



alighieri ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Note from Principal Jess

September 8, 2021

Dear Alighieri Families,

We have arrived at the start of a new school year! I hope that your summers were full of joy, and that you and your children are as excited as the Alighieri staff is to embark on this new school year.

Despite the pandemic challenges of SY21, we came together as a community and thrived. Through remote instruction in the Fall and Winter, we organized our staff so that students could meet in smaller groups; we developed Social/Emotional practices like our Good News videos, Strong Starts and Optimistic Closings in order to build community despite our distance; we developed our Social Justice Friday curriculum to help students build identities as problem-solvers and change-agents. In the Spring, we returned safely to in-person learning, using protocols like masking, social distancing, and regular pool testing. We ended the year with a joyful Sprit Week, including our 6th Graduation, Children's House Moving On Ceremonies, a Talent Show and Field Day. We planned and executed our first-ever Summer School in collaboration with the Adams.

Throughout SY21, we were analyzing the instructional needs in our classrooms, considering the data on our students' academic growth, discussing curricular needs with our staff, and listening to the insights of students and families. We engaged in professional development in SY21 on Equitable Literacy and developed a plan for deepening that work over the coming years. As you will read in the updates below, we have adopted a new ELA curriculum that we believe aligns well with our Montessori approach, and will allow our students to engage with rich, complex texts and aligned writing tasks. All of our teachers have also elected to be part of the

Kaleidoscope Collaborative for Learning, which will help us develop relevant, authentic grade level tasks for students within our Montessori context.

As Boston's only public Montessori school, our mission is to nurture the individuality and potential of all children, allowing them to become respectful, thoughtful and responsible leaders, who believe they can contribute their gifts in a way that positively impacts the world. Working together with our staff, our families, and with resources like Kaleidoscope and Fishtank ELA, we believe our unique model can truly create equitable outcomes for all students, and help each child achieve their full potential.

Over the next three years we will receive some additional funding through the federal government's pandemic relief program that we will use to support our instructional and social emotional programming, and to develop partnerships within our community. I hope you'll join us at our Community Meeting on 9/16 to learn more about our plans and contribute your insights.

I look forward to our continued work together this year. I know that, despite any challenges on our path, together we will adjust, adapt and forge a path forward for our students.

Best,
Principal Jess



Important Dates

Thursday 9/9
[Schoolhouse]
Monday, 9/13
[Children's House]

Thursday,
9/9 & Friday
9/10 8 -
10am

Thursday,
9/16@ 5pm
[Zoom Link]

Alighieri Accolades for Students and Families

- Lindsay Falewicz and Joanne Cox led a team of parent volunteers to install the Forgiveness Garden and Peace Gardens. Amazing.
- Matthew Valencia Soto for reaching out to confirm start dates for his sister, Kyara.
- Damyen Arteaga Tirado for sharing responsibility of Aqua Dots this summer!
- Our many families who signed up for our first-ever summer school. It was a huge success!
- A shout out to Christopher Nguyen, who held himself accountable to his Summer Reading and Writing by utilizing the East Boston Public Library reading log and sending a copy to his Reading Teacher.
- Thank you to Matthew and Souhaib for volunteering to clean and organize the library in preparation for SY22.



Important Details for the New School Year!

BPS Calendar SY22

Welcome Letters for Children's House
Ms. Mary, Children's House Ms.
Cassandra, Lower El Ms. Cruz, Lower El
Mr. Achala, Upper El Ms. Quinn

[illegible]

Alighieri Health and Safety Updates

We are committed to following all BPS safety protocols as outlined in the [BPS Back to School Guide](#). All students and staff are required to wear masks, and we will have weekly pool testing for students and staff at the school. One parent/guardian for each student should have received an email last week from the district with the address "notifications@permissionclick.com." This notice provides [information on weekly COVID pool testing](#) in school and includes a consent form for you to complete if you wish for your child to participate. Staff members are required to be vaccinated, or to submit weekly COVID test results, per City of Boston policy.

NOTE: Families are responsible for monitoring their students' health each day before school. Please bookmark or keep the district's [home health checklist](#) easily accessible.



Countdown to Kindergarten East Boston Event/ Parade

Join our Team at the Kindergarten Parade!

Join Alighieri Staff members at East Boston's "**Welcome to Kindergarten!**" event, held right here in East Boston on Friday, September 10th from 10:30am-12:00pm at the **East Boston Branch of the Boston Public Library** at 365 S Bremen St, Boston, MA 02128!



Summer Ice Cream Social

Thank you to all who joined us yesterday for our Welcome Event! We were able to meet lots of new families and greet old friends. Students walked away with



books, materials, uniforms and other supplies to start the year off right! Stay tuned for more family events - virtual and in-person!

Community Meeting - Plans for SY22

Thursday 9/16/2021 @ 5pm [\[Zoom link\]](#)

Please join us to discuss our plans for a successful SY22, including but not limited to our plans for using federal COVID relief {ESSER} funding to support student achievement.



Summer Garden Transformations



A huge thank you goes out to parents Lindsay Falewicz and former parent JoAnn Cox, for their tireless efforts over the last school year and the summer to transform our garden spaces. Supported by Eastie Farms and a spectacular team of parent volunteers, our garden spaces now have a fabulous new donated shed [Thank you to Eastie Farms Alex Graora

for helping establish the structure, weighing over 500 pounds!), and Peace and Forgiveness gardens with carefully curated plants and thoughtfully-designed paths. We know our students will adore their new outdoor learning spaces!

Please remind your children not to walk on the plants! And we could use some plastic or metal shelving for the shed, if you've got some to donate!

Alighieri/ Adams Summer School!



Last January, Principal Jess submitted a proposal, together with Principal Cruz at the Adams, to host a Social Justice Summer School program for 30 students from each school in grades 3-6. Our grant was approved, and together with our neighborhood partners, Eastie Farms and Piers Park Sailing, our students had a summer of adventure, with academics in the morning, and exploration in the afternoons. We hope to win another grant this year to do it all again - stay on the lookout next April!

Staff Updates for SY22

Welcome to the Alighieri!

We are excited to introduce several talented new staff members for the coming school year! This year we have added to our staff a full-time Family Liaison and Social Worker, and have new staff joining us to replace Ms. Kirk and Mr. Rivera who are not returning to the Alighieri. Ms. Hubbell recently announced that she will not be returning to the Alighieri this year, and we are actively looking for a replacement.



After-School Opportunities for Families

Looking for After School Care?

Thank you to Mr. Chris for compiling a list of neighborhood options for afterschool programming. See our website where he's linked more details! The password to enter the "For Families" section of our website is DAMS2020.

After + Outside of School



Salesian Boys and Girls Club

Salesian Boys & Girls Club offers a variety of afterschool programs. During their time at the club, children can participate in homework help and tutoring, sports, art, cooking club, dance, and more.



East Boston YMCA

The East Boston YMCA provides families with the option of part-time childcare. There is bus transportation from the school to the YMCA. Please contact Brittany Ortiz at (857) 205-8470 for more information.



BCYF Paris St.

As the City of Boston's largest human services agency we offer a plethora of affordable programs for all ages. BCYF is committed to providing high-quality, outcome driven after school programs.

BPS Weekly Updates for Families



BPS WEEKLY UPDATE

March 1, 2021

March is Women's History Month

Stay Up to Date with BPS Programs for Families

BPS updates families with a weekly newsletter. Click [here](#) for important information about BPS specific programming.



Dante Alighieri Montessori School

Address: 37 Gove St
East Boston, Massachusetts, 02128

Phone: 617-635-8529
www.bpsmontessori.com

**Contact Us
Today!**

