

Morrow Elementary Patriot Press

Volume 3 – January/February 2018

IMPORTANT DATES



Principal's Message

Welcome Back Morrow Patriots, Families, and Friends!

I hope you had a wonderful, restful winter break, celebrating and enjoying time with family and friends. We are in the second half of the school year. This is such an important time for us all. I encourage you to have set routines and procedures at home that focus on academic success. Please plan on a quiet place for your child to complete his/her homework at a regularly scheduled time each day and provide a lot of encouragement and positive praise. We will utilize students' mid-year assessment data to continue to plan and deliver quality instruction to ensure students continue to learn and grow. It is critical that your child is present at school every day and on time in order to actively participate in all learning activities. A nutritious, **FREE** breakfast is offered daily, beginning at 7:15 a.m.

The hard work put in by each of our students, teachers, and parents is paying off and is evidenced in the significant progress and growth as we review our mid-year assessment data. We are gearing up for several important standardized assessments, so please mark your calendar with the dates located on our school website and attached to this newsletter.

We also have several engaging family events planned for you this year and encourage all our Morrow Families to participate as we explore mathematics, scientific inquiry and all things reading. Students can't wait to share with you all that they have accomplished at our next Student-Led Conference scheduled for February 2, 2018 at 8:15 a.m. Please participate in this activity and encourage your child (ren) to take the necessary action steps and work towards achieving their goals.

At Morrow Elementary we care about the whole child. As educators we want to support students in becoming self-aware, so that they are able to make positive choices based on their own feelings and emotions. We encourage all students to read daily, think positively, and stay motivated.

I would like to personally welcome all new and returning students and families to Morrow, the HOME of the PATRIOTS!!!!

Thanks for your continued support and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions, comments, suggestions, or concerns.

Educationally Yours,
~ Dr. Laurel Crowle

February 1st
Report Cards Issued

February 2nd
Student - Led Conferences
8:15am-9:00am

February 2nd
Take Your Child to Work Day

February 8th
SAC/SAF/PTA Meeting
5:30pm

February 8th
Science Academic Expo Night
6:00pm

February 13th
3rd Quarter Interims Issued

February 13th
Valentine's Day Dance
6:00pm

February 19th
President's Day – *School Closed*

February 22nd
Early Release: Noon Dismissal

March 6th
Florida Standards Assessment
Writing: Grades 4 and 5

Notes from Guidance – Ms. Nguyen



Good Day Parents, Students, and Staff:

Our first round of Student Success Skills Counseling groups just ended. We will focus on academic and test taking strategies during our second round of groups. If you are interested, please contact Ms. Nguyen, School Counselor, for more information about enrolling your child in this group.

Congratulations to January's Student of the Month winners, they were nominated by their teachers for being respectful. In February, we will honor our students with the character trait of Honesty. Please emphasize how important it is to have this character trait and praise them if they were honored at school each month for displaying the trait.

Our schoolwide assembly, the "NED" show, was held on Friday, January 26th, 2018. The show focused on positive character traits and it was done through visual and active interaction with our students. You may view pictures on twitter @MorrowElem and the website @<https://www.browardschools1.com/morrow>.

The Broward Standards Assessments (BSA) testing began on January 23rd, a letter was sent home indicating the specific days of testing for your child (ren) in grades 3-5. Please ensure that they have a restful night, at least eight hours of sleep and a good healthy breakfast every morning. This will assist our students to be successful in school. In addition, please encourage your child (ren) to try their best on all assessments. The Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) in writing for students in grades four and five will be March 6, 2018.

Assessment data provides the evidence of student learning. Based on this information, decisions are made that will enhance student learning. Likewise, behavior management is addressed in a leveled or tiered approach where decisions are made about the best behavioral interventions to employ. A problem-solving method of decision-making is employed and results of efforts are documented. **Response to Intervention (RtI) process** is intended to result in better learning opportunities and higher achievement for all students. If you have questions regarding assessment results or RtI, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher.



Response to Intervention (RtI) is defined as "the change in behavior or performance as a function of an intervention (Gresham, 1991). RtI is implemented as a leveled or tiered approach to instructional delivery that includes interventions of increasingly higher intensity, based on a student's need; that is, a **Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS)**.



Dear Parents,

You are your child's first teacher and reading with your child is a proven way to promote early literacy. Helping to make sure your child is reading on grade level by third grade is one of the most important things you can do to prepare him/her for the future. By reading with your child for 20 minutes per day and making a few simple strategies a part of your daily routine, you can make a positive impact on your child's success in school. We all know that standardized tests can be tough. But we can help our students choose to do well by helping them to be prepared. Here are six ways to help your child move towards proficiency.

1. Read daily. Students need to build stamina for reading for extended periods. This can be done by having your child read for 20-30 minutes each day. Students have free access to myOn Reading. Log on through your child's SSO account.
2. Play a game in which you say a word and your child has to break apart all the sounds. Ask your child to stretch out a word like dog and he/she can pretend to stretch a word with a rubber band. Your child should say /d/ /ɔ/ /g/.
3. Play Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes with sounds. Say a word and have your child touch his/her head for the first sound, shoulders for the second sound, and knees for the third while saying each sound.
4. Labeling words - When reading with your child, keep Post-it notes handy. Every so often, have your child choose one object in the picture and write the word on a Post-it. Put the note in the book to read each time you come to that page.
5. Make your own books of favorite songs for child to practice "reading". This builds confidence and helps your child identify him/herself as a reader.
6. Before reading - Point out the title and author. Look at the picture on the cover and ask, "What do you think is going to happen in this story? Why?" This will help your child set purpose for reading.

Happy Reading,

Mrs. Mason, Literacy Coach



As a Title 1 school, Morrow is committed to providing continued assistance and training to our parents. Please be advised that the 2017-2018 School Improvement Plan, along with the Title 1 Addendum is available in the front office and can also be accessed on the school's website, <https://www.browardschools1/morrow>. Additional information may be located at the Title 1 website at: www.broward.k12.fl.us/titleone. If you have questions, regarding Title 1, please contact our school at 754-322-7150 or the Title 1 Office at 754-321-1400.



Thursday, February 15, 2018 – Parent Training Academy Workshop- Horizon Elementary

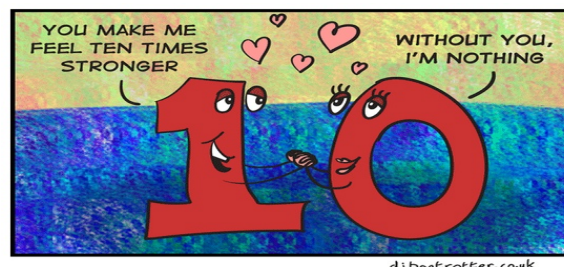
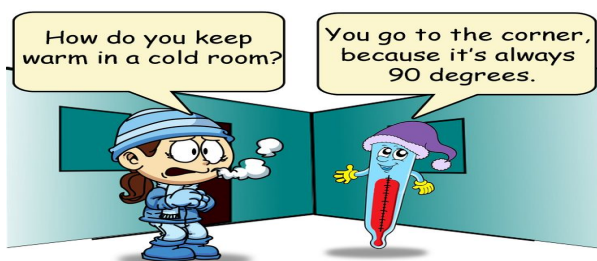


SUCCESS!

Family Math Night was a great success. Thanks to all the parents, teachers, staff and families who attended, participated and volunteered their time. We partnered with **MATHNASIUM OF CORAL SPRINGS** to bring Math concepts to our scholars in a fun way. Mathnasium is a Math Learning Center that provides tutoring for K-12 students. The students and parents worked for prizes and were very competitive. Additionally, parents and students enjoyed Math Zumba with **Ms. Caesar**. When children are active their brain power increases! Our K-2 students enjoyed a Character Read Aloud in the library with **Ms. Howe** and **Ms. Mason**. What a great way to extend literacy! **Ms. Campbell** and **Ms. Brazle** were phenomenal as they did “number” projects with our preschoolers. The hats of symmetry were a hit! **Ms. Imbert** and **Ms. Kerr** were our Grades 3-5 FSA informational Gurus, as they challenged parents and students with solving FSA practice problems with their children. **Ms. Tiller** and **Mr. Vilus** had students and parents “estimate” using logic. **Ms. Small Williams** demonstrated how Science and Math are linked in every way! The scholars engineered and created paper planes, then measured the distance their paper planes flew. **Ms. Hunt** had students become architects as they designed and developed buildings using toothpicks and marshmallows. **Ms. Betro** and **Ms. Fontanet** challenged students to do mental math! Thank you **Ms. Hylton -Senior** for the yo-yo display to have our students “pay” it forward! It was a Fun Family Math night. Thanks to **Administration** and the **PTA** for providing us with door prizes, giveaways, and Pizza! Stay tuned for our next Math Explosion!

On January 17-19th, the second Math i-Ready Diagnostic testing was administered. This test measured the gains students have made since October! Your child(ren) made great strides. The Parent reports will be sent home with your child’s report cards. Please discuss the results with your child(ren). Celebrate their growth about their scores and be sure to talk to your child’s teacher about how to help them at home.

~ **Ms. Tucker**, Math Coach



Grade Level Happenings

Kindergarten

Hello Parents,

It's hard to believe that half of the school year is over! So far, we have been having a blast in kindergarten. We are mastering our letters and sounds. We are recognizing more and more sight words. We can read simple sentences and books. In math, we are learning to add and subtract. We have been working on building our classroom communities while learning about sharing and being a good friend. We are looking forward to our field trip to the Museum of Science and Discovery on February 1st. We enjoyed our winter break and are now ready to learn!

First Grade

Hello Morrow Families,

Happy New Year! First graders are happy to be halfway through the school year. In reading we have been working on improving our reading fluency and comprehension skills by practicing our sight words, using our phonics knowledge to decode new words, and identifying the main idea and supporting details. In science we have been learning about our planet earth and space, while in social studies we have been learning about people and events that help to shape our history. Math has us grouping objects in "tens" and "ones" and representing numbers up to 120 in different ways. Please encourage your children to read for at least 15 minutes each evening. Thank you.

Second Grade

Greetings Parents! We are now half way through our school year! We are very excited for all that the children have learned and their progress to date. Remember that our upcoming field trip is on February 20th to Flamingo Gardens. This is a great time for the kids to learn more about the plants and animals that are native to Florida.

We would like to remind you to keep checking your child's backpack and planner daily. Also, if you have internet at home we would like to encourage you to allow your child time to go online to "play" on such programs as iReady, MyON, Science4us, Reflex Math, and Prodigy. These are all excellent learning games that can help increase student performance. Your child should be reading for 20-30 minutes daily. This can include online reading. Our Science Fair and Academic EXPO will be on Thursday, February 8th at 6:15 pm and the student led conferences will be February 2nd from 8:15-9:00 am. We hope that you can attend both of these events!

Grade Level Happenings

Third Grade

Hello Morrow Family!

The third graders are diligently working on improving their reading skills to prepare for the BSA and FSA. Please encourage students to read each day, including weekends, for at least 30 minutes to enhance their reading skills. In math we are continuing to work on multiplication and division word problems in preparation for our upcoming unit on fractions. Please encourage your child to study his or her facts daily. In science the students are a buzz about all parts of a plant structure. Encourage your child to share with you what they've learned about plant structures. Lastly, Take Your Child to Work Day, the 3rd grade field trip to MODS, and Student-Led Conferences will each be held on February 2, 2018.

Fourth Grade

Greetings Parents!

We hope everyone had a wonderful New Year. We are now working on a lot of projects and engaging activities in order to get ready for our Science and Academic Fair. We are continuing to monitor success in reading, writing and math. Fourth grade has recently completed their i-Ready Diagnostic Test and Broward Standards Assessments (BSA). The results will help us to see how to assist our students in the best way possible and how we can help them to improve and get ready for the FSA as well as Fifth grade. We are working on rigorous activities which will help our students to gain the knowledge that they need. The activities that they are working on are fractions which consist of adding, subtracting, and multiplying fractions. The students work on completing activities together which help to promote social skills. Thank you for your continued support.

Fifth Grade

Welcome back! We hope you all enjoyed your winter break. We are excited to start the third quarter. Fifth graders had a wonderful time on their JA Biztown Field trip before the break and are looking forward to their next field trip to the Museum of Discovery and Science on February 16th. We are continuing to monitor success in reading, writing, math, and science. Fifth graders recently completed the Broward Standards Assessments (BSA) and results will help us move forward with students' strengths and focus on areas that need improvement. To continue learning at home, please have your child access iReady for reading and math practice online. There is still time to be fluent with multiplication facts. Try writing them down, making your own flash cards, practicing with a family member, or logging into *Reflex Math* to improve your multiplication fluency. Reading daily at home is another way to improve comprehension in reading as well as all other subject areas.

Be sure to join us at the Science and Academic Expo Night on February 8th to check out what students have been working on. Fifth grade will have different science and social studies projects on display. Students will be eager to show off their creative work and share their knowledge with you. We hope to see you there.

Science Success - Mrs. Small-Williams

SAVE THE DATE!

Thursday, February 8th, 2018

6:15pm – 7:30pm

Our Science Fair and Academic Expo event is quickly approaching. This is an invitation to the staff, Morrow learners, parents, families and the community at large. Come out and be an intricate participant in this event. You will have the opportunity to experience some amazing standards-based science experiments from all grade levels.

Some of our presentations on display will include:

- Class science projects and activities
- Drone simulations
- Robotics presentations
- Student-led experiments
- Hands-on experiments
- Famous scientist biographies
- Performances from our chorus, step team, praise dancers and percussion clubs
- Live jazz band performance

This event will be EPIC! Looking forward to seeing each of you!

Scientifically yours,

Mrs. Small-Williams

Computer Science Creativity & Media News - Ms. Howe

The students are really loving the keyboarding skills and “coding” activities in our Computer Science class. The students can practice these skills at home. The students can access www.learning.com on any internet browser and use their student number for the username **and** password. The assignments are scored on how well they mastered that skill. These lessons will help the students become familiar with the keyboard, applications, and creating games/websites.

Students are bringing home library books to enjoy at home. Check-out day is Monday and return day is Friday. Please help ensure the quality of books by keeping the book in your child’s backpack when not using it. This is a simple way to show responsibility. If your child has lost a book, you are responsible for its replacement. Notices about missing books will be given to your child and they will not be allowed to get a new book until the obligation is met.

Melissa Howe

Computer Science/Media

PTA

Morrow’s Parent Teacher Association would like to thank all teachers for their interests in the organization and is looking forward to the exchange of ideas of how to build communication and community with our Morrow Parents. We are currently trying to recruit a minimum of 20 parents that can dedicate and commit to being a voice for our students. We are looking forward to attending the Math Night on January 30th and the Science Exposition on February 8th in hopes that more parents will join. We are also working on fundraising ideas, both internal and external, that can help with some of the needs of our students. Please contact the front office for more information about how to be a part of our marvelous PTA.

– Ms. Hylton- Senior



Helping ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS (ELL) Develop Reading Skills:

Recommendations for Parents:

Reading aloud is an effective way of developing vocabulary. The more opportunities for ELLs to have encounters with words, the more words they can add to their vocabulary. Literature books, trade books, poems, rhymes, etc. are filled with wonderful examples of language, words, and content. Reading aloud has been traditionally implemented as a strategy for only young students, yet it can play an effective role in the classroom at any age. Picture books are excellent resources for students of all ages to build vocabulary.

En Espanol

Leer en voz alta es una forma efectiva de desarrollar el vocabulario. Cuantas más oportunidades tienen los ELL de tener encuentros con palabras, más palabras pueden agregar a su vocabulario. Los libros de literatura, libros de comercio, poemas, rimas, etc. están llenos de ejemplos maravillosos de lenguaje, palabras y contenido. La lectura en voz alta se ha implementado tradicionalmente como una estrategia solo para estudiantes jóvenes, sin embargo, puede desempeñar un papel efectivo en el aula LEP a cualquier edad. Los libros ilustrados son excelentes recursos para que los estudiantes de todas las edades construyan vocabulario.

An Kreyol

Lekti a haute vwa se yon fason efikas pou devlope vokabilè. Opòtinite yo pi plis pou timoun yo gen rankont ak mo, mo sa yo plis yo ka ajoute nan vokabilè yo. Liv literati, liv komèsyal, powèm, rim, elatriye yo plen ak egzanp bèl bagay nan lang, mo, ak kontni. Lekti a haute vwa te tradisyonèlman aplike kòm yon estrateji pou elèv sèlman jèn, men li ka jwe yon wòl efektif nan salklas timoun kap apran angle nan nenpòt laj. Liv foto yo se resous ekselan pou elèv ki gen tout laj yo bati vokabilè.



Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day Program Guidelines Background and Eligibility



Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) observes Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day on **Friday, February 2, 2018**. This year's theme is "Positive Agents of Change," encouraging students to take advantage of positive opportunities that come their way.

Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day is a nationwide learning program that allows students to explore career industries, form ideas about their futures and learn what it takes to be successful in a business environment.

Local companies and organizations are encouraged to participate, and help students see how what they are learning in their classrooms applies to the workplace. In addition, all BCPS schools, centers and departments and administrative offices will provide employees the opportunity to bring their daughters and sons to work.

BCPS joins other local school districts (Miami-Dade and Palm Beach counties) in observing Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day on Friday, February 2, instead of the national observance date in April, due to date conflicts with the state-mandated Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) testing periods. BCPS students who participate in Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day must complete the Student Log and Activity Form. Activity packets are available at schools and on the District website, browardschools.com.

Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day is a District approved field trip and will not be considered an absence. Students should follow the guidelines in the current Code of Student Conduct booklet concerning pre-approved absences for educational reasons. Students going to a workplace with a parent, adult relative, or adult family friend are on a field trip and are excused as described in the Code of Student Conduct.

Students who have prearranged an excused absence for February 2, 2018, have the responsibility to turn in all assignments on the day after the missed day, unless other arrangements have been made with the child's teacher(s), as delineated in the Code of Student Conduct booklet. Following participation in the Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day, students will be encouraged to share their experiences during classes (must be approved by teacher).

Morrow Families are encouraged to participate in the student-led conference and then take their children to the workplace to allow our students the opportunity to learn and explore different careers.

For additional information, please contact the school at 754-322-7150.

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, genetic information, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex or sexual orientation. The School Board also provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Individuals who wish to file a discrimination and/or harassment complaint may call the Director, Equal Educational Opportunities/ADA Compliance Department & District's Equity Coordinator/Title IX Coordinator at 754-321- 2150 or Teletype Machine (TTY) 754-321-2158.

Individuals with disabilities requesting accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008, (ADAAA) may call Equal Educational Opportunities/ADA Compliance Department at 754-321-2150 or Teletype Machine (TTY) 754-321-2158.