



2/24/2021

The snow is melting, it's almost time for spring! In person learning is set to resume for grades K-3 on Monday, March 15th. Grades 4 and 5 will resume **by** April 6th. Emails outlining your student's in person or virtual learning experience were sent out on February 23rd. As we make our way back into the school building I'm sure it's a very nerve-wracking and exciting time for many of our students. Now is a good time to practice mask endurance with your students. They will be wearing a mask at all times in school except for lunch.

Our next virtual PTA meeting will be **Tuesday, March 2nd** at 7pm. All are welcome to join.

Greenwood PTA is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Greenwood PTA's Zoom Meeting

Time: Mar 2, 2021 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/96891517242?pwd=NEplbGhLTkt0OTE0ZU5HZk82Zk5BUT09>

Meeting ID: 968 9151 7242

Passcode: Gator

### **Back to school logistics**

A lot of planning went into the logistics of getting our kids back in school. I thought I'd highlight a few of them below. \*\*\*Keep in mind that your students' learning experience may still change, especially factoring in responses to the offer letters.

- Every attempt was made to keep students with their teachers. This is a huge task. Most classes therefore have some sort of virtual and in person component whether it's a collaborative cohort or support to virtual.
  - There are a couple of completely virtual classrooms.

- The logistics were orchestrated to attempt to keep all siblings on the same schedule. For grades 3 and up there are alternating weeks (A/B) for in person learning. Administration worked to keep siblings in those grades on the same schedule.
- Attempt to keep virtual class sizes at the recommended size ~30 students.
- All classrooms were measured. Number of students in each class are based on how many students can fit into that room while maintaining accurate spacing which has resulted in classrooms potentially being in a different area of the building than usual.
- MCPS provided guidance that lunch should be in the lunchroom for several reasons including getting students out of their classrooms. Therefore all in person students from one grade will eat together in a common area, either the gym or the APR. They will have assigned desks in either room that are spaced 6 feet apart.
- The majority of students at Greenwood opted for in person on the survey last November/December. Each school has it's own plan, therefore the logistics of in person and virtual learning for our students at Greenwood may look vastly different than other schools, even those that are geographically close to us.
- Chromebooks need to be carried back and forth every day. They are needed in school not only for zoom purposes but also for classwork which will help reduce any contact spreading.
- There has been a lot of discussion/concern about the hiring of monitors by MCPS. All hired monitors have been screened by MCPS and have undergone background checks. At Greenwood they will be used primarily to help out in lunchrooms, recess, and bathroom monitoring.

### **Volunteers still needed for Nomination Committee**

As of June 2021 three positions will be open on Greenwood PTA's executive board. Treasurer, which is a two year term, and two MCCPTA representative positions, which is a one year commitment. Job descriptions will be highlighted in next month's newsletter. What we need now is three individuals to form the nominating committee. These individuals will be the contact for any volunteers interested in the upcoming available positions. They will be in charge of gathering names throughout March and making a formal announcement in April. This is a completely remote job that lasts one month and requires very little time commitment. Any interested individuals please contact Mary at [president@greenwood-pta.org](mailto:president@greenwood-pta.org). Thank you!!

### **5th Grade Update**

Hello 5th grade families!

If you are interested in receiving updates on both official and unofficial ideas for celebrating Greenwood's 50th year 5th graders, please send an email to [mandyderoo@gmail.com](mailto:mandyderoo@gmail.com) with your name, your 5th grader's name and teacher's name. Mandy will send recaps of the meetings we are holding with school administration regarding ideas/plans for official, school-sanctioned celebrations (such as t-shirts, clap out, etc.) as well as any unofficial, non-school sponsored ideas that arise. Mandy will also use this list to solicit volunteers to help with any items (such as chalking driveways) as necessary. It's not too late to participate in the school committee - if you want your voice to be heard, please join the next committee meeting!

### **Teacher Appreciation**

The PTA is sponsoring a meal for the teachers on their professional day, March 8th, as they come in to prepare for in-person learning.

Looking ahead, teacher appreciation week is coming the first week of May. Our staff has worked tremendously hard this year and we would like to show our appreciation for all that they have done. If you have any ideas, suggestions, or are willing to volunteer, please contact Melissa Frye at [Melissafrye13@gmail.com](mailto:Melissafrye13@gmail.com).

### **Science Assembly**

Michael Green [the Science Machine](#) is "coming" to Greenwood. We will be hosting two assemblies on Tuesday, March 9th. K-2 are welcome to attend from 9:30-10:15am and grades 3-5 from 10:30-11:15am. Just a reminder that the kids will not have any classes on the 9th so they are welcome to come check out the assembly. Michael has presented to Greenwood in the past and was a huge hit so be sure to tune in!

**Topic: Science Machine Assembly**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

**<https://zoom.us/j/96585663326?pwd=TCs0MUxFOEs4anpHWXJRSkd5RU42QT09>**

**Meeting ID: 965 8566 3326**

**Passcode: Gator**

### **Sherwood Cluster Food Drive for Olney Help**

The Sherwood Cluster is teaming up again with [Olney Help](#) to collect items to provide children with a "Spring Break Food Kit". Greenwood is in charge of collecting jars of **peanut butter** to support Olney Help in creating the kits. This is a critical need during this time as families face unprecedented pressures so your support is greatly

appreciated. All donations must be received by March 18th so that Olney Help can collect the items, prep the kits, and distribute them to families before spring break. If you are interested in donating you can visit this [Amazon Wish List](#) for ordering. When checking out, make sure to ship to Olney Help c/o Greenwood PTA. Alternatively there is a drop box located at 19412 Treadway Road.

Additional Items being collected:

Breakfast/nutrition/granola bar packages

4-pack of fruit cups or applesauce (pop-top or peel back)

Cheese or Peanut butter Crackers

Grape jelly (plastic jars please)

Packages of Fruit Snacks

Cans Ravioli/SpaghettiOs (pop-top)

Kid Friendly Soup (pop-top)

Kraft Easy Mac and Cheese

Boxes of Cereal

Packages of Fruit Snacks

Can/Bags of Tuna or Chicken

### **Family Portrait Event**

On April 10th [Beth Caldwell](#) is hosting mini sessions for our Greenwood students and their families. From 9-12pm and 2-5pm you can book a mini session, \$50 for three family pictures plus one “school portrait”-type photo. We are working on finding a local location for the shoot. A portion of the proceeds will go to Greenwood PTA. Information on how to reserve your spot will be sent soon.

### **Commemorative T-shirt sale distribution**

There are a **limited** number of the commemorative t-shirts still for sale on a first come, first serve basis, \$10 for youth and \$12/\$15 for adult sizes. Contact Mary at [President@greenwood-pta.org](mailto:President@greenwood-pta.org) for more information and availability.

### **Yearbook**

Yearbook sales are live! You can purchase a yearbook online for \$15. If you would like a hardcover, it is an additional \$5. A limited number of yearbook copies will be available for cash purchase when yearbooks have printed. To ensure your family is guaranteed a yearbook, I encourage yearbook purchases be made on the Lifetouch website. The deadline to purchase a yearbook online is Sunday, April 18, 2021. Please click on the link below to buy a yearbook, or click the link found in the Lifetouch emails being sent today.

Greenwood Elementary School's Yearbook

Click [here!](#)

Yearbook ID: 14087621

As for other pictures for Bingo Night, Quarantine Hobbies, Behind the Masks, PTA Sponsored Activities, and more, please continue to email those to me with labeled file names OR upload to one of the Shutterfly shared site folders.

Greenwood Shutterfly Shared Site

Click [here!](#)

Password: GreenwoodMCPS

### **Variety show update**

Due to many pandemic-related issues unfortunately we won't be able to make the variety show work this year. I am sure this is a disappointment to many. It is high on the list of things to make happen next year.

### **MCCPTA update: Virtual Voting is a GO!!!**

After almost a full year of debate virtual voting is now allowed for Maryland PTA's. We will therefore have a virtual vote for the approval of the meeting minutes of 2020. Please review the minutes [here](#) prior to voting at our March meeting.

### **Social Media:**

Twitter: [@GreenwoodPTA](#)

Facebook: Greenwood Elementary School PTA

Kindergarten: [Greenwood Elementary Class of 2026 Mamas](#)

1st Grade: [Greenwood Elementary-Class of 2025](#)

2nd Grade: [Greenwood E.S. - Second Grade Parents \(class of 2024\)](#)

3rd Grade: [Greenwood Gators Third Grade Parents](#)

4th Grade: [Greenwood Elementary Class of 2022 Mamas](#)

5th Grade: [Greenwood Elementary class of 2021](#)

### **Important Dates**

- March 15th: Phased-in return of students for grades K-3 (K-2 weekly M,T,TH,F, 3rd grade on an A/B week rotation M,T,TH,F. Wednesdays are virtual for all students.)
- March 8: No school
- March 9: Science Assembly

- March 9-10: Asynchronous learning
- March 29-April 5: Spring Break
- April 6: Return of grades 4+5 to in person learning
- April 16: End of quarter, no school
- April 18: Yearbook deadline, last day to order a yearbook

Thank you for your continued understanding and patience during this extremely unique and difficult time. If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to reach out. Be safe Gators.

Sincerely,

Mary Quirion

PTA President

President@Greenwood-PTA.org