestra asociación se comunicará con los ganadores para entregarles los premios. También nos complace anunciar que en el "Read-A-Thon" se recaudó un total de \$2,890.05 dólares para nuestra querida escuela. ¡Muchas gracias a todos por su valioso apoyo!

Importantes recordatorios:

Mensajes de Agradecimiento (Fecha límite hasta el 14 diciembre del 2020)

Nuestros maestros y personal administrativo están trabajando muy duro por nuestros niños, durante estos tiempos tan difíciles. Nos gustaría mostrarles ¡cuánto los apreciamos! enviándoles Mensajes de Agradecimiento. Por favor, tómese unos minutos para escribir un pequeño mensaje o un dibujo para los miembros del personal de nuestra querida escuela. Nuestra asociación (PTA) recopilará todos los mensajes y/o dibujos que pueden ser escritos a mano o en computadora y los pondrá todos juntos en una presentación de diapositivas para compartirla con el personal administrativo y los maestros de Galway antes de las vacaciones de invierno. Por favor envíe su mensaje y/o dibujo por correo electrónico a info.galwaylionspta@gmail.com antes del 14 de diciembre del 2020.

Recopilación de recetas para el libro "Alimentando a Nuestros Leones de Galway: Recetas de la Comunidad de Galway" (Fecha límite hasta el 31 de diciembre del 2020)

Gracias a la maravillosa iniciativa de uno de nuestros miembros, nos gustaría hacer un "Libro de Recetas de Cocina". Nuestra comunidad es multicultural, y sería divertido mostrar esta diversidad a través de deliciosas recetas. Envíe por correo electrónico su receta favorita (aperitivo, plato principal, o postre) en un documento en Word a info.galwaylionspta@gmail.com.

Próximos eventos de la PTA:

1. Celebración para darle la Bienvenida al Invierno: Evento virtual el viernes 4 de diciembre del 2020 a las 7:00 p.m.

Por favor acompañenos en este evento donde tendremos juegos, concurso de baile, y habrá mucha diversión para darle la bienvenida al comienzo del invierno. El evento será por vía zoom, los detalles del evento se los enviaremos por correo electrónico.

2. Reunión General de la PTA el martes 8 de diciembre del 2020 de 7:30-8:30 p.m.

Únase a nosotros vía zoom para nuestra reunión general del mes de diciembre. Nos encantaría verlos y discutir lo que le gustaría que haga la PTA en el 2021. Los detalles del evento se los enviaremos por correo electrónico.

3. "Semana del Chef" en el restaurante "Angel's Pizza and Pasta" en Wheaton desde el lunes 14 de diciembre al domingo 20 de diciembre del 2020.

Por favor ayúdenos a recaudar fondos para nuestra escuela, ordenando su almuerzo o cena en el restaurante "Angel's Pizza and Pasta", ubicado en la siguiente dirección: 11160 Veirs Mill Rd, Wheaton, MD 20902, durante la semana del 14 al 20 de diciembre. Al pedir su orden, por favor mencione el nombre de "Galway ES" y un porcentaje de las ventas en esa semana se destinará a nuestra querida escuela.

Conviértase en miembro del PTA Leones de Galway

Este año, las cuotas son de solo \$5 (más un cargo adicional por la inscripción en línea de \$0.68).

Por favor vaya al siguiente enlace para hacerse uno de nuestros miembros: <https://galwaylionspta.new.memberhub.store/store>.

¡Nos encantaría que se una a nuestro grupo!

Le animamos también a que visite nuestra página de Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/galwaylionspta> o se comunique con nosotros por correo electrónico. ¡Esperamos nos contacte!

¡Felices Fiestas y Próspero Año Nuevo!, le deseamos la Junta Directiva de la PTA de los Leones de Galway 2020-2021.