



Deerfield Beach Elementary School

2020-2021 Issue #17
12/14/2020 – 1/4/2021



Principal's Message

Dear DBES Families,

I hope this newsletter finds you and your family safe and healthy this holiday season. It was great to see everyone back on camera and/or back in our building after our week-long Thanksgiving holiday break. We all hope your family had a chance to relax, connect, and spend some quality time with one another. I have a few brief announcements this month to share:

- The district has changed their attendance policy for our remote learners. Please be aware of this change (shared below) and if you have any questions, please reach out me at dgerlach@browardschools.com or 754-322-6100.

o SBBC Attendance Policy 5.5 - If students are learning remotely, they must have their cameras on during daily attendance and during direct instruction times. If students do not turn their cameras on, they will be marked either absent or tardy

- Please make sure your child is reading 20-30 minutes daily. If they don't want to read for long increments of time, please have them reading two times a day for 10-15 minutes. Though it's tempting to jump right into Among Us, FortNite, Roblox, PS5, or any other distraction, please build in this important routine daily to help our children continue to grow academically. If you do not have books at home, that's okay! We have plenty of books online through Epic Books and other resources. Check your teacher's Canvas page for links!

- We will begin our i-Ready challenge starting after winter break, where students can earn prizes for completed lessons! Students can get a head start on lessons now before the end of the year. If they sign on and complete any i-Ready lessons in Literacy before the end of year, they will count towards their total!

- Important COVID Info - If for any reason your child gets tested for COVID, please remember and understand that they cannot return to the building until they produce a negative result. If anyone at your residence has tested positive for COVID, please understand our students would be considered "close contacts" and would need to remain home.

Though we have all faced our own personal challenges that none of us could have expected or predicted, I want to thank you all for continuing to work with DBES and doing all that you can to provide a sense of normalcy for our children. I hope that you all have a safe, healthy, and enjoyable holiday break. I also wish you a happy holiday season! Hopefully we can look at 2020 in the rearview mirror on our adventure into a positive, successful, healthy, and happy 2021.

Sincerely,
Drew Gerlach

Broward School District Update

On Tuesday, November 17, 2020, the School Board of Broward County unanimously amended SBBC Policy 5.5, student attendance. Please be aware of the following change:

If students are learning remotely, they must have their cameras on during daily attendance and during direct instruction times. If students do not turn their cameras on, they will be marked either absent or tardy.

The School Board's decision to require camera usage by students was based on feedback from students, teachers, administrators, and other employees from an Attendance Survey that was conducted between Nov. 6 – 16, 2020. Results from the survey revealed that 75% of the School-based administrators who responded and 69% of teachers who responded support requiring cameras for attendance. School Board members unanimously agreed the policy should require students to turn on their cameras during attendance and direct instruction.

Families can access and review the full SBBC Policy 5.5 here:

<https://web01.browardschools.com/sbbcpolicies/docs/Policy%205.5.pdf>



For your
Calendar

Dec 9
Literacy night

Dec 21-Jan 1
Holiday break

Jan 4
Return to
School

Jan 7
Early Release

Jan 8
No school/Employee
Planning

Jan 18
Return to
School

DBES NEWS AND UPDATES



It's time to
POWER UP!

FREE MEALS FOR THE WINTER BREAK!

Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) Food and Nutrition Services is offering FREE Grab-and-Go meals for children to ensure they have access to nutritious meals over the Winter Break. The extra meals will be distributed to children 18 years of age or younger on Tuesday, Dec. 15, and Thursday, Dec. 17, during curbside distribution at all elementary, middle and high schools.

All children – whether they're engaged in face-to-face learning, eLearning or even if they don't attend a BCPS School – are encouraged to take advantage of the free meals.

Meal distribution times vary by school location during the school day. Visit www.browardschools.com/food-service, call 211 or contact a school near you for individual service times.

The following high schools will also be open for distribution from 4 to 5 p.m. on the same days as a convenient later option for families to pick up meals for their children:

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| o Boyd Anderson | o Deerfield Beach | o McArthur | o South Plantation |
| o Blanche Ely | o Dillard | o Miramar | o Marjory Stoneman Douglas |
| o Coconut Creek | o Everglades | o Monarch | o Stranahan |
| o Cooper City | o Charles W. Flanagan | o Northeast | o Taravella |
| o Coral Glades | o Fort Lauderdale | o Piper | o West Broward |
| o Coral Springs | o Hallandale Megnet | o Plantation | o Western |
| o Cypress Bay | o Hollywood Hills | o South Broward | |

Children or their parents can pick up multiple meals at a time by walking or driving through the car or bus loop. Parents must have identification for their child to pick up meals if the child is not present. Recommended forms of identification include student ID, report card or birth certificate. Identification must be presented at each meal service.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

f BrowardSchoolsFAN | @BCPSFNS | @BCPSFNS | #PowerUpFAN



Warm up with the
Green Light
Winter Reflex Math Challenge

Open to all Broward Schools with Reflex

Winter Math Challenge Dates

Starts: December 15, 2020

Ends: January 31, 2021

Requirements to Win

The school with the highest green light percentage increase will win!

R Reflex Champion Prize Package

The school who wins the challenge will receive a

A Reflex Winter Swag Bag with a sweet treat!



R For more information contact Falon.LaRose@explorellearning.com or Betty.Bergnes@explorellearning.com Phone: 866-882-4141 ext 348

DBES Classroom updates:

Our wonderful third graders have been hard at work! We just completed a Keystone unit on classifying animals. Students also completed a project where they had to become the scientists and discover an animal of their own. These completed projects focused on completing posters while identifying and using text features. We have also been hard at work memorizing our multiplication facts and moving into division. We are learning that they are inverse operations of each other. We will continue to study our facts and become more familiar with multiple step math word problems.



This holiday season consider adding some new traditions for your family that will make meaningful memories and strengthen foundations for reading and learning success.

Listen, laugh, learn:

Listen to audio books while you're traveling to visit family, wrapping gifts or cooking for the holidays.

Lyrics to holiday songs are fun to read and sing together. It is also good fun and good collaborative writing practice to make up your own lyrics to familiar tunes.

Start a story-telling tradition by revisiting holidays of the past. Old family photographs at holiday small gatherings will help prompt stories about your own life and family traditions.



School
Information

650 NE 1st St, Deerfield
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Phone
754-322-6100

School Hours
8:00 a.m. - 2:00
p.m.

Website:
<https://www.browardschools.com/deerfieldbeachelem>