

**WALT DISNEY MAGNET SCHOOL**  
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To: Disney Parents  
From: Kathleen Hagstrom, Principal  
Re: Assorted Matters

February 20, 2019

*March 11 – March 29: Illinois Assessment of Readiness grades 3-8*

- **Student Photos** –Picture “Make-up” Day is, scheduled for **Monday, February 25**. Parents will need to return the individual photos received in order to have the picture retaken if there is a problem with the photos you received. Please have your child take the photo package to the main office. If you want to place a new order for pictures, you will need to have your child dressed when they arrive at school and have the order form with payment turned in by the beginning of the school day on Monday, February 25. Our **8<sup>th</sup> grade students** will have graduation pictures taken either **Tuesday, February 26 or Wednesday, February 27**. 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will have photos taken in dress clothes and cap and gown. Proofs will be sent home and 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents will have the opportunity to select which photos they want to order.

-**Pod 210 CAC Performance** – Our 3rd grade students in pod 210 are spending these 2 weeks in the CAC, working on their arts integrated unit pondering Chicago of the future and how environment, culture and transportation might have evolved. Please check with your child’s teacher for volunteer needs. The culminating performance, “Quest for the 5<sup>th</sup> Star”, will be on **Friday, March 1**, at 9:00 a.m. in the CAC building. The SW door of the CAC will be opened at 8:45 to allow guests in for seating. All parents are invited to the CAC show; we remind you that children under the age of 5 are not allowed at these performances. This policy is in place to avoid potential disruption and to allow the 3rd grade students a forum to shine for you!

- **Parent Advisory Council** – There will be PAC meetings on **Friday, March 1**, at 7:30 a.m. The speaker will be Dr. Antonio Morales-Pita, a professor at DePaul University. He will discuss themes of his book *Gladys, My Unforgettable Love*, which deal with tactics to better partnering and parenting. All parents are welcome to the PAC activity, which will be in the CAC Dining Room.

- **Local School Council** – The next LSC meeting is **Tuesday, March 12**, at 5:30 p.m. in the CAC Dining Room. All Disney parents are welcome.

-**Parent Teacher Association** – The next *General Meeting* of the PTA will be **Tuesday, March 12**, at 7:30 a.m. The next *Movie Night* is **Friday, March 22**, at 6 pm; the feature will be “Goosebumps 2,” based on R.L. Stine’s popular book series. All Disney families are welcome PTA is beginning their spring fund raiser next week and will be teaming up with Java Joe’s to sell specialty coffees, cookie mixes and fudge. The PTA appreciates everyone’s support to provide enriching and educational opportunities for each child at Disney.

-**Word of the Week** – *Pabulous*: Pertaining to nourishment; nourishing. I could have wished for a more *pabulous* meal than Twinkies and artificial fruit juice. Growing language is important and fun; classrooms also have “word of the week”. Have your children practice using their new words and add some challenge with our adult word of the week.

-**Promote Critical Thinking** – The ability to go beyond basic knowledge and consider “the big picture” is a crucial skill for school success. Following are some tips to promote these skills in your child: 1) Let your child figure things out. Resist the urge to solve every problem, instead give your child time and space to figure it out and make a plan 2) Discuss current events. Print a news article that might interest your child and chat about it over dinner. Find out what your child thinks about the issue and then ask why other people might think differently. 3) Encourage reflection. Once a big school project is completed, talk about it. Ask questions like, how difficult was it to finish, did you give yourself enough time to complete it. Regardless of how the project went, reflecting on the process will help hone critical thinking skills.

**Calendar Dates** – Following are non-attendance days for students:

**Friday, April 5** – School Improvement Day – No School

**Wednesday, April 10** – Report Card Pick Up Day – No School

**Monday, April 15 – Friday, April 19** – Spring Break – No School