



Roadrunner Express

Shannon Haire
Principal

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Reaching Every Student— All Day, Every Day, Every Way!

From Ms. Haire and Mrs. Sumner

Dear Parents,

Welcome back from a wonderful and restful holiday break! Now that everyone is settled in, you can be sure that we will continue to teach to the top and celebrate the reading and math progress of our children. As the state assessment draws near, remember that this is the time of year when focus, persistence and determination are critical. Please talk to your students about the importance of not giving up, even when the work gets difficult. In addition, you can help your children prepare for success by remembering the following:

- Check their agendas and grades daily.
- Make sure homework is completed correctly and turned in.
- Read for 20 minutes every night.
- Be at school every day - on time and for the entire day.
- Focus on academics, hard work, and effort.
- Ask questions when you need help.
- Concentrate on appropriate positive behavior.



Important January Dates

January 4	Students Return
January 6	Fresh & Fabulous Friday
January 5	SAC & PTO
January 11	Report Cards Available in FOCUS
January 16	NO SCHOOL - MLK Holiday
January 18	ALL PRO DADS
January 26	Curriculum Night
January 23-27	Celebrate Literacy Week

Box Top News!

Wow!! I was so excited to see new members . If you haven't joined, there's still time. Use this Referral Code RN44991L. You may be saying I don't bake. Well, there are a number of ways to earn money from products you may not be aware of. Check the app for a complete list. Thank you for your help!

Mrs. Barnes

Immune-Boosting Nutrition

Tis the season for colds and the flu, but you can help protect yourself with these nutrients. Proteins such as lean meats, poultry, eggs, beans, nuts and seafood aid in healing and recovery. Vitamin A helps protect against infections by keeping your skin and tissues healthy. Eat sweet potatoes, broccoli, carrots, spinach, red bell peppers, and eggs. Vitamin C helps form antibodies that fight infection. Try citrus fruits, strawberries, papaya, red bell pepper, and tomato juice. Vitamin E is an antioxidant that helps neutralize free radicals that can damage cells. It can be found in nuts, nut butters, seeds, and vegetable oils such as sunflower or safflower oil. Zinc helps immune system functions and aids in wound healing. Whole grains, lean meat, poultry, seafood, milk, beans, seeds and nuts all contain zinc. There is a smaller amount of evidence that suggests that vitamin B6, folate, selenium, iron, prebiotics, and probiotics can also be beneficial in boosting immunity. So eat a variety of healthy foods every day! For more info, visit: <https://www.eatright.org/health/wellness/preventing-illness/protect-your-health-with-immune-boosting-nutrition>



Pre-K News

The Pre-K students have shown a lot of interest in balls. They're curious about different kinds of balls, how people use balls, what they are made of, what is inside of them, and how they can bounce. We began our ball study, and the students are having a blast. As we study balls, we will learn concepts and skills in literacy, math, science, and social studies. They have begun using their thinking skills to investigate, ask questions, solve problems, make predictions, and test their ideas. Students have begun answering questions such as: What is your favorite ball to play with? Is your ball bigger or smaller than your head? Do you think all balls bounce? They have compared balls and separated them into different categories such as color, size, weight, hard and soft.

What You Can Do at Home?

Spend time with your child, playing with balls of all shapes, types, and sizes, such as playground balls, tennis balls, volleyballs, baseballs, and marbles. Talk about what the balls are made of, whether they are heavy or light, and whether they are big or little.

Wonder aloud with your child to encourage his or her thinking about balls. For example, you might ask, "I wonder what's inside a tennis ball. I wonder how far you can throw a foil ball, or a tennis ball. How can we find out?"

Help your child use their senses when playing with balls. You might ask, "What does it look like? Feel like? Sound like? Smell like?" See how many types of balls you can find around the house and in your neighborhood. Play a game while riding in the car or bus. Think of all the words that contain the word *ball* in them. Look for examples of balls around you.

The Pre-K Team

1st Grade

Happy New Year! This begins our second half of the year, and we will be working towards getting our first graders ready for second grade! For some of our students, we will begin to encourage them to read their weekly reading test on their own and help them as needed. This is a big adjustment! To help your child do the best they can on their reading tests, we recommend reading each night with OR to your child for at least 10 minutes. This will build their stamina for longer stories. Reading tests account for 80% of their reading grade and consist of a variety of questions such as five comprehension questions, writing, and phonics.

In math, we have wrapped up working on modeling and reading numbers up to 120 and are beginning to compare numbers. Students can practice this skill in the car on any car ride by simply asking questions such as, which numbers are greater or less, and how do they know?

Cooler weather is upon us, so please remember to send your child with a jacket, and wear shoes appropriate for P.E. days. Thank you!

First Grade Team

Kindergarten

Greetings Kindergarten Parents,

Happy New Year and welcome back! Kindergarteners have made great progress thus far! We have gone over every letter in the alphabet! Most all of our students have mastered letter names and sounds! In reading, we are focusing on letter names, letter sounds, sight word recognition, blending, and writing and reading simple sentences. In math, we will begin learning how to subtract, reviewing addition and will be working on learning numbers up to 20.

Please ensure that you are working with your child to review sight words each night. Just a few reminders that will help us all! Please make sure your child has a jacket, as temperatures will continue to drop in the coming months. Daily folders are to be reviewed and signed every night and returned to school on a daily basis. Thank you for all that you do to help your child each day.

The Kindergarten Team





Second Grade

Welcome Back! It's hard to believe that the first semester of the school year has come and gone. Our second grade scholars have learned so much already this year.

Our reading curriculum has offered students the opportunity to read and explore a variety of texts, including fiction, non-fiction, and poetry.

In math, we are continuing with 2-digit subtraction and what it means to re-group, before heading into 3-digit addition and subtraction. Wow!

Be on the lookout for information on our upcoming field trip to Godby High School. Please continue to encourage daily A.R. reading at home. We want all of our second grade scholars to achieve their A.R. goal for the 3rd nine weeks!

Thank You.

The Second Grade Team



3RD GRADE

HAPPY NEW YEAR TEAM 3RD GRADE FAMILY! We hope you enjoyed your WELL - DESERVED winter break. The 3rd grade express will be starting out FULL SPEED AHEAD reviewing old skills and learning new ones. We finished our second FAST test in December, and now we are working HARD to SOAR EVEN HIGHER on the last one!

This is a **critical time** in the school year as we dig deeper to prepare for our final BIG TEST and to make sure ALL students are prepared for 4th grade. Please make sure students are well rested and in school each day ON TIME.

Curriculum Updates: In reading, we will be working on figurative language, compare and contrast, text structure, context clues, author's purpose, plural possessive nouns, main and helping verbs, and all of our reading strategies (going back in the passage, finding proof, focusing on key words in the question, and eliminating wrong answers, etc.). In math, students will studebe starting FRACTIONS. Each skill for the rest of the school year requires students to KNOW their math facts to be successful. Please continue to practice flashcards for multiplication and division, so that students can be successful.

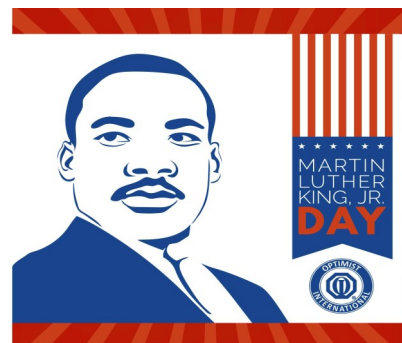
As always, we appreciate your support and we are only a call, email, or remind message away. Again, HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The Third Grade Team

ESE

We have had a fantastic first half of the year. Our students are making a ton of progress that can be evident on their IEP progress reports. Once the winter break is over, we will be hitting the ground running. In January, we will be learning about states of matter, the planets, poetry, and the history and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King.

Mrs. Whitley and Mrs. Gallegos





4th Grade

Welcome Back! Now that we have all had a little break, it is time to come in full blast to finish the second half of this school year.

We will continue to strengthen our reading skills as we venture into finding themes, main idea and using other text structures in a folktale, poem and drama and nonfiction text.

In math, we are continuing with fractions! The addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division skills that have been previously taught will greatly benefit our students with helping them to get a full understanding of fractions.

Keep encouraging your students to complete homework each night. This is assigned to reinforce a child's learning of a skill taught. We appreciate all that you do to help us with ensuring that your child gets the best education possible. Tardiness and absences can impact your child's learning so please limit them as much as possible. Keep our boys and girls bundled up and ready to bring on the New Year!

Fourth Grade Team

5th Grade

Now that we have had a nice little break, we are going to hit the ground running.

In math, we will move right into fractions for the next three chapters.

Mrs. Atkins and Ms. Norman will focus on point of view, prefixes and informational text.

Science is always interesting! We will continue our unit on the solar system, and then move on to the water cycle.

Please make sure your child is prepared and has replenished all of the supplies that he or she needs to be ready to go!

Fifth Grade Team



SPECIAL AREA—MRS. GRAY—READING COACH

We are half way through the school year. Certainly, we are looking forward to an amazing second semester. We will **Celebrate Literacy Week January 23rd – 27th, 2023**. The **goal of the annual week celebration is to promote literacy and encourage students to establish excellent reading habits**. Therefore, we will have several fun-filled activities during that week such as a book character parade, buddy reading time, and a "get caught reading" contest. Please look for a more detailed list to come out very soon.

We are so excited about our ongoing AR (Accelerated Reader) Program that is designed to motivate our Roadrunners to increase their reading and vocabulary comprehension and guide them to read independently. There is a proven link between strong reading skills and academic success, great readers make great students. Therefore, below you will find ways you can help your child at home:

- Promote reading at home: encourage your child to read at least 20 minutes each night
- Ask your child about current book they are reading, and ask about their AR points
- Congratulate them when they do well on an AR quiz and they reach their AR goal
- Take your child to the public library and obtain a library card, so they can check out printed books of interest to them
- Cheer your child on as they read and start growing a reader today!





ESE

K-2nd

Happy 2023, and welcome back! This month, we will be placing extra emphasis on student IEP comprehension and sight word goals. Reading stories at home before bed and asking various "who, what, when, where, why" questions is a great way to practice comprehension skills. Sight words can be practiced at home with flash cards. It is so important that these skills be practiced at home and at school. We will continue to work on all grade level curriculum and IEP goals. Here's to the New Year!!

Mrs. Gargan

HAPPY NEW YEAR

3rd-5th

Happy New Year and welcome back! We are working on grade level curriculum and IEP goals. Students are working hard in small groups. Please continue to read and review multiplication facts nightly. Looking forward to the start of a wonderful new year!

Mrs. Harvell