

# Solomon Principal Newsletter

## May 20, 2024

Dear Solomon Family--

We are already at "N" in the ABC countdown--that means 13 days remaining! Highlights for this week include our Algebra Exit Exam for our graduating 8th grade students (Tuesday, 9:15), our 8th grade class trip to Milwaukee (Wednesday), and our Kindergarten Connection for incoming Room 105 families with Ms. McReynolds and Ms. Leiva (Thursday, 9:15).

Also this week, on Tuesday afternoon we are hosting a memorial ceremony for our beloved teacher, Lisa Howsam, who passed away on January 30, 2023. As a part of that ceremony, we will be dedicating a buddy bench on our playground, and students will be participating in a number of activities that she loved, especially planting!

As a reminder, there is no school on Monday, May 27, due to Memorial Day. The final day for all students is Thursday, June 6.

In partnership,

Chris Gamble  
Principal  
Hannah G. Solomon Elementary School

## News and Notes

- In this week's pictures in Snap, we have a 8th grade peer leader supporting our 3rd graders on a science project.
- Two designs from Solomon were chosen to be printed and distributed to classrooms around the county as a part of the Cook County Farm Bureau Agriculture in the Classroom bookmark project. Congrats to 4th graders Alexia P. and Theodore P. for being recognized, and you can see all of the submissions at [this link](#).
- Save-the-date: International Night is returning to Solomon on Friday, May 31, from 6-8pm!
- While OST programming is over for the year, we do have one make-up session for our Tot (Grades 1-2) Basketball with Mr. Cramer on Wednesday, May 22, from 4-5:15pm in our gym.
- If you would like to [purchase next year's school supplies through School Specialty](#), June 7 is the deadline. All students in general education homerooms (grades K-8) can order their kits to have them delivered to their homes in August, or you can use these supply lists to buy them on your own. A portion of the proceeds from these sales support the core mission of the Friends of Solomon School PTO.
- Registration for the 2024-2025 school year is now underway, any day between 9:15-1:00 and 2:00-3:45 in our main office. If your child is currently enrolled in grades K-7, there is no action required--your spot is reserved. For incoming Kindergarten families, as well as any student new to the neighborhood or joining us through a GoCPS application, we will need you to come to the main office to register. Click [here](#) for what information you will need to bring with you.
- For all of our incoming Kindergarten students and families, we are hosting our annual

[Kindergarten Meet and Greet](#) on Thursday, May 23, at 9:15am. Students will have a chance to be together in the Kindergarten classroom with Ms. McReynolds and Ms. Leiva, and parents will have the opportunity to learn more about the school and each other. Parents, if you like, you can stick around afterwards to complete the registration paperwork.

- Additionally, we are offering a “Kick-off to Kindergarten” program for our incoming Kindergarten students, from June 24 to July 26. Advanced sign-up is required. We are getting close to meeting the minimum number of registrants that we will need to be able to administer the program, which will be taught by our Kindergarten teaching staff of Ms. McReynolds and Ms. Leiva. For more information about the program, please click [here](#) or call our main office at 773-534-5226.
- Registration for new Pre-Kindergarten families for the full-day program in the 2024-2025 school year is scheduled for Wednesday, June 5, and Thursday, June 6, from 1:15-4pm both days. Application results will be shared by the district this month. Again, registration is not required for returning families.
- Registration continues for the YMCA of Chicago’s fee-based program at Solomon, lasting from June 10 to August 9 this summer. For more information about the YMCA programming at Solomon, please click [here](#).
- The Diverse Learners Recovery Fund is a collaboration between the Mayor’s Office for People with Disabilities and Ada S. McKinley Community Services, Inc., dedicated to aiding families of students with disabilities affected by COVID-19. It operates as a lottery-style grant drawing, offering a one-time cash grant of \$500 to eligible K-12 students with disabilities. Up to 8,000 applicants will be selected through the lottery to receive the grant. Submitting an eligible application does not guarantee you will receive the funds. For more information, please click [here](#).
- Chicago Public Libraries is asking all children to take part in [their summer program](#). Kids can sign up at their local library or online starting June 8. When they come into the library, they will get an Explorer’s Guide with activities for them to do and a log to keep track of their reading. CPL will also be giving out Grab and Go kits for them to do some art projects at home. All kids who complete 500 minutes, do 5 activities, and reflect on them to earn a t-shirt (while supplies last).

## Friends of Solomon School Parent Teacher Organization

- Our Friends of Solomon School Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) is a parent and staff leadership group that promotes community and supports Solomon in our strategic plan. Please click [here](#) to read more about their mission and vision, as well as the dates for many of this year’s PTO-led events.
- Our yearly meeting schedule is now complete. Be on the lookout in the following weeks for an announcement about next year’s event and meeting schedule. Thank you to all of our PTO members that made this a fun and successful year.
- As a reminder, when you purchase school supply kits through School Specialty, a portion of the proceeds come back to our PTO to support our core mission and vision.

## Important Solomon Links

- To report a COVID-19 positive test, click [here](#).
- To find Solomon's breakfast and lunch menus, click [here](#) (search for "Solomon"). To learn more about the district's meals and nutrition program, click [here](#).
- To see our entry and exit procedures, please click [here](#).
- To find any Solomon staff member, their position, and their contact information, click [here](#) for our organizational chart.
- To register for before and/or after-school child care with the YMCA of Chicago, hosted in our lunchroom, please follow the directions in [this link](#).
- Please click [here](#) to read more about the differences between Level I and Level II volunteers and to complete the application process.
- To see our year-long community calendar, click [here](#).
- To see our year-long assessment calendar, click [here](#).
- Solomon spirit wear purchases can be made through our partner, Squadlocker. Check out unique Solomon gear [here](#).
- Student fees were approved by our Local School Council this past July. Please click [here](#) to see the student fee structure for this year and the methods of payment.
- Class supply lists are linked [here](#) and at our school website, [solomon.cps.edu](http://solomon.cps.edu).

## School Calendars

- **May 27:** No School for Memorial Day
- **May 31:** International Night (Solomon gym, 6pm)
- **June 3:** 8th Grade Graduation (Solomon turf field, 10am)
- **June 6:** Final Day of School for Students