



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,

Here's hoping all of you enjoy a wonderful HOLIDAY SEASON filled with love, laughter, family and friends. Although our winter break is only a few weeks away, we plan to use every available moment to continue excellent, focused instruction for our kids. As always, we will continue to carefully monitor the academic progress of our children in order to keep them moving forward. You can help by talking to your child about the importance of hard work, determination, and concentration. During this exciting time of year, it is easy to become distracted. We want to work with you to ensure that learning continues.



Important December Dates

NONE	SAC (5:30) & PTO (6:00)
Dec. 19	End of Second 9 Weeks
Dec. 20-Jan. 4	Winter Holidays
Jan. 4– Jan. 5	Teacher Planning Days
Jan. 8	Students Return

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Please be sure you are able to
log into **FOCUS**
to check your child's grades.



Sign up for Remind & our Ruediger Listserv, so you can receive important information from your child's teacher as well as school news.





Pre-K News

As the days continue to fly by, we look back on all the wonderful things we have learned about the world around us. We continue to study the trees in our environment! When using our five senses, we observe and investigate questions such as "What food comes from trees?", "Who takes care of trees?", and "How do trees change?". The children have collected various tree parts (branches, sticks, leaves, acorns, pinecones, pine needles, etc.) and have integrated them into our learning. For example, the students used leaves to create pictures of animals, measure the length and height of objects, create patterns, and much more. Throughout our investigations, we are learning the importance of trees and caring for the world around us. We're not sure who's enjoying this study more... children or teachers! We are so proud of them. Below are some activities to try at home.

* Motor: **Scavenger Hunt** See how many you can find from the list below:
flower, small tree, tree stump, acorn, branch, rock, large tree, colorful leaves

* Fine Motor: **'Tree' Snack** Materials: finger foods (pretzels, cereal, grapes, etc.), napkin, plate

- ~Use one food to create a tree trunk and branches.
- ~Use a different food to make the leaves on the branches.
- ~Add different snack foods to represent animals that live in the trees (birds, squirrels, etc.)

* Art: **Tap the Magic Tree**

- ~Materials: Stick(s) and paint
- ~Listen to the story *Tap the Magic Tree*. (<https://youtu.be/qC2aqthYjrk>)
- ~Head outside and locate a stick or two.
- ~Bring the stick(s) inside and begin painting.
- ~As painting, discuss the difference in textures: paper vs a stick.

Thanks,
The Pre-K Team

1st Grade

It is so hard to believe that we have made it halfway through the school year!

First graders are showing significant reading growth according to their online STAR Early Literacy tests. We will also take the online STAR reading test soon, which can be more of a struggle for first graders when they take it the first time. There are short reading passages and fill in the blank questions that can be challenging. Make sure to read with your child, or listen to your child read, every night in addition to the regular weekly homework to help build their reading confidence.

In math, we are beginning chapter 2, which is understanding numbers as tens and ones. From there, we will move on to chapter 3 which is comparing numbers. Numbers are all around us, and these are great topics to talk about anytime the students see a two-digit number.

Since the weather is cooling down, please make sure your child has a jacket with them at school. On days that the temperatures is below 44 degrees, we will not be playing outside. If your child has asthma or any other conditions that are affected by the cooler weather, please let your teacher know.

Thank you for your support!
The First Grade Team

Kindergarten

Can you believe 2023 is coming to an end? The students have been in school for four months and have learned so much. We cannot wait to see the continued growth over the next few months. We are almost done learning all of our letters and are working on blending them to create words!

Please remember to practice number words, color words, and sight words weekly. We are also diving deeper into our comprehension skills. To help your child at home, after reading to them, ask them some questions. This will build their comprehension skills. Be sure to ask them who the characters are, where is the setting, what happens first, next, and last? These are all great questions to help them recall what they have learned.

We are hard at work learning about numbers 0-10. Please review these concepts at home: greater than/less than, having 1 or 2 more/less than a given number, counting backwards from 5, and ordinal numbers to 5.

If you have not done so already, please contact your child's teacher to schedule a parent/teacher conference to discuss your child's progress.

**Thank you for all your hard work and support!
The Kindergarten Team**



Second Grade

The weather is starting to cool off! Please encourage your child to wear a jacket to school. Second grade students have been exploring different strategies while working with 2-digit addition in math. Keep reviewing those basic addition and subtraction facts at home! In reading, our scholars are working hard to identify the main topic and key details of a text. When reading with your child each night, ask them questions. Who are the main characters? What is the story mainly about? How are the actions of one character affecting the outcome of the story? Being able to analyze a text is a skill that is expected of all third grade students. So let's start working on it now!



The Second Grade Team

3rd Grade

Hello third-grade family! We are working hard to finish up this second nine weeks. We will be taking our second FAST on December 5th and 6th. Please make sure your scholar is here at school on time, every day.

In math, we are working on place value to the ten thousands place. Please make sure your scholar is studying their multiplication facts every night.

In reading, we are working on identifying the 5 text features.

Remember to read every night, and study those spelling words.

The Third Grade Team

ESE K-2nd

Happy December Roadrunners!

As we head into our final month of 2023, please take a moment to celebrate the accomplishments your child has made so far this year. Ask your child, "What have you learned this year?" Also, "What are you most proud of academically?" After they share, share your answers to the same questions! These questions can be a great transition to setting goals for the next calendar year. We are continuing to trek along towards success with grade level academic curriculum and IEP goals. While this time of year is incredibly busy with holiday fun, let's continue to work hard at home and school.

Ms. Gargan

ESE 3rd-5th

I can't believe it is already December! Students have been working hard on comprehension skills and writing in language arts. In math, we are working on multiplication and division. Please help

support your child at home by having them read 30 minutes every night. Reading can be more fun when reading to you or even a family pet. Multiplication flash cards were sent home and should also be reviewed nightly. Make a game of it! I hope you and your family enjoy a wonderful holiday!

Mrs. Harvell

Whitley & Gallegos

The first half of this school year has flown by and as we move into December, we will be working hard on benchmark assessments and as always, our IEP goals. Additionally, we will be learning all about traditions from around the world. We will also start to look at "Big Ideas" that include geography around the United States. Keep an eye out for information regarding our winter classroom celebrations that will be coming home shortly.



4th Grade

Fourth grade has made some amazing progress so far! Our iReady lesson scores are looking good, our STAR data is moving up, and we are reaching those AR reading goals.

In math, the students are working on factors, multiples and patterns. Our students have made great strides with their multiplication facts. We are so proud of them! Keep up with the studying and practicing math facts.

In reading, we will continue working on main idea, key details and context clues. We will be learning about animal adaptations as well as ecosystems and how everything within an ecosystem is connected. In class we will practice finding main ideas, details and sharing how details connect to the main idea of the story.

Please continue to check homework each day. There is homework daily for reading and math, along with science notes that can be studied in preparation for lessons, quizzes and test. Keep up the hard work and dedication, we are making great progress!

The Fourth Grade Team

5th Grade

Read! Read! Read! We need our 5th graders reading every night so they can come back to school and take AR tests. This helps increase vocabulary, background knowledge, and comprehension. The pay-off is much greater than the task. In science, we are working on electricity and the solar system. Take time to strike up a conversation with your child about these topics. Math will be continuing to teach all the possibilities of working with decimals. We have learned how to round, add, subtract, multiply, and now how to divide decimals 6 DIFFERENT ways. Talk about deepening our knowledge!

As we are getting near the middle of the school year, ask your child if he/she needs to replenish any of their school supplies. Some of our students are running out of space in their journals and HAVE YOU SEEN THEIR FOLDERS?

The Fifth Grade Team



Special Area—Mrs. Colson—School Counselor

As reminder while we wind up our first semester, please make sure that your children are completing all of their work in a timely manner. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's teacher(s) for clarification or suggestions. Your support and collaboration contribute to paving the way for your child's success.

Now that the holiday seasons are upon us, take time to reflect on how much your child has grown since the beginning of the school year. This growth can bring about both familiar and unfamiliar emotions which is why we are proud to say that we are continuing to support RES students through guidance lessons on social-emotional learning. We aim to support resilience by utilizing district approved curriculum to support students as they continue learning, exploring, and adopting coping skills that are most helpful to their individual journey.

We challenge you to continue celebrating your children as they show up and perform to their best ability every single day from now and even when they return in the new year! They look to their parents/guardians as coaches so please do not hesitate to reach out to our guidance team if any new “plays”/plans are needed as we are here to help! Lastly, there are several agencies helping families in need during this season. Be sure to refer to Leon County Schools website for more information (<https://www.leonschools.net/domain/15>). Happy Holidays!

