

DANIA ELEMENTARY

Title I School

Lewis Jackson, Principal

Galina Markevich, Intern Principal

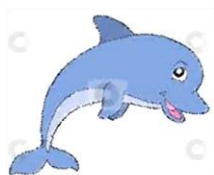
Winter 2023

Main Office: (754) 323-5350

Attendance Hotline (754) 323-5352

ASP (954) 261-8779

Website: <http://dania.browardschools.com>



Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We have begun the second half of the school year. Our teachers and students are working hard as they move forward toward achieving at least a year's growth. We recently assessed all students using the second of three-progress monitoring (PM2) tools. This data will be compared to the first PM1 to determine students' strengths and areas needing extra attention. The Leadership Team has met with teachers to discuss every student's progress. We have put plans in place to either enrich or remediate learning activities to ensure all students have an opportunity to reach their fullest potential.

Maintaining a safe campus is a priority at Dania. Guidelines and policies are being implemented districtwide to secure our campuses better. When the school day begins, all perimeter gates must be locked. One entrance (gate # 6) will allow parents and visitors access to the school. The gate must remain closed, and visitors must have proper photo identification and call the school's office to gain entry if it is unmanned when they arrive. Please help us to keep our campus safe by adhering to the following expectations for arrival, dismissal, and access to the campus.

- The parking lot that accesses the front of the school (south lot) opens for drop off at 7:10 for students going to breakfast and remains open until 8:00 AM.
- Students should not be on the school campus before 7:10 AM. There is no supervision!
- The South Gate (3rd Terrace) will be used for guest entrance and exit. We have a Campus Monitor who staffs this gate. However, there are times when they will not be at the gate due to other duties. You must call the school at (754) 323-5350. We will then send someone to open the gate. Please understand that this may take time, so please plan accordingly.
- When entering the campus, please be prepared to present photo identification at the gate entrance and the office and share your purpose or need for entry. Our staff appreciates receiving a positive attitude during these procedures and will reciprocate the same!

We have numerous free student clubs (Art, Chorus, Orchestra, Student Council, Safety Patrol, Morning Announcement Crew, Robotics, Debate Team, and Math Competition Team) and free afterschool tutoring for students in grades 1-5. We are diligently finding ways to ensure our students are provided opportunities to succeed academically, emotionally, and physically.

At this time of the school year, the academic camps take priority. If your child is not included in any camps or clubs and you are interested, please get in touch with Ms. Markevich or Ms. Spencer at 754 323-5350.

Collaboration between parents, community partners, and school staff is crucial to our rich history of success. Help build your child's independence by ensuring they come to school prepared with homework, lunch, laptops, etc. Dania continues to be a wonderful place to work and learn.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lewis Jackson, Principal



Mark Your Calendars!

February 14	Day of Service and Love-ER
February 20	President's Day – No School
March 3	Grandparent's Day
March 3	Round-up for Kindergarten
March 16	Early Release Day
March 17	No School
March 20-24	Spring Break



Pre-K and Kindergarten News

Ms. Austin, Ms. Johnson,
Ms. Fishkin, Ms. Cole
Ms. Harmer, Ms. Persac,
Ms. Gonzalez, Ms. Martin

Our students have been busy learning and experiencing new adventures. Most students have learned their ABCs and are now using that knowledge to blend and read. It is a fascinating time watching them

become independent readers. To help with this process, please practice reading at home. It is one of the greatest gifts you can give to someone you love...The joy of reading!

Our little ones are learning to add and subtract numbers 0-10 and listen to and solve word problems. While driving, you can ask simple questions like ...2 cars are on our right, and one car is on our left...How many vehicles are next to us? I see four birds on the line, and one just flew away...How many birds are there now?... These are the type of real-world problems they should be solving.

In Social Studies, we completed our unit on Holidays Around the World. Students learned about different cultures and how children celebrate and practice other traditions. One fun fact was knowing that children in Australia believe eight white kangaroos pull Santa's sleigh.

In Science, we learned about plants and animals and how they are alike and different. We also discussed the characteristics of natural and make-believe animals and fiction and nonfiction literature. We are learning about penguins and other animals that live in cold temperatures.

Our last quarter's adventures included an in-house field trip from the Museum of Arts and Science. The students were excited to interact with robots and do some programming. We also had a wonderful day of Zumba, where our students followed along with Ms. Martin at the lead. Our Christmas concert was a hit, and all our students had a wonderful time performing for you. Many of our little ones enjoy an afternoon of dance and movement on Wednesday after school. Lots and lots of fun learning adventures are happening here at Dania!

First Grade News

Ms. Monteagudo, Ms. Rickman,
Ms. Garcia, Ms. DeCardenas



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Congrats to our FABULOUS first graders for a strong close to the 2nd quarter! A special shoutout to our parents; we couldn't have done it without you!

The second quarter was filled with exciting learning experiences, such as two in-house field trips from the Museum of Discovery and Science and weekly Nutrition classes, which teach our students how to make healthy choices.

This quarter our focus in reading will be to use informational and fictional text to identify the main topic and retell key details. Writing is incorporated within our reading topics and practiced daily.

In math, we will focus on Addition and subtraction relationships within 20.

In science, we are learning about the stars and the sun.

In social studies, we will continue to learn about and discuss historical figures in our country/world. I'm looking forward to seeing their Black history month projects due on Friday, February 18.

Thank you again for all your support!



Second Grade News

Ms. Curry, Mr. Reveron,
Ms. McDonald

Wow! What a memorable and fun second quarter our second graders have had! We

have been busy in and out of our classrooms and would like to thank everyone who participated in the Winterfest. Our students did an excellent job preparing for traditional and new holiday music.

Our second graders have been learning many strategies to achieve reading success. These strategies are finding the main idea, recalling facts and details, understanding sequence, recognizing cause and effects, comparing, and making predictions. Informational texts about Our Government, learning to develop skills to understand the three content areas: reading comprehension/vocabulary, reading foundational skills, and writing and grammar. Please continue to have your child read for 20 minutes each evening.



Third Grade News

Mr. Daley, Ms. Edwards,
Ms. Casanova, Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Tomlinson

Third graders have been working hard learning all the new concepts this school year. F.A.S.T. assessment for Reading and Math is taking place in May. We encourage our students to utilize Scholastic Literacy Pro, Epic, Reflex Math, Savvas Easy Bridge Math (Teacher Assigned Lessons), BrainPop, Jr., and F.A.S.T. Assessment Practice Students & Families (flfast.org) to prepare better and be more confident when taking the test.

Consistent practice should continue daily at home to strengthen reading and math skills to make learning gains and reach proficiency. Third graders need to score a Level 2 (285) or higher in reading on the final F.A.S.T. assessment for promotion to fourth grade. Keep in mind that Level 2 is not

proficiency in third-grade skills. Scoring a Level 3 (300) or higher demonstrates proficiency.

For mathematics, students should have a conceptual understanding of multiplication facts (1-12), division, addition with or without regrouping (multi-digit numbers), and subtraction with or without regrouping (multi-digit numbers). Daily practice is necessary to reach procedural fluency in these foundational skills. The foundational skills spiral throughout each topic. When homework is given, students must complete homework assignments and return homework to the teacher. The homework assigned is additional practice for reinforcement of skills learned in class.

We are proud of our student's progress and look forward to a strong second half of the school year.



Fourth Grade News

Mrs. Little, Mr. Clemmer,
Ms. Podesta, Ms. Kulawik

1. Language Arts/Reading and Writing: We are focusing on responding to informational and opinion prompts, sentence structure, punctuation, and staying on topic. In reading, we focus on inferencing and locating evidence within the text. Parents, please visit Mrs. Podesta's Canvas page to access many educational resources that can be used to improve reading and writing skills. Don't forget to READ, READ and READ!

2. Math: We are currently starting topic 8, which is in the second edition of their math series. They were able to take their first edition home. Please don't hesitate to use that for practice and review, especially those word problems they like to avoid.

Please ensure that your children are completing their Calendar Math nightly. I can't express how important it is to practice those skills daily. Students will continue to practice and learn new strategies for multiplying and dividing multi-digit numbers. We will focus on solving multi-step word problems and addition and subtraction problems with mixed numbers.

3. Science: Students have been working on the Properties of Minerals and Classifying Rocks.

Our students have completed their FAST mid-term Math and Reading assessments. The scores are listed in pinnacle for your review. Here are some ways you can assist your child at home:

Check their agendas and backpacks nightly/weekly.

Make sure they complete all their reading and math homework assignments.

Work on Success Maker and Epic on the computer at least three times weekly.

Download apps that are beneficial to their academic success in school.

Make sure that if they are healthy, they are present in school. Absences cause them to fall behind. Call the office if your child will be absent.





Fifth Grade News

Ms. Rattigan, Mr. Cadotte,
Ms. Mizell

We are now in Quarter 3, and time is winding down. We have started our “after-school tutoring camps” for Math, Science, and ELA Monday to Friday. We will have a few fundraising activities to help with end-of-year activities for our fifth graders. On February 17, 2023, we will have a “Friendship Dance” in the school cafeteria. This is for students only.

The BSA assessment for Science will be on February 16, 2023. The Annual Science night will be held on March 15, 2023, in the school cafeteria. Students have worked very hard in all their classes; please ensure they use the educational resources available to help them at home. Additional support for Math can be found online with “Successmaker” for ELA; they can use “Scholastic” our ESOL students have access to “Imagine Learning,g,” which offers extra English language support. All these resources can be accessed through your child’s Clever Portal.

Students will take a third Cumulative Assessment in Math between February 23 and March 16, 2023. This will include questions from topics 1-11. In ELA, students will be assessed in Unit 5 between February 7-16, and Unit 6 assessment will occur between March 3-14. You will be given reminders for all activities and assessments closer to each date. Please get in touch with your child’s teacher by telephone or Classdojo if you have any concerns.

Reading Corner

Ms. Hall



Dear parents and guardians,
I would like to thank everyone who joined us for Literacy Night on January 25! We had a fantastic time and a great turnout. Seeing so many students playing reading games with their parents and older siblings was very exciting. Many of these games you can

Why Read 20 Minutes at Home?		
STUDENT A	STUDENT B	STUDENT C
• Reads an average of 20 minutes per day.	• Reads an average of 5 minutes per day.	• Reads an average of 1 minutes per day.
• 3,600 minutes/school year	• 900 minutes/school year	• 180 minutes/school year
• 1,800,000 words per year	• 282,000 words per year	• 8,000 words per year
By 6th grade student has read for an equivalent of : 60 school days	By 6th grade student has read for an equivalent of : 12 school days	By 6th grade student has read for an equivalent of : 3 school days
In order for children to become better readers, they need time to read.		

recreate at home, such as sight word hopscotch, bingo, and pool noodle CVC words. We also had much fun participating in dressing up for Literacy Week.

Please have your children read at least 20 minutes per day. This will help them with reading fluency and vocabulary. As you can see from the chart above, every minute counts! Asking questions about what they are reading will help them make connections in the book. As reading and writing are interdependent, instruction in one supports learning in the other. As you work with your children at home, please encourage them to write about their reading. This action will

also help to strengthen their ability to comprehend text.

We encourage parents to support their child's reading development by:

- Spending time reading to your child and talking about books
- Spending time listening to your child read
- Giving books as gifts for holidays, birthdays, surprises, or anytime
- Visiting your local library and getting a library card

Please click on the following link to find out more information from the Broward Schools Elementary Learning Department on how to help your child succeed:

<https://browardschools.instructure.com/courses/627242>

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at Sandra.Hall@browardchools.com.

Happy reading!



Math Corner
Ms. Hengge

Communicating with Children Using Math Language

Talking About Math:

Talking about mathematics with your child – whatever their age – helps strengthen their mathematical reasoning and understanding. Some ways to keep the talk

engaged and focused while you support your child include:

Revoice - Repeat what you heard your child say, then ask for clarification (e.g., “So you are saying it’s an odd number?”).

Repeat/Restate – Ask your child to restate your reasoning (e.g., “Can you repeat what I said in your own words?”).

Reason – Ask your child to apply their reasoning to someone else’s reasoning (e.g., “Do you agree or disagree? Tell me why.”).

Adding On – Prompt your child to participate further (e.g., “What more would you add to that?”).

Think Time – Wait several seconds (try five) to give your child time to think (e.g., “Take some time to think.”). You may be surprised by how hard it is to stay silent during that time!



Artist Corner
Ms. Laden

Why We Teach Art

We know why students often look forward to their art classes: it is a change and fun! It is a time when there is no right or wrong answer; as long as they try, it is impossible to fail. Research has shown that students who participate in the arts (visual arts, music, dance, and drama) perform better in other fields of study. Students can be encouraged to develop creative solutions; it is incredible how inventive they can be. The higher-order thinking skills and problem-solving abilities increase as a result.

The students have been painting with watercolor, distinguished from tempera paint by its transparency. We discussed the

intensity and how lighter and darker values are controlled by the amount of water added to the color. We discussed how to use a paintbrush by using a back-and-forth motion.

Everyone is an Architect... the students designed rectangle shapes on a page to create a "grouping of architectural houses." The lines, shapes, colors, textures, values, and forms are uniquely different for each student. Some students embellished their paintings with oil pastel crayons.

I had the opportunity to teach a lesson on "Henri Matisse - Drawing with Scissors"... the students were introduced to the French Artist and his body of artwork of "Collage" (scissors, paper, and glue). We used scissors to create geometric and organic shapes on a small piece of paper in the style of Matisse. The students did a fantastic job exploring the concept of "Drawing with Scissors." Their practice sample shapes were used to create a composition displayed in the hallway.

The Art Club has been a bounty of creativity! The students draw, paint, and make Play-Doh sculptures, beaded jewelry, weaving, STEAM kits, hair accessories, homemade play dough, and slime. Each afternoon is new and exciting!

I thank you for the opportunity to teach our Dania Dolphins Artists.



Counselor's Corner

Mrs. Page

Hello Parents and Guardians!

February 7th-11th was National School Counseling Week! There are so many ways school counselors can provide support to all

students within the school setting. Some of these services include teaching social/emotional skills and academic planning with students in various settings. Next week, our 5th-grader scholars will visit Olsen Middle School to prepare for their upcoming and exciting transition to 6th Grade.

February 14th is Valentine's Day and Broward County Schools Day of Love and Service. To commemorate the Stoneman Douglas students who lost their lives on 2/14/18, each grade level participated in developmentally appropriate ways to acknowledge this day.

If you want to talk to your child's school counselor, please reach out to Mrs. Page at elysia.page@browardschools.com.



Title 1 News

Ms. Hall

It is hard to believe the year is more than half over. Thank you to the parents participating in the Title 1 Parent Seminars. If any of you are interested, information can be found on our website, Dania.browardschools.com.

The School-Parent Compact outlines how parents/guardians, schools, and students agree to share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement. It is one way the school and parents/guardians develop a partnership that helps their student(s) achieve the state's high standards. A **Title I School-Parent Compact** was sent home for you to review, discuss, and sign with your child. A big THANKS to the families who have returned the completed Title I School-Parent Compact

form to your child's teacher. If you have not done so or need another copy of this form, please call the Front Office at 754-323-5350. The Front Office staff will provide parents with an explanation of all forms and letters and access to these forms in Spanish, Haitian-Creole, and Russian. We must receive a **Title 1 School-Parent Compact** from each child.

Below are Title I Parent Information items that may be of interest to you:

1. 2020-2021 School Improvement Plan: School staff and parents jointly develop the plan. It includes yearly objectives and activities that will be implemented at the school level. You can access this plan on our school's website: <https://www.browardschools.com/dania>.

If you would like to review a hard copy of this plan or if a translation is needed, please get in touch with Mrs. Galina Markevich at 754-323-5350.

2. We will review this and develop next year's plan at our April SAC meeting. The plan includes the parent activities to be implemented throughout the school year and an evaluation of last year's parent engagement program. If you would like to review a hard copy of this plan, please get in touch with Mrs. Galina Markevich at 754-323-5350. It is available in English, Spanish, Haitian-Creole, and Russian.

At our April SAC meeting, we will ask for your involvement and participation in developing the upcoming 2023-2024 School Improvement Plan with Title 1 Addendum.

If you have any questions regarding Title 1, don't hesitate to get in touch with me at 754-323-5350.

Attendance Matters!

The School Board of Broward County, Florida prohibits any policy or procedure which results in discrimination on the basis of age, color, disability, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, marital status, race religion, sex or sexual orientation. Individuals who wish to file a discrimination and/or harassment complaint may call the Executive Director, Benefits & EEO Compliance at 754-321-2150 of Teletype Machine (TTY) 754-321-2158.

Students who are frequently absent in Kindergarten do less well in first grade. Absences add up in elementary school. Research shows that **missing 18 days in a school year or two days every month can result in lower test scores and possible retention in later grades.**

Regular attendance **fosters a classroom community between teachers and children.** Students who attend school are more likely to succeed academically. Students gain background knowledge from discussions while learning in school. Attending school also provides time for social interactions with peers.

Impact on Academics

8 days in total or 1 week and 3 days	47 lessons missed each year
16 days in total or 3 weeks and 1 day	95 lessons missed each year
24 days in total or 4 weeks and 4 days	143 lessons missed each year
32 days in total or 6 weeks and 2 days	190 lessons missed each year

We congratulate the students and their parents for perfect attendance (every day at school and on time, staying until the end) in the 2nd quarter:

K – Navayah F., Aiden J.

1 – Abigail A., Kyra P., Samuldinot A.

2 – Dezyree C., Kasey P., Jaeleah T.

3 – Ryan A., Elena A., Ariana C., Preston G., Alex S., Mikita S.

4 – Jeremiah A., Isaiah K., Malaysia L., Laurensi S.

5 – Trevaughn F., Jaedon T., Jasean T.,Luz B.

*“Dania Dolphins S.W.I.M. and Succeed with Relationships,
Grace and Respect.”*