

# Morrow Elementary

## Patriot Press: October/November 2018



### *Principal's Message*

Dear Morrow Families,

I am proud to say that our school year is off to an exceptional start! Since our students returned in August, they have actively engaged in a variety of academic and Social Emotional Learning (SEL) experiences. We are excited about the growth we are already seeing from our Patriot students!

Safety continues to be our priority here at Morrow. We would like to thank you for your adherence to our safety protocols, including our arrival and dismissal procedures. Please be aware that every student is required to wear an ID badge the entire day at school. All safety drills and school related updates will be communicated via Parent Link. Please stay connected to what is happening at Morrow by regularly checking our website at [www.browardschools.com/morrow](http://www.browardschools.com/morrow) and by following us on Twitter at @MorrowElem. In addition, please check your child's backpack daily for flyers and announcements.

Parents, please remind your children and grandchildren regarding safety procedures and the importance of **NOT** making threats to schools, students, and employees. All threats will be taken seriously and investigated by the school district and law enforcement agencies. Based on the findings, students may be subject to school discipline as well as criminal charges. Please review the attached safety procedures and letter that was sent by Superintendent Runcie regarding the mobile apps for reporting suspicious activity. The arrival and dismissal safety procedures at Morrow is also attached and a reminder that **All** visitors to our campus will be required to present a picture identification for entrance.

All compulsory age students are required to attend school every day of the 180-day school year (based on Florida State Statute). A student has a "pattern of non-attendance" if he or she is absent from school a total of 30 hours (5 days) in any one marking period or 60 hours (10 days) within 90 days. Unexcused absences, excused absences, tardies, or early sign-outs add up to non-attendance. Please ensure that your child is in school every school day before 8:00 a.m. and plan family activities after 2:00 p.m. to allow students the opportunity to participate in all learning activities. If there is an emergency and you need to pick up your child prior to 1:30 p.m., please allow enough time, you will need to wait for a staff member to escort your child to the office. Your patience and cooperation with this procedure is greatly appreciated. Early dismissal will not be allowed after 1:30 p.m.

Thank you for supporting our Annual Back to School Event, our Title I Open House, and our Family Literacy and Technology Night. These events were a great success. I encourage you to continue to be active participants in the decision-making process. Please get involved in the School Advisory Council (SAC), PTA, and the School Advisory Forum (SAF). In addition, volunteers are always welcomed and needed. There are many opportunities for you to become involved in our school. Please call the school to indicate your interest in volunteering and participating. Please join us on October 30th, 2018 for our Fall Family Night, SAC, SAF, and PTA meetings beginning at 5:30 p.m. The SAC agenda is attached.

If you have suggestions, questions, comments, and/or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Brightman or myself at 754-322-7150 or visit our campus.

*Dr. Crowle, Principal*

# Notes from Guidance – Ms. Nguyen



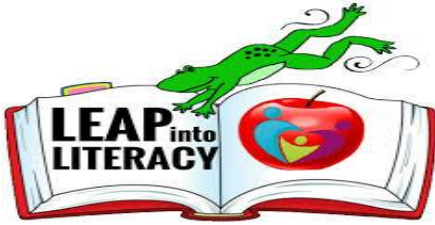
Good Day Parents, Students, and Staff:

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year, I am very excited to bring new ideas and activities to Morrow. We had our first meeting for Humanity Club and Arts and Crafts Club, two new clubs that Guidance is sponsoring this school year and the students are very excited about it. (See pictures below). We celebrated Peace Week September 17<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup>. Please take time to read the peace messages when you visit the front office hanging on our Peace Tree. The students also signed a Pledge to support peace in our school and community. They shared their knowledge and pledged to continue supporting a peaceful environment at Morrow.

We also recognized our first character trait for the month of September, which was Cooperation. All students that were nominated received certificates and prizes. The group picture is displayed on our Kids of Character (KOC) Board by the main hallway. In October, we will be recognizing the character trait of “responsibility.” We are celebrating Red Ribbon Week, please review the flyer that was sent home with school spirit activities for students to do each day from October 23<sup>rd</sup> -31<sup>st</sup>. Students who participate will each receive rewards/recognition daily for participation.

Lastly, I would like to share with you that the district is taking a big step forward with the Social Emotional Learning movement this year (SEL). The District is offering a variety of programs that connect our academic curriculum with SEL learning competencies. From our morning meetings to our minute meditations, we are connecting with our students emotionally to build successful and healthy students.





Hello Families,

Back to School means starting your child off with the right Literacy habits. Here are three ways to spend time with your children and build reading skills:

1. **Read Regularly** - Try to read with your child or have your child read to you every day. Children should read for at least 20 minutes each day to build stamina. You might aim for a bed time reading for a peaceful end of the day. Or curl up together with a book when you get home from work.
2. **Ask Questions** – Pick a book and read a few sentences or pages to or with your child. Ask them about what is happening or what they think will happen next. Having your child think about the story or topic will deepen their understanding.
3. **Digital Reading Resources**- Morrow Elementary offers a variety of Home-School Connection Resources. Every student has access to MyOn digital books as well as iReady Learning in Reading and Math. These are great ways for students to bring the classroom home. Talk with your student about MyOn Lexile goals and increasing their scale score on iReady. Please contact your child's teacher or Mrs. Mason, Literacy Coach, if you have any questions about any of these programs.

Happy Reading,

**Mrs. Mason, Literacy Coach**



Greetings Super Scientists!

We are off to a fantastic 2018 – 2019 school year. I truly believe that we are going to have an exciting time. I am excited to work diligently with all grade levels. Classes will have the opportunity to attend science lab for specials. All our learners will engage in structured lessons during STEM Science instruction. Students will have the opportunity to investigate, explore and participate in standard-based learning activities while experiencing hands-on science experiments.

Happy Exploring!

Mrs. Small-Williams

Science Teacher



# Math Magic News



## JOIN THE MATH RACE!

At Morrow, Minutes in Math Matter! As we get back in the swing of a great year, I am reminded of a quote: “Children will do what their teachers BELIEVE they can do.” Parents you are their first teachers. Math is everywhere and prepares you for life. Parents, you are the real Math-Magicians. You organize and balance budgets, pay bills, go grocery shopping, do banking and plan entertainment activities and organize vacations.

Connect what your children are learning in school to real world experiences at home. They could apply fraction concepts in the kitchen as you cook those delicious meals. These hands-on connections will develop and sharpen their problem - solving skills. Math facts help the muscles in your brain to stretch to unknown heights. The magic of math allows you to organize your thoughts, rearrange information and it increases the ability to explain your thinking.

At home students have access to our school programs: iReady, [www.reflexmath.com](http://www.reflexmath.com)- Reflex Math and the Go Math Personal Math Trainer. Your students know their access code. (username is your teachers’ name and your passwords are your student ID#). Please mark your calendar for February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019. It will be our Family Math Night event.

Ms. Tucker

Math Coach

## Social and Emotional Learning (SEL)

Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) is the process in which students and adults are able to recognize and manage emotions, solve problems effectively and establish positive relationships with others. SEL provides direct instruction in skills that enable students to succeed in college, career and life by being responsible citizens and decision makers. Instruction in SEL enables students to see themselves and others in a positive light, manage emotions, set and achieve goals and solve problems they encounter effectively. It supports school cultures and climates to allow students to practice life skills throughout their school experience. It is our goal to provide students with the Social and Emotional Learning Skills to become responsible citizens and be able to contribute to their own economic well-being and to that of their families and communities, and to enjoy productive and satisfying lives.



# Grade Level Happenings

## Headstart and Pre-K

### Tips to Develop children's early reading skills

#### 1. Read several stories every day

The more children are exposed to literature, the more reading will become part of their daily life. A child is introduced to new information, concepts, and phonemic awareness with every story.

#### 2. Surround your children with reading material

Children with a large collection of reading resources in their homes score higher and perform better on standardized tests. Provoke a reading habit in your child by having a large array of interesting books and magazines at her reading level.

#### 3. Encourage a wide variety of reading activities

Make reading an essential part of your children's lives. Let them read menus, movie name, roadside signs, game guides, weather reports, and other practical everyday information. Always try to make sure your children have something to read in their spare time.

#### 4. Let them choose what they read

Reading for pleasure is one of the best ways for a child to improve his performance at school but teaching a child to love reading involves a lot more than simply handing him a book. Letting children have choices in their reading material goes a long way in raising life-long readers. Kids who choose what they read, regardless of whether it's a novel, a comic book, or a magazine, are more engaged with what they are reading and more likely to retain the information.

#### 5. Help them choose age-appropriate books

Help your kids choose age-appropriate books on topics that interest them to spark a passion for reading. Take them to the library or even show them e-readers that provide entire libraries of options at the touch of the screen. Access to a wide-variety of options helps make it easier for parents to help their children find the stories that give them that toehold into the world of reading.

Hello Parents,



The Kindergarten Team is looking forward to a successful year of learning for all our students! In our daily instruction, we are using research-based curriculum materials to best ensure student success. One of our tools is Foundations, a multi-sensory structured language program, which focuses on foundational skills. These skills are phonemic awareness, phonics, word study, comprehension strategies and more. As our students continue to gain foundational skills it is extremely important for the "at home" connection. We thank you for helping to ensure that homework is completed nightly. Also, reviewing the letters and their corresponding sounds strengthens students' foundational skills. Please also read for at least 20 minutes every night with your child. We look forward to speaking with in parent teacher conferences! Remember that you are your child's first teacher. 😊

## Grade Level Happenings



Hello Morrow Families,

First grade is currently learning how to identify the differences between fictional and nonfictional books through the integration of social studies and science. As we learn how to look for key details in a text, the students are learning how to use and incorporate different reading strategies to become better readers.

This year the students will continue to use iReady, and we will use the data to drive their instruction, as well as help develop rigor in the content presented to the students.

In math, the first-grade team is working to help students learn different strategies to add and subtract within 20, while also developing fluency with adding and subtracting numbers to 10.



Greetings Parents!

The second graders have been busy learning high frequency words, new vocabulary words and many skills to improve their reading and comprehension skills. They're learning how to ask and answer questions as who, what when, where, why and how to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text. In addition, they are learning how to identify the main idea and details in the text. These skills will help improve their comprehension skills, therefore promoting a higher level of thinking.

The students are working on fluently adding within 20 using mental strategies. They are also learning how to read and write numbers to 1,000 using base-ten numerals, number names and expanded form. Throughout the year, the students will be learning how to solve math word problems.

Please check your child's planner and take-home folder for homework, graded papers and important information. If there's a change in transportation for your child, please inform your child's teacher prior to dismissal. Thanks for your support.

# Grade Level Happenings

Hello Morrow Family!



Third grade is off to a great start! Please continue to encourage your child to be the best they can be. This includes staying focused and participating in all classroom activities. It is expected that your children complete their homework and returns it by the due date. Encourage your children read every night for at least 30 minutes. Please continue to check your child's planner and sign it nightly.

## Fourth Grade



Greetings Parents!

It has been a very busy start to the 2018-2019 school year in 4th Grade. Our learners are adjusting to a new grade level with new academic expectations. We have been focusing on informational text in Reading, working on identifying main idea, supporting details, cause and effect relationships, summarizing and drawing conclusions. For math it is extremely important that students know and practice their basic multiplication facts since we are taking math to the next level and multiplying up to four-digit numbers by a one-digit number. Be sure to ask your child the different strategies they are learning that you may not be familiar with.

Extra practice in Reading and Math can be done at home using the online programs - iReady and Reflex Math. These sites are additional resources that can be accessed through the Student's Single Sign on (SSO) account. Use [www.browardschools.com/sso](http://www.browardschools.com/sso) to visit these and more. Please use your child's daily planner to keep up to date with homework assignments and communicate with your child's teacher. We look forward to working together to help all students achieve their best.

## Fifth Grade

Dear Parents,

The new school year in 5<sup>th</sup> grade has had a great beginning. The students attended their first field trip of the year at JA BizTown. They had a firsthand experience of the business world and experienced how it feels to be a part of a working society which allowed them to work, shop and eat.

In the classroom, we are going deeper into the reading standards. The students are identifying more than one main idea in a text and are making inferences; why an author include certain information in a text.

In Math, we are dividing to the thousands with two-digit divisors. So, knowing their multiplication facts will help to make the student very successful in math.

In Science, we just finished learning about matter. Now, we are discovering our galaxy- the Milky Way!! Our students are excited about learning. For that reason, many resources are available to them online. They have MyOn to read hundreds of books at their level. They also have Reflex math to practice their multiplication facts. Parents, please share the excitement of learning when talking to your child about school. We look forward to working with you for the achievement of your child.

# 5th Grade

# PTA



Our Morrow PTA (Parent Teacher Association) is working hard in creating a Morrow Book Store for the students of Morrow where the students will be able to use their “Morrow Bucks” to purchase something from the store. The bucks will be earned from their teacher and can be earned in a variety of ways. The PTA has also named its president for 2018 - 2019 as Mrs. Simmons, a proud Morrow parent and volunteer.

## Reminder

Morrow Elementary has a unified dress policy and **all students**, are expected to participate. ***Our colors are red, white, blue and khaki.*** Parents may exempt a student from wearing uniforms by completing the uniform waiver within ten days of a student’s enrollment. Please see the office staff if you have questions and/or need assistance with uniforms. All students are expected to dress in attire suitable for school. For your child’s safety, sandals, thongs, Crocs, or clogs of any type are not permitted during school hours.

## Student Absences

*For the safety of our children, it is mandatory that parents call the school office by 9:30 a.m. on the morning of their child's absence.*

*754-322-7152*



# IMPORTANT DATES



**October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

Student Picture Retakes

**October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

SAC/SAF/PTA Meetings and Fall Family Night @ 5:30 p.m.

**November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

Schools Closed – Teacher Planning Day

**November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

Schools Closed - Veteran's Day Holiday

**November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

Report Cards Issued for Students

**November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Interim Reports Issued

**November 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Schools Closed – Thanksgiving Holiday

**December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

Classroom Picture Day

**December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2108**

Early Release Day - Noon Dismissal

**December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

Schools Closed – Winter Break

**January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

Schools Closed – Teacher Planning Day

**January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

Broward Standards Assessment (BSA)