Happy Monday Murray Parents:

We hope you and your families are safe and well.

20th Day Enrollment/Attendance
CPS uses the 20th day of enrollment to estimate the following year’s budget. Our 20th day enrollment was 482 students. The projected 20th day enrollment for Murray was 461. The 3.44% year-to-year increase is significant given how our district is projecting a decline in overall enrollment.

Our 20th day attendance average is 95.54%. (Our goal is to have a daily average of 97%.) To manage and support attendance, Ms. Burton assembled an attendance team. This team tracks daily attendance, handles material and technology distribution, and checks in with parents and students.

Family Income Information Form (Family Information Form)
The deadline for returning the Family Income Information Form (FIIF) is November 1, 2020. Currently, our FIIF return rate is 63%, up from 54%. Please keep them coming!

Please note, we have never missed our mark of 100%. This is important for state funds. Last year, 285 of the 461 families met the qualifying threshold, netting the school $270,611 in SGSA funds. If you have any questions about the FIIF form, please reach out to Ms. Dickson.

Progress Reports
The 5th–week progress period ended on Friday, October 9th. Progress Reports will be mailed to parents this week. Parents can also access grades in the Parent Portal system. For support with Parent Portal navigation, please visit the CPS portal home page. Students can also view their grades, attendance, and other information on Aspen 24/7 from smartphones, tablets, laptops, and desktop computers.

Planning for High School
The high school application period opens October 12, 2020. The deadline to apply is December 11, 2020. Activation codes were mailed September 25th. CPS created an Application Guide to help parents understand how to submit the high school application. For additional support, please reach out to Ms. Levi (amwatts@cps.edu), our School Counselor.
PTO Reminders
Our fruit fundraiser has started October 1st and will run through 11/13. Here is the links:

https://www.floridaindianrivergroves.com/ecommerce/1020998

We have sweatshirts available in our spirit wear store:


Our October Restaurant Night is October 21st. The restaurant will be Chipotle located at 1132 S. Clinton from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Order online or via the app for pickup or order in the store and mention Murray!

Virtual Scholastic Book Fair will run from 10/19/20 through 11/1/20. All orders will be placed online and shipped directly to homes. Great opportunity to score great deals on books while supporting the school! More information will come as we get closer to the date of the fair.

Other Reminders
- Parents have the option to receive a school-issued chromebook. Please call the school’s main office for assistance;
- The CPS Parent Tech Support Hotline is 773-417-1060;
- CPS Parent Support website

Positive attitude toward math predicts math achievement in kids
For the first time, scientists have identified the brain pathway that links a positive attitude toward math to achievement in the subject.

In a study of elementary school students, researchers at the Stanford University School of Medicine found that having a positive attitude about math was connected to better function of the hippocampus, an important memory center in the brain, during performance of arithmetic problems.

Researchers had previously hypothesized that the brain’s reward centers might drive the link between attitude and achievement — perhaps children with better attitudes were better at math because they found it more rewarding or motivating. “Instead, we saw that if you have a strong interest and self-perceived ability in math, it results in enhanced memory and more efficient engagement of the brain’s problem-solving capacities,” Menon said.

“Having a positive attitude acts directly on your memory and learning system,” Chen said. “I think that’s really important and interesting.”

“Typically, we focus on skill learning in individual academic domains, but our new work suggests that looking at children’s beliefs about a subject and their self-perceived abilities might provide another inroad to maximizing learning,” Menon said.
Parent Resources

Free, weekly, one-on-one tutoring with University of Chicago undergraduates
Nicholas Aoki and Afsanneh Amleshi, the co-presidents of Phoenix Tutoring, a tutoring program offering free, weekly, one-on-one tutoring with University of Chicago undergraduates. Tutoring will take place virtually on Zoom.

If you are interested in the program, please fill out the short application (~3 minutes) below:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe5BUaf9uGPIT74aKN0k4F07fq6m8JUB__gx5HUMsmMRK35w/viewform?usp=sf_link

The program matches K-12 students with University of Chicago undergraduate tutors based on the students' academic needs and the tutors' strengths. They hold 3 weekly, 90 minute sessions on Zoom, and place each student/tutor pair in 1 of the sessions based on availability according to the application. The sessions this year will run on Mondays from 4:30pm-6pm, Wednesdays from 4:30pm-6pm, and Fridays from 4:30pm-6pm.

Free Reading Program
We have a free, virtual reading program that helps students stay on grade level. This program is for students in grades 3rd - 6th. We start Oct.19th, we are able to schedule students 1hr/3x a week between 4-5PM. If interested, please contact:

Jaylyn Brown
Youth Enrichment Program Manager
Bright Star Community Outreach
333 East 35th Street | Chicago, IL 60616
jbrown@brightstarcommunityoutreach.com
www.BrightStarCommunityOutreach.com

PARENTS – STAY CONNECTED WITH EACH OTHER!

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<td>Class of 2029 Kindergarten</td>
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Upcoming dates

October 12th  
October 14th  
October 12th Holiday  
October 14th PTO @ 6:00pm
October 15th
October 19th
October 20th

Budget Meeting @ 5:30PM
CIWP @ 5:30PM
LSC @ 6:00PM

We are Murray, We are one!
https://murray.cps.edu/