

Mallinckrodt Academy of Gifted Instruction

St. Louis Public Schools | A 2017 National Blue Ribbon School
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Dr. Shawn E. Williams, Principal
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August 10, 2023

Greetings, Mallinckrodt Families!

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! We are looking forward to welcoming students back in just a couple of weeks! The first day of school for the 2023-2024 school year is on Monday, August 21, 2023, and we can hardly wait. Educators are hard at work ramping up for the new school year to ensure that your child has an environment where their gifts and talents are cultivated.

This year, we will celebrate with the vision of thinking “BIG.” Think “BIG” is an acronym that stands for Bold, Innovative, and Grand. As we embark on the work to provide students with the best gifted learning experiences possible, we are ready to provide students with field trips, project and service opportunities, and instruction that pushes them to think in a bold, innovative, and grand way; all of this through complex, ambiguous, and emotional learning familiarities as we work to become aligned with Missouri’s Portrait of a Gifted Learner.

In the coming days, you will have contact with your child’s teacher. ClassDojo will be our main form of communication. Please be on the lookout for invitations, in addition to emails.

From a school perspective, I want to share what is new with Mallinckrodt Academy this year:

- Ms. Melendez will be a prekindergarten teacher.
- Ms. Kargus will become our instructional support teacher.
- Ms. Dixon will be a second-grade teacher.
- Ms. Lewis will come on board as a third-grade teacher.
- Ms. Hilboldt will come on board full-time as a fifth-grade teacher.
- Mr. Evan Day will join our fifth-grade team.
- Mr. Chris Stevens is a new fourth-grade teacher.
- Ms. Amy Troeger will come on board as our Japanese teacher.
 - This is a new class for us and a new challenge for our students! Finding a Spanish teacher proved to be challenging. We understand the practicality of Spanish, but I know our students will appreciate this new challenge with Japanese.
- Mrs. Muirhead will be a building learning associate and continue as our tech coordinator.

We look forward to learning and growing with our new team members! They bring a wealth of knowledge to our school, and we are excited for our learners to meet and think BIG with them.

iPad Distribution:

As with previous years, parents will need to come to the school to sign up for student iPads. Tentatively, iPad distribution will take place in the gym and will take place as follows:

August 17 th	August 18 th
Grades PreK through 2	Grades 3 through 5
9 am– 4 pm	9 am – 2:30 pm

Should the dates and times not work for you, please reach out to Mrs. Muirhead to coordinate an alternate pick-up time. She can be reached at amanda.murihead@slps.org.

School Supplies:

This year, Saint Louis Public Schools will be providing each child with some school supplies. Information about the school supplies can be found [here](#) or by visiting: <https://www.slps.org/supplies>.

Your child’s teacher may reach out to you for community supplies for the classroom(s).

Party on the Playground! (Open House)

On August 18, 2023, from 3- 6 pm, families are welcomed to the school grounds to meet their teachers and socialize with old and new friends. During the “Party on the Playground”, families are welcome to bring in school supplies that they may have and engage in a self-guided school tour and meet their child’s teacher.

We will start in the gym with a message from the principal, afterwards, you will be released to classrooms to briefly meet your teacher and drop off school supplies. We will have a visit from Kona Ice at 4:45 pm— so please be sure that you have been to your classroom by that time! All teachers will be in the yard from 5- 5:30 pm.

PTO Updates:

Now is the time to update your contact information on the Membership Toolkit! All 2022-23 user information has become "outdated" which means you will not receive PTO emails until it is updated, which takes just a few seconds. To do this, visit <https://mallinckrodtpto.membershiptoolkit.com/home>.

If you are new to MAGI, please consider registering. You choose the amount of information you'd like to provide and share in our secure community. Follow the steps below to register:

1. Go to <https://mallinckrodtpto.membershiptoolkit.com/home>
2. Click on the Register/Login button and register to create a user account.
3. Verify your new account through your e-mail.
4. Enter your family data by going to My Account > Family Information. Once inside, you'll have access to the Dragon Shop, Parent Directory, PTO meeting agendas and minutes, and the current PTO bylaws.

In addition to this, our school's PTO provides multiple platforms for families to stay connected and up to date on news. Find us online at www.magipto.org. Follow us on Facebook on the Mallinckrodt Academy PTO page.

Back to School "Spruce Up"

Please see the attached flyer. We need volunteers to help us spruce up the garden. Volunteers will be at the school from 9 am until noon. See the flyer for more information!

General School Logistics:

The first day of school is always a busy and exciting time. We are excited to welcome our students back to school and engage with our families- we have missed you all. We want to keep everyone safe and engaged in learning. In addition to this, be sure that your child's teacher knows how your learner is to get home from school. Please note that early dismissals and last-minute dismissal changes cannot be accommodated after 3:30 pm.

Arrival:

We welcome students to come to school as early as 8:50 am. Students arriving by school bus will enter the building through Door #1. They will have the option to stop by the cafeteria to grab breakfast and, weather permitting, they will head to the schoolyard for morning recess. Morning recess will last from 8:50 am until 9:15 am. Prior to 8:50 am, there is no adult supervision, so please be mindful and do not leave your child unattended.

If you are driving your student(s) to school, please access the back lot, **STAY IN YOUR CAR**, and form the morning drop-off line. Once your vehicle reaches the barricades, students should **GET OUT OF THE VEHICLE ON THE PASSENGER SIDE** and enter the schoolyard. It is pivotal that you stay in the car to keep the line moving. If you need to get out of your vehicle, please park, but be mindful that staff members are arriving to school and will need to park in the same parking spots that you are accessing to be there for students. There are no left turns from the school parking lot. Please plan to turn right.

Should you choose to stay to watch morning recess, we ask that you stand near the barricades and not interact with other students to ensure the safety of all students. We ask that you always show Dragon PRIDE while on the school grounds.

Breakfast, Lunch, and Recess:

- Breakfast will take place in the cafeteria from 8:50 am until 9:20 am.
- All students will eat lunch in the cafeteria.
- Recess: All students will have recess with classroom teachers and/or assigned staff members.

School Hours/Entering the Building:

School begins at 9:20 am and concludes at 4:17 pm. Mallinckrodt Academy will open to students at 8:50 am.

- Other than morning arrival, please always use Door #1 (the main entrance on Pernod) for access to the school building.

- Students who are late to school will enter through door #1 and have the option to have a light breakfast before proceeding to the office to get a pass to go to class.

Dismissal

- To reiterate, **please be sure that your child and their teacher are aware of how they are getting home.** It may be helpful to place this information on an index card in their backpack, along with your contact information and an emergency contact. You may also want to share this with teachers at the Party on the Playground.
- Buses begin arriving at school around 3:45 pm. We will share school buses with Betty Wheeler Classical Junior Academy.
- We open doors for dismissal at 4:10 pm.
- All students who identify as parent pick-up will be dismissed from Door #5 unless you elect to utilize the carpool line. If you come to sign your child out, you will need to park and walk to Door #5. During afternoon dismissal, our school playground will be closed from 4 pm -4:30 pm, or as soon as the carpool line is over. You are welcome and encouraged to come to the playground once we have finished dismissal. Please do not allow your children to be in front of the school building and play while we are dismissing for school buses. Our goal is to keep everyone safe.

Transportation

All students that ride the bus should have received a letter from Missouri Central School Bus Company (MCSB) with specific details about their pick-up/drop-off times.

As it relates to communicating with the bus company, please see the following:

Concerns	Who to Call	Phone Number
Late, no-show, lost items, missed pick up, driver issues:	Missouri Central School Bus Company	Route Numbers/ Corresponding Garages: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Routes 1000-1999; Contact the South Garage at 314.887.9151 • Routes 2000-2999; Contact the North Garage at 314.449.9162
Route or bus stop requests	Missouri Central School Bus Company or SLPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MCSB Call Center: 314.449.9162 • SLPS: 314.633.5107 or 314.633.5109
Address Change	Notify the School of Address Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Jackson: 314.352.9212
Bus Stop Assignment	View your updated school and bus assignments at: https://vt.slps.org/elinkep/Search.aspx	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 314.633.5107 or • 314.633.5109
All other transportation concerns	SLPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 314.633.5107 or via email: slpstrans@slps.org
Transportation Website	https://www.slps.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=993	

Keep a look out on your emails and Class Dojo as the beginning of the school year is always a busy time.

Here are some important numbers to know as we ramp up this school year:

St. Louis Public Schools	(314)231-3720
Mallinckrodt Academy of Gifted Instruction	(314)352-9212
Office of Student Recruitment and Placement	(314)633-5200
Office of Gifted Education	(314)345-4548
Missouri Central School Bus	(314)887-9151 or (314)391-2540
Voluntary Inter-district Choice Corporation	(314)721-8657 ext. 3050
Y Care (YMCA South City Location)	(314)644-3100

We are excited to learn and think BIG with your family this school year- and cannot wait to see all of our Mallinckrodt Dragons back together for an epic school year! Please reach out to your child's teacher if you have questions.