PITTSBURGH CARMALT UPDATES

MORNING ARRIVAL SAFETY

This week we began curbside drop off! This change impacts our parents and guardians that drop-off students. We THANK YOU for patience and commitment in keeping our students safe during morning arrival!! Please remember the following changes:

- Families will be directed to drive past the island and towards the front of the school. Students being dropped off will exit their cars directly onto the curb in front of the school. Mrs. Lackner and Mr. M. will support that area. Students will walk down the walkway to their designated entrance. Staff members are present along the pathway to support a smooth and safe transition.
- This change keeps all students safe from the potential dangers of crossing from the island.
- Stop, drop, and move is our motto. Students should be ready to exit the vehicle when they arrive at the drop off entrance. Drivers must stay in their vehicle. Students should have their bookbags on and be ready to exit through the right side of the vehicle to enter the building. If for any reason the student needs extra time to exit the vehicle, families must park on the sides streets and walk their child to the morning drop-off entrance.

NEW MORNING ARRIVAL Routines!!

Morning movement is going great! We thank everybody-parents, bus drivers, staff and students-for such an excellent transition.

MORNING DROP OFF SIGN

Our lovely sign to indicate where cars stop has made its way to the correct location. Guardians will continue to move past the buses towards the front steps to drop-off students. Students will exit the right side of vehicles onto the sidewalks and walk to morning entrance.

MRS. LACKNER DIRECTING AND ASSISTING!!

Mrs. Lackner graciously assisting cars to continue moving in the right direction!

DISMISSAL:

Carmalt Parking Lot: is only for bus use at the end of the day. No parental cars are permitted to drive through, park, or idle in the parking lot for pick-up. All walkers are picked up in the front of the building and parents may park by the Building 5. Red lot is for pick up.
**Carmalt Grounds:** Carmalt is a large school for dismissal. We ask that once walkers are dismissed that guardians and students please keep moving.

**UNIFORMS:** We recommend that students dress in layers, so they are comfortable for class and recess. Be sure to follow the dress code policy. Please remember that no logos or jackets are permitted to be worn throughout the school day. Additionally, hoods, doo rags, ball caps, etc. may not be on student's head.

**CELLPHONES:** Students in grades K through 4 must turn in their cellphones to homeroom teachers during homeroom. Students in grades 5 through 8 must turn their cellphones in upon morning arrival in the cafeteria. This policy is in place for all students. If a guardian needs to contact their child, please call the Main Office of Carmalt, 412-529-7760, or the Gifted Center, 412-338-3820, for those that attend on Thursdays.

**IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER**

10/07 - Q1 Interim Progress Reports Distributed
10/10 - Parent Teacher Conferences 11 AM - 6 PM
10/28 - Early Dismissal - Students Dismissed at 12:30 PM

**KINDERGARTEN** will go to Trip B farm on October 12th. They will leave promptly at 9:30 AM. Please be sure to dress your child for the weather, with a hooded jacket and tennis shoes.

**FIRST GRADE** students will go to Soergel's Apple Orchard on October 18th. They will leave school promptly at 9:30 AM. Be sure to dress your child for the weather, with a hooded jacket and tennis shoes.

See your child's teacher for more information or call 412-529-7891.

**SPIRIT GEAR Pick-Up Dates and Times:**

Tuesday, October 11th from 10:00 AM through 1:00 PM
Thursday, October 13th from 10:00 AM through 1:00 PM

Directions: Please report to the front of the building at main entrance. Please press the doorbell and state to Mrs. Fameli that you are present to pick-up Spirit Gear order.

**CARMALT PTSA**

Kickoff Meeting!
Tuesday, October 11th
5:30pm – Carmalt Cafeteria

Please join us for the first meeting of the school year to meet your PTSA leaders, get to know other parents, and learn how to get involved.

We want to meet you and hear your ideas on how to continue supporting a fun community within Carmalt School!

Pizza provided. See you there!
Questions? Join the “Carmalt PTSA” group on facebook or email us at carmantptsa@gmail.com.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES - OCTOBER 10TH

Reminder that students have a vacation day on Monday, October 10th while parents attend parent-teacher conferences. Please reach out to your child's homeroom teacher if you have not scheduled a meeting.

SCHOOL COUNSELOR' CORNER

Ms. Caterina Molinaro
cmolinaro1@pghschools.org
412-529-7899

PARENT HOME ACCESS CENTER (HAC)

HAC is where all guardians can view their child/children's progress in school. One can view attendance, current assignments and grades, interim progress reports, and email teachers. Please use this link for the HAC parent resource guide: HAC_User_Assistance_PittsburghPublicSchools.pdf
Forgot your username/password?
If your child is enrolled in PPS, you have a HAC account. Call the Parent Hotline at **412-529-HELP (4357)** to answer a few security questions and receive your account information. The Parent Hotline operates from Monday through Friday, 6:30AM - 4:00PM. You may also email parenthotline@pghschools.org with your name, child(ren)’s name, and a number to best reach you during business hours.

**ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY (AUP) FOR SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY**

All students and families must complete the AUP for current school year. Students will not be able to transport and utilize their computer device at home until the AUP is complete. If you have not completed your child's AUP please use the link below:
https://pghboe.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3sbuKDIEuWwV1eS

Please complete all AUP by Monday, October 10th, 2022.

**ATTENDANCE MATTERS!!**

- Students and guardians that have more than 3 unexcused absences will be invited in for an attendance improvement plan beginning in October.

**Building Habits for Good School Attendance**

- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Keep your child healthy and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Introduce your children to their teachers and classmates before school starts.
- Develop backup plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor or another parent.
- Try to schedule non-Covid-19 related medical appointments and extended trips when school isn't in session.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors and other parents for advice on how to make your child feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- If you are concerned that your child may have Covid-19, call your school for advice.
- If your child must stay home due to illness or quarantine, ask the teacher for work, resources and ideas to continue learning at home.
8th Grade Guardians 👩🏽‍🎓👨🏽‍🎓

Magnet Fair:
When: Saturday, October 22, 2022
Where: Obama High School
Time: 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Classroom Presentations:
Who: Ms. Molinaro and Ms. Lathom, Magnet Office Director
When: Wednesday, October 19th in AM
Please be sure to discuss with your child the evening of October 19th the information learned and for any handouts passed out during the presentation.

Magnet high school applications open on November 1st.

Now is the time to begin discussions for high school choices next year. All the PPS high schools and programs can be found here: https://www.pghschools.org/Page/4928.

Magnet High School options are as follows:
- Allderdice High School, Pre-Engineering
WEEKLY SCHOOL TIP FOR SUCCESS:

Encourage your child to read. Helping your child become a reader is the single most important thing that you can do to help promote success in school and in life. The importance of reading simply can't be overstated. Reading helps children in all school subjects. More important, it is the key to lifelong learning.

Encourage your child to be responsible and work independently. Taking responsibility and working independently are important qualities for school success. You can help your child to develop these qualities by establishing reasonable rules that you enforce consistently, making it clear to take responsibility for what actions, both at home and at school, showing your child how to break a job down into small steps, and monitor what your child does after school, in the evenings and on weekends. If you can't be there when your child gets home, give the responsibility of checking in with you by phone to discuss how this time should be used wisely.

Encourage active learning. Children need active learning as well as quiet learning such as reading and doing homework. Active learning involves asking and answering questions, solving problems and exploring interests. Active learning also can take place when your child plays sports, spends time with friends, acts in a school play, plays a musical instrument or visits museums and bookstores. To promote active learning, listen to your child's ideas and respond to them. Let your child jump in with questions and opinions when you read books together. When you encourage this type of give-and-take at home, your child's participation and interest in school is likely to increase.

HISPANIC AND LATINX HERITAGE MONTH 😀

We will complete our learning through decorated door contest, video making and our Fiesta on Friday, October 14th. We hope that our students, staff, and family have enjoyed this learning month with us! Stay tuned for pictures from our Fiesta!!
Ask your child if they have seen and are utilizing the reading log!

Many recognition days happen in October. Great topics for discussions with one another.

Students HAVE school on Friday, October 14th!!

Interim grades are closing as progress reports will be out. Now is the time to check HAC accounts to help your child monitor their engagement and responsibility with assignments, tests, and attendance.

https://hac40.pps.k12.pa.us/HomeAccess4_1/Account/LogOn?ReturnUrl=%2fhomeaccess4_1

FOLLOW CARMALTA ON SOCIAL MEDIA!!

District Web Page- pghschools.org/carmalt

School Facebook- @PPSCarmalt

PSCC Facebook- @PittsburghCarmaltPSCC