

Pen & Pencil
Ralph S. Maugham School



September 2016

Dear Maugham School Families,

“When educating the minds of our youth, we must not forget to educate their hearts.” Dalai Lama

One of the days that all educators look forward to is opening day. It comes with a freshness and renewed enthusiasm for the joys and challenges that lie ahead. It is a joy to behold. Children re-ignite old friendships, make new ones, and talk all about their summer experiences.

Teachers have been busily preparing for this day, excited to work with a new group of students and share with them an abundance of knowledge. We welcome one and all to this outstanding school community and are confident about the fantastic year that awaits us all. This issue of **PEN & PENCIL** is filled with important information, dates, and deadlines. Please read it through and save it for ready reference.

Much will happen in Maugham during the next 10 months. Some of it will support long-lived traditions of the school while other programs will be new and innovative. We will keep you informed of events, procedures, practices, and changes and we know that you will feel comfortable supporting them. Maugham is 398 students strong this year. The diversity within our student body is appreciated as an important factor in our planning of programs. We will continue to devote time and effort to students' social/emotional development as well as to their academics. The building of the school community will continue to be a paramount factor that will continue to be facilitated in all that we do.

In the course of the last few days, since school has been in session, we have succeeded in helping students become acclimated to their new teachers, classroom and school community, the new playground equipment, and school rules. We discussed academic expectations and behavioral expectations. We ask our students to:

Take Care of Yourself
Take Care of Each other
Take Care of this Place

We hope that you will reinforce these concepts as you discuss parental expectations with your child. The partnership between school and home will grow stronger through the use of shared language.

We are continuing our focus on Health and Wellness through our Maugham Health and Wellness Committee. We have a school wide initiative that promotes the health of the whole child; healthy body..healthy mind. In doing so, our first goal is to encourage healthy snacking. Consider the following standards for healthy snack foods:

- No food shall list sugar as the first ingredient in any form
- It will not exceed 8 grams of total fat
- No candy in any form
- Limited trans fat

Some healthy snack ideas are: Raw Veggies, Fresh Fruit, applesauce, edamame, seaweed, smart food, pretzels, hummus, popcorn, baked chips, rice cakes, crackers, cheese sticks, low-fat yogurt, cottage cheese, low-fat pudding, sugar-free cereals, graham crackers, salsa/guacamole and corn chips, snack bars, dried fruit, and many more. Please also keep this in mind when bringing in birthday treats. Working together, we can promote healthy habits in our students that will last a lifetime!

One big change related to our health and wellness focus is the elimination of birthday party celebrations with food. Moving forward we still invite parents to come in to celebrate their child's birthday with the class. If they wish parents can come in to read a favorite book, or do a craft, or a fun, short activity instead. Please ask your child's teacher for more specifics. I look forward to seeing you on Back-to-School night, Thursday, September 22nd, and I wish you and your child/ren a fabulous 2016-2017 School Year!

Warmest Regards,

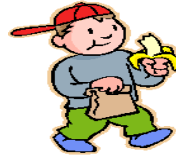
Jen Ferrara

Calendar-September

- Tues. 9/06 FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL
New Parent Coffee
8:45 AM/Library
- Thurs. 9/15 New Parent HSA Mtg.
7:00 PM/Library
&
Regular HSA Mtg.
7:30 PM/Library
- Mon. 9/19 First Full Day of Kindergarten
&
HSA Class Parent Meeting
2:00 PM/Library
- Thurs. 9/22 Elementary Back-to-School Night
- Wed. 9/28 Assembly: Hispanic Heritage Month
9:30 AM/Auditorium

October

- Mon. 10/3 SCHOOLS CLOSED
Rosh Hashana
- Tues. 10/4 SCHOOLS CLOSED
Rosh Hashana
- Thurs. 10/6 Student Photographs
&
Elementary Parent Presentation
On Digital Distractions
7:00 PM/Middle School Auditorium
- Sat. 10/08 Maugham Fall Event
- Mon. 10/10 12:45 PM Dismissal
Professional Day
- Wed. 10/12 SCHOOLS CLOSED
Yom Kippur
- Thurs. 10/20 HSA Meeting
2:00 PM/Library



Lunch and Snack

Before your child comes to school in the morning, please take a moment to check their backpack to make sure they have both their lunch and snack.

Elementary Back-to-School Night Thursday, September 22nd. Schedule below

7:00 PM – 7:40 PM:

Kindergarten Classroom Visitations – in the Library
First & Second Grade Classroom Visitations—in the classrooms

7:45 PM – 8:15 PM:

- Welcome Address in the Auditorium
- HSA Executive Council:
Mary Emmi, Jocelyn Schwarz, Michelle Roglieri and Chie Williams
- Mrs. Ferrara, Principal

8:20 PM – 9:00 PM:

Third & Fourth Grade Classroom Visitations-in the classrooms
Fifth Grade Classroom Visitations – in the Library

Picking up students early from school:

All students must be signed out in the school office. Please do not call ahead of time and ask for the student to be waiting in the office. We will call the classroom once you arrive. We appreciate your cooperation.

Nurse Notes

Dear Parents and/or Guardians,

I would like to take this opportunity to share some guidelines and protocols of the Health Office with you.

Before sending your child to school each day I'd like to ask you to please assess the state of their health. Children with fever over 100 F, diarrhea, vomiting, sore throats, rashes, red draining eyes, thick yellow/green nasal drainage, etc. need to stay home for 24 hours after these symptoms are resolved or a note from your physician is sent to school stating that the child can attend school. Children taking antipyretic medication (example; Motrin or Tylenol) for fever must be fever free without medication for 24 hours before returning to school.

Children who are suspected of having a communicable disease will be sent home for diagnosis and treatment. After a child is diagnosed with an infection, it is very important to keep him/her out of school for at least 24-48 hours after starting antibiotics to prevent spreading of infection.

Having sick children come to school only to be sent home shortly after arrival makes the child uncomfortable, inconveniences the parent/guardian and exposes other children who may then become sick also.

When your child stays home from school for any reason or arrives at school after 9 am, you need to call the Health Office at (201) 816-7708 to report the said absence or tardiness. There is an answering machine for calls to be received out of school hours and we asked that you call before 9 am on each day of your child's illness. If your family will be traveling outside of school holidays you can report this in writing to me before your departure. This will save telephone calls to empty homes and emergency contact people. If no message is received on any given day, your home, cell and work numbers will all be called in order to find out the whereabouts of your child. The safety of your children is paramount to us here at Maugham. Unfortunately, emailing me or your child's teacher about their absence from school is not acceptable as emails are password protected and in case of staff absence are unavailable to the Health Office.

If you have any questions regarding the Health Office please feel free to contact me either by telephone (201 816-7708) or by e mail (mmartin@tenafly.k12.nj.us.org). When children feel well and are healthy, they enjoy school more and subsequently learn better.

Thank you!

Marianne Gray Martin RN
Maugham School's Nurse



Library Pen and Pencil September 2016

Welcome Back!!

The Maugham School Library welcomes back all its terrific readers from a wonderful summer. Hope you enjoyed some great books this vacation!

It's going to be a great year of exploring new books, rediscovering old favorites and learning so many new things, including using some new technologies and some new STEM-related activities!

If you have a half-hour available during the week to volunteer in the library, please contact me as soon as possible as I will be setting up our library volunteers for grades K-2 at the beginning of September. Spots are limited and once the schedule is set, we will not be recruiting for volunteers for the remainder of the year.

Please contact me via email at lherbst@tenafly.k12.nj.us or by leaving a message at (201) 816-7709 by Friday, September 9th.

Looking forward to working with you and wishing you all a great school year of great reads!

Mrs. Herbst

2016-2017
HSA Back-to-School Checklist

**Welcome back!!! We're looking forward to another great year at Maugham School.
Please be sure to read all of the information below carefully!**

o **Maugham eNews:**

You will automatically receive the Maugham enews at the email address(es) provided when you registered for school. The bi-weekly enews is the HSA's way of communicating all of our upcoming programs and fundraisers so keep a look out for it! New to this year are eblasts which will supplement enews by reminding you of important deadlines. You should have received your first enews already. If you have not received it, please go to www.maughamhsa.com and click "Sign Up For Our eNews" on the homepage.

o **HSA Dues:**

Dues will be collected through our lunch program online order form. \$25 per child will be added to your lunch/ice cream transaction and will be required in order to participate in this HSA run program. As a reminder, your HSA dues provide the HSA with funds to help enrich your children's educational experience and help to subsidize field trip busing, cultural arts assemblies, author visits, and International Day, to name a few. If you do not plan to participate in our lunch or ice cream programs, please pay your dues by check, \$25 per child. Please make all checks payable to Maugham HSA and be sure to put HSA dues and your child's name in the memo line.

o **HSA Directory:**

Our Maugham School Directory is online (and there's even a mobile app for it)! If you were registered last year and have no updates to your personal information, you don't need to do anything! If you are new to Maugham and have not yet registered, go to www.maughamhsa.com for complete registration instructions. Once registered, you can login at any time to update/change your personal information as needed. If you have an older child and an incoming Kindergartner, please login to your account and edit your user profile to add your Kindergartner.

o **Lunch/Ice Cream Program:**

Starting September 8th, you will be able to order your child's lunch and ice cream for the first lunch session at www.maughamhsa.com. **All orders must be placed by September 14th**. Again this year, for grades 1-5 we are doing a 5th grade lunch fundraiser September 8th-16th. For just \$6/day, your children will have the opportunity to try many of the foods being offered this lunch session (everything will be served buffet style). You should have already received an email with that information. **Orders for the 5th grade lunch fundraiser must be placed by September 7th (12pm).**

o **After School Clubs:**

Lots of clubs are being offered this fall for all interests and grade levels (including Kindergarten). Club descriptions and registration information are posted on www.maughamhsa.com. **Club registration will take place September 18th (9 a.m.) through September 24th** and is always on a first come, first served basis. The fall clubs session will begin the week of October 5th.

o **Volunteering:**

There are many opportunities throughout the year to get involved in the school. Look out for information about volunteering for various events/programs in our enews as well as emails from your class parents. If you're interested in something particular, don't hesitate to reach out to us and we'll put you in touch with the correct people.

o **Stop & Shop A+ School Rewards:**

Use your registered Stop & Shop Card each time you shop at Stop & Shop, and you will earn CASH for our school. Visit www.stopandshop.com/aplus and scroll down to the center of the page to select **REGISTER YOUR CARD** from the red box on the right marked **FOR CUSTOMERS**. You will need to enter our school code **08983**.

Please note: Any envelopes with checks to the HSA should be placed either in the HSA Mailbox located outside the main entrance (inside the school alcove) or placed in your child's backpack. Please clearly mark all envelopes "HSA - appropriate program category"

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to email us at maughamschoolhsa@gmail.com.