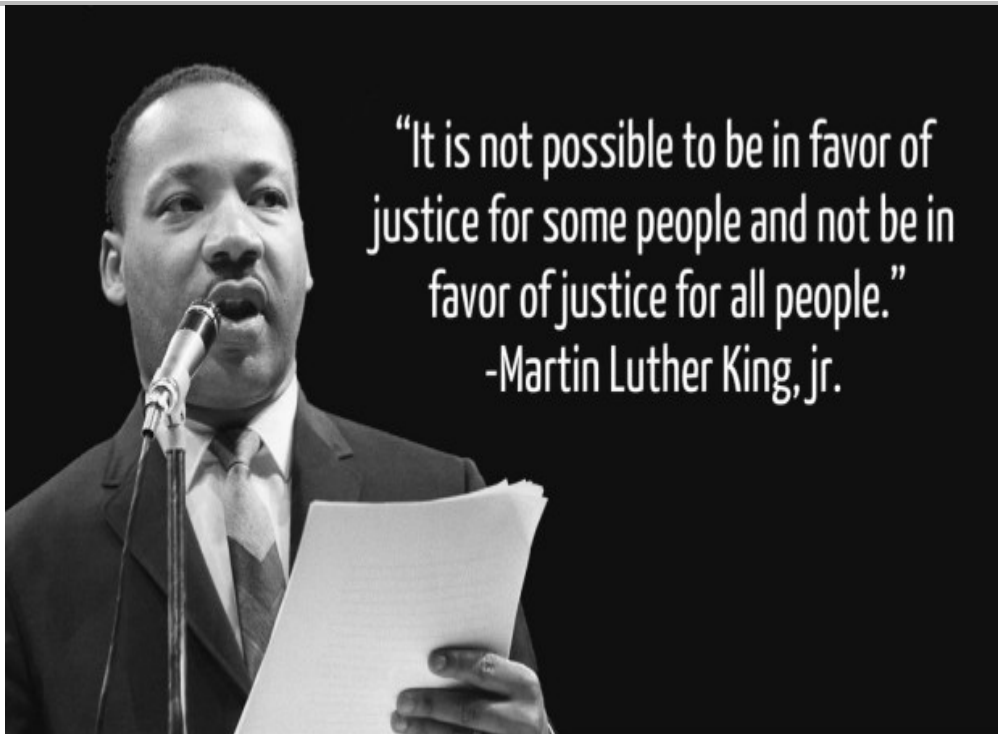


Park Day School



PS Park Day Post

2 files • Park Day School • about 1 month ago • Thursday, Jan 13 at 6:31 PM • **Park Day School, Board of Trustees, External Community Members**



UPCOMING EVENTS

1/17

- No School - Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

1/19

- Middle School Student Affinity Group Sampler

2/11

- No School - Professional Development Day.

2/21

- No School - Presidents' Day.

2/22 - 2/25

- No School - February Break

3/11

- Read-a-Thon

3/24 & 3/25

- No School - Family-Teacher Conferences

Dear Park Day Families,

As we are about to head into the long holiday weekend, I wanted to take some time to honor and reflect on the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. who would have been 93 years old this year. Dr. King diligently dedicated his life to dismantling systemic racism affecting marginalized groups and leading a peaceful movement to promote equality for all Americans, regardless of color and creed. And, even though we still have not made it to the "promised land", his strength, courage, conviction, and powerful determination in the pursuit of justice materially changed the course of history for our nation. As a Park Day community whose mission is to prepare students to be informed, courageous, and compassionate people who shape a more equitable and sustainable world, it is now up to us to take up the mantle and continue to strive toward Dr. King's dream.

Appreciation

I know that we are all being inundated with news and media focused on the current COVID surge and its impact on schools across the nation. For a moment I would like to “pull back the veil” and give you a sense of what it has been like for us at Park Day. The naked truth is that this has been a difficult two weeks. While we are doing quite well relative to most schools locally, our staff is working incredibly hard to maintain a joyful, dynamic, and safe learning environment for our students despite their own feelings of concern and immense emotional and mental fatigue. I am so proud and honored to work shoulder to shoulder with these dedicated professionals. May I ask you to join me in thanking your teachers and all Park Day staff and expressing your gratitude and appreciation for all that they do?

In community,
Angela



COVID UPDATE

As Angela mentioned above, it has been a very busy 11 days since we have returned to campus. We are working very hard to keep everyone safe and on campus. **All the test results from staff and student testing last Friday were negative. We are still awaiting all the results from Tuesday, but currently all but 27 still pending were negative.**

We have updated the [Park Day School COVID Safety Plan](#) to reflect our current protocols and the newest guidance from the California Department of Public Health and Alameda County Public Health Department. Please refer to it with any questions about our protocols and what to do in the case of an exposure or a positive case. Note that in some cases our protocols are more strict than those recommended by the County. As we have shared before, please keep your student home if they have any symptoms of COVID and please notify the office if your student tests positive for COVID.

Some of our older students are now eligible for boosters. We encourage all students 12 and older to get their booster 5 months after their last vaccine shot, as recommended by the CDC. As you may have heard, boosters are important in reducing symptoms caused by the Omicron variant.

REMINDERS

Parking for Drop-Off & Pick-Up

Please use the drive through lane when possible. If you choose to walk into campus, be sure to park legally and courteously for the sake of our neighbors.

Dismissal Pick-Up Windows

We are tracking all cases and exposures, and at this time we are aware of 3 members of our community that have tested positive for COVID since the last Park Day Post. We have been in touch with anyone who was considered a **close contact**. We wish them a speedy recovery.

Take care,
Jennifer Cooper
Pandemic Coordinator



RE-ENROLLMENT CONTRACTS & TIMELINE

Hard to believe but it is almost time for re-enrollment contracts for the 2022-2023 school year! Here's what to expect:

- **Week of January 24:** Angela Taylor and Board President, Andrea Franchett, will send a letter announcing tuition for the 2022-2023 school year. Families who are part of the indexed tuition program (formerly known as the financial aid program) can generally expect to pay the same percentage tuition from year to year barring any significant changes to financial circumstances.
- **Week of January 31:** 2022-2023 enrollment contracts arrive over email. Contracts are signed through the school's Blackbaud system. Enrollment contracts are due back typically within one week following receipt of contract, along with a 10% non-refundable tuition deposit. Regular tuition payments then begin on April 12 for families paying through the extended payment plan.

If you have any questions about enrollment for next year, contact **Josie A.G. Shapiro**. If you have any questions about tuition, **Jill Knowland** is your best contact.

Please respect the pick-up window times. If you arrive early or your student isn't ready when you pull through, please drive back out and circle the block to keep the carpool lane moving.

2021-2022 School Day

Before-school program:

- 7:30 am – school start (no charge)

Grades K – 3:

- 8:45 am– 3:15 pm

Grades 4 & 5:

- 8:30 am–3:15 pm

Grades 6 – 8:

- 8:30 am–3:30 pm

Wednesday early dismissal

- Grades K-5: 2:15 pm
- Grades 6-8: 2:35 pm

After School Activities

Program:

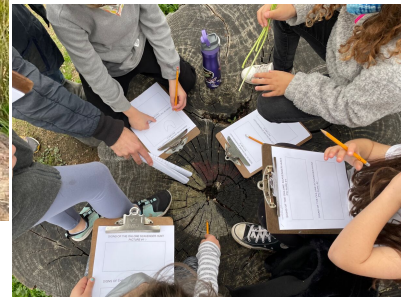
- From school dismissal– 6:00 p.m.

Gate Codes

- 42nd Street Gate:
 - #SMILE (#76453)
- 43rd/44th Street Gates:
 - SMILE* (76453*)

Customize your **ParentSquare notification settings** so you get information the way that suits you best!

Check out all the **Opt-In Parent-to-Parent & Community Groups** on ParentSquare and find folks with similar interests!



TIMELY REMINDERS

If your family's health insurance changed in the new year, **please update the attached PMH COVID Testing form we have on file for your student(s)** and return to the Main Office or email to them at parkdayschool@parkdayschool.org. When filling out the form, here are some keys to remember:

- Do not date the form
- Do not select any of the test options
- Handwrite your new insurance information at the top

It feels like such a privilege to have on campus testing twice a week. **Thank you for your partnership in maintaining the health and safety of our school community!**



ANNUAL FUND CAMPAIGN

Support of the Annual Fund continues to grow!

Gifts to the Annual Fund have reached over \$347,000 to date with gifts, employer matching gifts, pledges, stock transfers, and even a car donation that we'll receive the proceeds from. What a strong start to 2022! **We deeply appreciate the leaders in our community who have contributed already!** Thank you!



If you haven't yet considered including the Park Day School Annual Fund in your philanthropy, please join us. Each and every gift matters and makes a difference!

Here are some ways you can maximize the impact of your giving:

- Make a gift online or by mail to the school
- Make a pledge to be fulfilled by June 1st, 2022
- Take advantage of your employer's matching gift program
- Donate a gift of stock
- Donate the vehicle that's been taking up space in the garage

The Annual Fund provides the margin of excellence at Park Day School. Your gift has tremendous impact as we fulfill our promise to teachers, strengthen our financial aid program, and look towards building out our beautiful campus and facilities. **Your generosity is deeply appreciated!**

With gratitude,

Chris Miller

Director of Development



COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

An Evening with Jason Reynolds on Talking to Kids about Race

Jason Reynolds is a #1 New York Times best selling author who writes novels and poetry for young adult and middle-grade audiences. The Seven Hills School invites you to their virtual Parent Lecture Series on Wednesday, January 26, at 6pm, for this special event. Please see attached flyer and RSVP at sevenhillsschool.org.

Coffee with Angela

Our Coffee with Angela events were a highlight of the fall, and we look forward to continuing this new program in 2022. Given the current surge of the omicron variant, though, it seems prudent to not gather in January. We will announce the next date in a future Park Day Post, so watch this space for updates!

Open Call for Student & Staff Submissions to the IYKMM Podcast Mixtape!

The *If You Knew Me Mondays* Podcast Club is working on their 1st mixtape episode! This special episode will be a compilation of student and staff musical compositions, and we'd love to include your student's submission! If they're interested in participating, [please use this form to share their content](#) by Friday, January 21st. We can't wait to hear from our talented and creative students and staff!



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES


Morning Drop-Off

It takes a lot of us to get students safely through drive through drop-off efficiently, so we are asking those who are able and willing to please lend a hand. **Please click here to volunteer!** Thank you for sharing your time with us... we appreciate your teamwork!




📄 [PMH Covid Testing Form - Editable PDF.pdf](#)




 An Eve...ynolds

Comments & Replies

Katya Stoakes Thank you Angela and all the incredible teachers and staff for your leadership, hard work and love for our kiddos during this crazy and challenging month. You are literally super heroes, we appreciate each and every one of you.

 • Reply • about 1 month ago

Dawn Cook Every day I am in awe of ALL the dedication and hard work our teachers and support staff put into their jobs to make the day run so smoothly for our PDS students. Your sweat and time is noticed and so very APPRECIATED! Our children come home happy, fulfilled and well-educated and they are excited to arrive the next day to gain all the knowledge you all teach them be it through your grace, attitude towards each other and your daily lessons. Thank you so very much!!!!!! PDS is so very special!

 • Reply • about 1 month ago