Happy New School Year! The beginning of the school year always marks a time of promise and possibility, and 2018-19 is no exception! With a talented staff and a supportive community, our scholars are poised to have another great year at Longstreth Elementary School. We strive to infuse positive learning experiences for our scholars every single day. Our goal is to provide a phenomenal environment in which all Longstreth scholars can flourish, achieving academic excellence, becoming emotionally and physically stronger, and growing their talents.

I will be sharing our school goals for the 2018-19 school year in more detail during our Back to School Night, scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 6 at 3:30pm-5:30pm. I ask ALL families to join us to walk in the shoes of their children, meet our staff and build community. Some highlights for this year include the launch of our MathCounts program, which is a focus on Mathematics through a Carnegie Learning partnership with MathCounts. We are happy to announce our scholars in grades 5-8 will have their own individual laptops for usage throughout the school day. This will enable your scholars to work on their interventions, work more closely with technology to express their learning and to possibly have an opportunity to bring laptop homes for at home learning. We are also lucky to have a Computer Science Teacher this year. She will support our learners in increasing our scholars ability of technology. These faci, among others, will ensure that our scholars have the skills they need to reach their academic goals. At Longstreth, we want to help create lifelong learners.

I am so looking forward to this year together. Below I’ve included some info that will help us have a Great First Day!

The first day of school for the 2018-2019 school year is August 27, 2018 for grades K through 8th.

*As a reminder, we must have all required paperwork in order for your child to enroll.

School hours:
School gates open everyday at 8:00am with school starting officially at 8:30 am. The school day ends at 3:09 pm. Please note that we do not have before school care. Therefore, we are unable to supervise students on the school grounds before 8:00 am. Also, the main office will be open to parents at 8:30 am with the exception of pre-scheduled meetings. We cannot service parents before 8:30 am without a scheduled meeting.

Arrival:
All scholars will enter through the school yard gates beginning at 8:00 am. Grades Pre-K & K will line up in the little schoolyard in the morning. At 8:25 am, grades Pre-K-8 will line up at their assigned location on the schoolyard to join their teachers for admissions at 8:30 am.

Bus Riders and students in our AS Program will enter the building through the main entrance. Longstreth Staff will be present and visible to escort or direct scholars to their assigned admission location. Please see admission and dismissal policy in the student handbook for more details.

Breakfast:
Breakfast is still provided to every student. However, breakfast will no longer be served at 8:00 am. Breakfast will take place as follows:

- K - In Classroom 8:30 am-8:50 am
- 1st-3rd - Cafeteria 8:30 am-8:50 am
- 4th-5th - In Classrooms 8:30 am-8:50 am

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Dismissal:
★ All students riding the bus or in our AS Program are dismissed through the main entrance.
★ Students attending an afterschool program will be escorted to their assigned classroom by the afterschool program at 2:55pm.
★ Please communicate our dismissal procedures to your child’s After School Programs.
★ Kindergarten parents will be allowed to enter the building through the little schoolyard to pick up students from their classrooms. Please bring ID.
★ Grades 1-8 will be called by grade to dismiss: Grades 1-3 will dismiss through the schoolyard exit. Please meet your child outside at 3:09. Grades 4-8 will dismiss through the main doors. All scholars must go immediately home.

Attendance Matters!
Attendance matters for doing well in school starting in Kindergarten. Absences can add up before you know it! As a parent, you are responsible for making sure your child develops the habit of regular attendance. If you are facing any challenges seek out support from the school and community. We are here to help! Your children can suffer academically if they miss more than 18 school days. That can be just one day every two weeks, and that can happen before you know it. At Longstreth we want every scholar to attend school 95% of the time which means a scholar cannot be absent more than 9 times in the school year. When students are in school we can ensure they are learning.

Uniforms:
Our tops are gray for grades K-5 and burgundy for grades 6-8. Our bottoms are black for the whole school.

Classroom Assignments
Your child’s class assignment will be provided the first day of school. There will be greeters in the schoolyard to greet scholars and parents and to answer all questions.

Grade Supply List:
Supply list was provided on the last week of school and will be available to all students on the first day of school. Supply lists can also be found on https://longstreth.philasd.org/

We know you have entrusted your child’s education to us, and we promise to work as hard as possible to educate every scholar in a caring, safe environment. Please always feel free to reach out with any questions. We want to ensure a smooth school opening and a successful school year.

Here’s to a GREAT year!
Respectfully,
Tisha A. Douglas
Principal

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WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP YOUR CHILD REACH 95% ATTENDANCE

• Avoid extended vacations that require your children to miss school. Try to line up vacations with the school’s schedule. The same goes for doctor’s appointments.

• Set a regular bedtime and morning routine. Make sure they get 9 to 11 hours of sleep. You can lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.

• Get to know the teachers and school supports. Be sure to introduce yourself to your child’s teachers before school starts and keep in touch. School officials can help you stay on top of academic progress and social contacts to make sure your child is staying on track.

Are You Ready for This Year’s Attendance Challenge?

95% MONTHLY ATTENDANCE CHALLENGE?

Meet each monthly challenge to be a part of Longstreth’s 95% Club, parent prizes, certificates, raffles and more!

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<th>Month</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug</td>
<td>5 “Strive for Five days!”</td>
<td>Feb</td>
<td>19 “Be here for Nineteen days”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>17 “Achieve Seventeen days”</td>
<td>March</td>
<td>21 “You can Ace 21 days”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct</td>
<td>23 “Reach for Twenty-three days”</td>
<td>April</td>
<td>19 “Pull for nineteen days”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>18 “Crush Eighteen days”</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>21 “Fun for Twenty-one days”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec</td>
<td>15 “Maintain Fifteen days”</td>
<td>June</td>
<td>2 “Two and Through!”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>20 “Jump 4 Twenty days”</td>
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Why It Matters

If children don’t show up for school regularly, they miss out on fundamental reading and math skills and the chance to build a habit of good attendance that will carry them into college and careers.

Preliminary data from a California study found that children who were chronically absent in kindergarten and 1st grade were far less likely to read proficiently at the end of 3rd grade.

Who Can Read on Grade Level After 3rd Grade?

- Of kids with good attendance in K and 1st (missed 9 or fewer days both years) - 64%
- Of kids with at-risk attendance (missed more than 9 days both years) - 43%
- Of kids chronically absent in K or 1st (missed 18 or more days one year) - 41%
- Of kids chronically absent in K and 1st (missed 18 or more days both years) - 17%

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Teach • Love • Inspire
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>August</strong></td>
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| ★ 20- School Supply Drive  
PreK/Kindergarten Playdate |
| ★ 24- Last day for Enrollment |
| ★ 27- First Day of School for K-8 |
| ★ 31- ½ for students Dismissal at 12:09 |
| **Sept.** |
| ★ 3- School Closed |
| ★ 6- Back to School Night |
| ★ 10- School Closed |
| ★ 12- Parent Portal Online Support |
| ★ 17- School Advisory Committee 3:30pm |
| ★ 18- Middle School Open House 9:30am |
| ★ 19- School Closed |
| ★ 20- Parent Workshop |
| ★ 21- School Selection Process Opens |
| ★ 28- September Attendance Challenge Incentive |

**MOVIE MANIA**

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**Parent and Family Portal**

**Knowledge is Power**

The School District of Philadelphia is proud to offer a tool that parents and family members may use to stay connected to their child and their school. The School District of Philadelphia’s Parent & Family Portal gives you access to valuable information about your child’s education and school. You will be able to view your child’s academic history, test results, attendance, and more. You can also request to receive text messages, emails and/or phone calls about important issues that might impact your child, (i.e. weather-related school closures and delays, attendance alerts and upcoming events of interest to families).

**Use The Portal To:**

- View Academic History
- View Test Scores
- View Student Attendance
- Set Communication Preferences
- And Much Much More!


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**Teach • Love • Inspire**
PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and Support)
Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS) is a framework for assisting schools with developing evidence based behavioral interventions. The PBIS system at Longstreth will be incorporated into our school environment. Our PBIS acronym is ROAR. Our PBIS policy will assist us in communicating behavior expectations and school wide norms.

- **RESPECT EVERYONE**
- **OWN YOUR ACTIONS**
- **ACT RESPONSIBLY**
- **RISE TO THE CHALLENGE**

Each scholar is responsible for learning and knowing the School Pledge. Please help your scholars learn our school pledge!

Longstreth Pledge

**READY SET ROAR!**

I respect myself my peers and my family
I’m ready to learn and be all that I can be
I understand my role in the Longstreth community
I’m a responsible scholar with a world of possibilities
I AM A LION...I ROAR!
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