

# Morrow Elementary

## Patriot Press

Volume 2 - December 2017

### *Principal Crowle's Corner.....*

Dear Morrow Families,

As we approach the holiday season, I would like to extend my best wishes to you and your family for the holidays. I wish you a wonderful time celebrating your traditions and enjoying time with family and friends.

At Morrow we celebrate our diverse culture by honoring the variety of traditions of all our families. As you embark on preparation for your traditions, we ask you to spend time as a family to work on a short and fun project. This project will allow you to share your traditions with the greater Morrow community. Be as creative as possible and send the completed project back to us by Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup>. We will display the projects at our Winter Showcase Performance on December 19<sup>th</sup>. Our Winter Showcase will highlight our Chorus, Praise Dancers and Step Team.

We are thankful for all our parents who attended Morrow's first Student-Led Conferences for the 2017-2018 school year. This was an opportunity to hear directly from your child(ren) about their progress in school. If you were unable to attend on December 1<sup>st</sup>, please mark your calendar for January 26<sup>th</sup> for your next chance to participate in this engaging opportunity for you and your child(ren).

In the last few weeks our students have been exposed to a variety of field trips, in house performances, career day presenters and field-day fun. These activities enriched the social and emotional development of our Morrow scholars. Stay connected to all the Morrow events by regularly checking our website, [www.browardschools1.com/morrow](http://www.browardschools1.com/morrow) and following us on twitter at [@MorrowElem](https://twitter.com/MorrowElem). You can also follow our zone twitter page at [@coccreekschools](https://twitter.com/coccreekschools).

Remember to have students read every day to increase their reading proficiency and reinforce literacy skills taught at school. Our partnership between home and school will increase our scholars' success.

Educationally yours,

*Dr. Laurel Crowle*

## IMPORTANT DATES



December 1<sup>st</sup> - 7:30am  
SAC/SAF/PTA Meetings

December 1<sup>st</sup> - 8:15am  
Student-Led Conferences

December 19<sup>th</sup> - 6:00pm  
Winter Showcase Performance

December 25<sup>th</sup> – January 5<sup>th</sup>  
Winter Break – **School Closed**

January 8<sup>th</sup>  
Teacher Planning – **School Closed**

January 9<sup>th</sup>  
Students Return

January 10<sup>th</sup> – January 29<sup>th</sup>  
BSA & iReady Assessments

January 15<sup>th</sup>  
MLK Day – **School Closed**

January 26<sup>th</sup> – 7:30am  
SAC/SAF/PTSA Meetings

January 26<sup>th</sup> – 8:15am  
Student-Led Conferences

January 30<sup>th</sup> – 5:30pm – 7:30pm  
Math Family Night

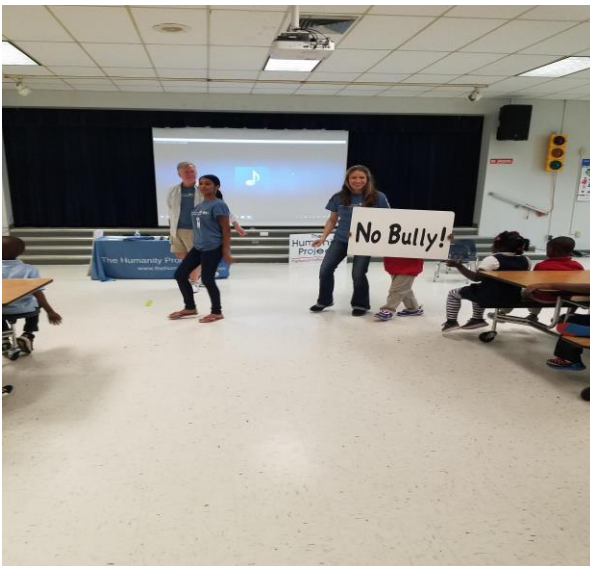
February 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Take Your Child to Work Day

## Notes from Guidance – Ms. Nguyen

Good Day Parents, Students, and Staff:

I am happy to share that our guidance support groups had a successful first meeting and students enjoyed learning about everyday academic and social skills along with other targeted areas. If you would like your child to participate in weekly guidance support groups, please contact your child's teacher or myself for a permission form. Our next round will begin in mid-January 2018 and they run for 4-6 weeks.

“Thank you” to everyone that participated in Red Ribbon Week this past October. Our students enjoyed the different school spirit events and they earned many rewards. We also had our school-wide Anti-Bullying assembly in honoring Anti-Bullying month. See pictures enclosed for our activities and follow us on twitter to see more.



## LITERACY TIPS MS. MASON

Reading for pleasure can improve your child's language and literacy skills. When your child enjoys reading and does it often, he boosts his vocabulary and reading skills. To increase his interest in reading:

- Suggest books you enjoyed when you were young. Search for some of your favorite authors or books at the library with your child.

- Make opportunities for your child to read with friends. Encourage them to discuss books they enjoy. They may consider starting a book club.

- Keep a supply of books and magazines on subjects that interest your child available all around your home.

\* Utilize the Broward Read-at-Home-Plan located on [Morrow's website](#) or contact your child's teacher about these resources.

- Connect books and food. Create a reading café at home. Bake a favorite dessert and make some hot chocolate. Then, settle in with your child and spend some time reading.



## Title I Updates Ms. Mason

Attention Parents,  
Our 2017-2018 SI  
Plan/Addendum is now available  
for your review. You can find it  
at  
[www.browardschools1.com/morrow](http://www.browardschools1.com/morrow)  
or stop by the front office  
and request a copy.

Please join us at our next Title 1  
Parent Training Academy hosted  
by Atlantic West Elementary.

**Where:** Atlantic West  
Elementary School  
301 NW 69th Terrace, Margate,  
FL 33062

**When:** 12/14/2017 @ 7:00 pm

**Why: Our Parent Engagement  
Program is designed to:**

1. Inform parents about Title I regulations.
2. Involve parents in local Title I decisions.
3. Provide literacy training.
4. Offer parents training in schools and the community on ways to work with their children at home to raise student achievement.
5. Encourage active participation in their children's schools and education.



# Grade Level Happenings

## Kindergarten

Our kindergarten students have adjusted well to the busy world of kindergarten. They are learning to become good citizens and practice daily to be independent and responsible. In reading they have experienced training in decoding, story structure, comprehension and the strategies to become a good reader. All students are given time each week to utilize the i-Ready reading program, which moves them along on their individual reading level.

Our math classes have consisted of counting, recognizing greater than and less than, and using manipulatives for problem solving. Extra practice pages are sent home at the end of each chapter to review and enrich the standards included in each chapter. In our new Science4Us program, children have been involved in many hands-on activities regarding the 5 senses, states of matter, energy and the nature of science.

Our social studies plans have included families, people and animals growing up, rules and regulations and community workers. Please remember that homework journals and leveled book bags are to be turned in every Friday. And.....children become good readers by listening to good readers, so....read to and with your child every night!

## First Grade

We have been busy at work this few months. Our focus for reading has been proper nouns, adjectives, synonyms, and antonyms. Our students are also learning how to read and write informative and opinion pieces. In math we have been working on different strategies to add and subtract. Some students began the year using fingers to add and subtract. We've made a lot of progress in math and are encouraging students to transition to using our number line as our preferred tool for addition and subtraction. Living and nonliving things have been our topics of discussion in science. Students are learning what living things need in order to survive. In social studies we have been covering citizenship and how to show kindness and respect towards others. Please remember to check your child's planner and blue take home folder for any pertinent information. If you write a note, please remind your child to show it to the teacher. Thank you for your cooperation and making sure that your child's year in first grade successful.

## Second Grade

The second graders have been busy learning high frequency words, new vocabulary words and many skills to help improve their comprehension skills. Have your child retell the story in the order that the events happened after he or she finishes reading. It's important to go back and reread part of the story or text that they don't understand. This helps them figure out things that might be confusing or unclear to them. These strategies will help improve your child's comprehension skills.

The students have been working on place value in math. They are also working on adding and subtracting two-digit numbers with and without regrouping. In addition, they are learning how to solve math word problems. The students are learning about the Earth's Surface in science. They are investigating rock size, shape, color and texture. They observed soil, clay, and sand to learn about the texture, color and what each is made of.

Please check your child's backpack daily for homework, graded papers and important papers. If there's a change in transportation for your child, please inform your child's teacher prior to dismissal.

## Grade Level Happenings

### Third Grade

It is so hard to believe that we are headed toward the month of December. We are now in the full swing of the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, and we are sure that you have seen drastic changes in your child/children's academic expectations, goals and abilities. We are vigorously working on becoming very familiar with all the Florida Standards and our expectations are that all our students use all strategies and skills to become proficient in knowing all the standards.

It is of the utmost importance that your child/children make reading a part of their daily lives. Third grade is very difficult, but extremely rewarding and challenging. Your child's success depends on their participation in being an active and productive participant every day in school. Thank you for all your support in helping us help your child/children reach and go beyond their potential and goals. We know they are all up for the challenges and rewards. We would also like to wish all of you a very wonderful Holiday Season.



### Fourth Grade

We are having a great 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter with our lovely students. In Reading, we are introducing different text features and how to use critical thinking to break apart the new content that we learn. While learning about text features, we are integrating the wonderful evolution and landscape of the Everglades. Our students are engaged in activities that helps them think about the endangered species and how we affect them. The students enjoy sharing all the information that they read. Please ask them questions about the new information that they are learning.

Every day is a new discovery in Math class, we are always on an adventure as we learn how to use our multiplication facts. Our adventurous journey allows us to learn about factors, multiples, division and how to apply them in the real world. During the next few weeks, the students will work on fractions and measurements. As we get ready for the coming holidays, please encourage your child to memorize the multiplication facts, before the end of December. That will be a great accomplishment! We look forward continuing to work together for the success of your child.

The 4<sup>th</sup> grade team would like to wish you, Happy Holidays!

### Fifth Grade

As we draw near to the end of 2017, our 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes are finishing getting prepared for their fieldtrip to JA Biztown. Our students will explore work readiness, entrepreneurship, and personal financial literacy, while being supported with academic-content standards in Social Studies, Reading, Writing, and Mathematics.

We have been learning about adding and subtracting decimal numbers in our Mathematic classes. Therefore, our students will be able to keep track of money in a checking/savings account register by calculating money earned and money spent. These skills will no doubt aid them in their ability of becoming an independent person in society.

Our students enjoyed FPL's energy conservation show "Captain Wattage". They learned that by turning off lights, we can all save energy. It was a fun time by all! The lessons learned will guide them as we approach the unit in Science on "Forms of Energy". But, before we could learn about the different forms of energy, we need to understand how matter changes, and the different types of matter; solids, liquids, and gases.

As we continue in our ELA classes learning about the key ideas and details in literature, our students are reading different literary texts, dramas, as well as poems. They are comparing and contrasting, and summarizing. The next unit brings us to craft and structure in informational text where the students will be understanding about problem-solution, cause-effect, and compare-contrast.

## Science Success - Ms. Small-Williams

☺ SAVE THE DATE!!! ☺

Marvelous Morrow Elementary will host its annual Science Fair and Academic Expo **Thursday, February 8th, 2018 at 6:30 PM**. Teachers and students will have a variety of academic activities and science experiments on display. Our learners will conduct hands-on science experiments.

We are also anticipating the wonderful, melodic sounds of our Morrow Singing Patriots as well as a performance and continuous music from a live professional jazz band. Mark your calendars because we are expecting to have an amazing time.

## Math Magic – Ms. Tucker



Let's Talk about Numbers

At Morrow we want to make sure that a year's worth of instruction results in a year's worth of gains. It is important to create math goals as a school, as a class and with individual students. This is one way to ensure that there is a common focus for increasing student growth and student proficiency in Math. This year, one of the driving forces to inform instruction is the i-Ready data. This informational data gives teachers a comprehensive report of what standards each student has mastered, and what standards students are struggling with. The data provides every child with an individual prescription for learning. If used effectively, this data provides clarity of purpose with the end goal being educational gains for every student. So, teachers and parents, talk to your students about their i-Ready scores and set target scores with them. Have students access and complete i-Ready lessons at least 45 minutes weekly. The next testing period will be 1/10/18. Please encourage your students and scholars to do their best on the test. Incentives are a great way to have students work harder and take ownership of their learning. Parents and teachers should collaborate so that students know that everyone is vested in their academic success.

WE ♥  
MATH

## Computer Science Creativity & Media News - Ms. Howe

**Computer Science** - 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](http://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.

**Media** - 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 student has lost a book, you are responsible for its replacement. Notices about missing books will be given to your student and they will not be allowed to get a new book until the obligation is met.



### PTA

At the Parent Tech Night held on October 30<sup>th</sup>, the PTA through the sponsorship of our Partner In Education, Mass Mutual, held a raffle for a \$100 gift card to new members that joined at the event. We were very excited to experience a boost in membership as a result of the special raffle. Please note that you can join PTA at any time. Please stop by the front office or send a note to your child’s teacher to request a membership form. Join the PTA for only \$7 per person. Your membership in PTA helps us provide supplies, treats, resources and events to students and parents. For only \$7, you can support all that Morrow offers to enrich our community.

The Morrow PTA needs parent volunteers committed to making Morrow the BEST school in Broward County! We need you to get involved, share your voice, give your time and support the great things happening at Morrow. Any time you are able to give is appreciated. PTA meetings are held on the same day as SAC & SAF meetings. **Please join us at the next PTA meeting on January 26th at 7:30am.**



## Reminder

- ❖ Please don't send students to school with chips
- ❖ Students not eating breakfast at school should arrive at 7:30am



## **Helping ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS (ELL) Develop Reading Skills:**

### **Recommendations for Parents**

As mentioned in last month's newsletter, research has identified five main areas of instruction that are essential to success in reading in English. These areas are phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension.

Phonemic awareness is the ability to hear, identify and manipulate the individual sounds - phonemes - in spoken words. Phonemic awareness is the understanding that the sounds of spoken language work together to make words.

### **En Espanol**

Como se mencionó en el boletín del mes pasado, investigación ha identificado cinco áreas principales de instrucción que son esenciales para el éxito en la lectura en inglés. Estas áreas son la conciencia fonémica, la fonética, la fluidez, el vocabulario y la comprensión. La Conciencia fonémica es la capacidad de escuchar, identificar y manipular los sonidos individuales (fonemas) en palabras habladas. La conciencia fonémica es la comprensión de que los sonidos del lenguaje hablado trabajan juntos para formar palabras.

### **En Kreyol**

Kòm mansyone nan bilten dènye mwa a, Rechèch idantifye senk domèn prensipal nan enstriksyon ki esansyèl nan siksè nan lekti nan lang angle. Zòn sa yo se konsyans fononik, fonics, fasilite, vokabilè ak konpreyansyon. Konsyantizasyon Phonemic se kapasite pou tande, idantifye ak manipile son endividyèl - fonèm yo - nan mo ki pale. Konsyans fononik se konpreyansyon ke son yo pale langaj pale ansanm pou fè mo.





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

**February 2, 2018**



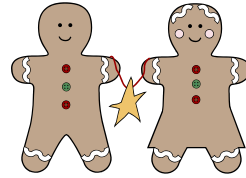
Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day is an annual event, for children between the ages of 8 and 18, sponsored by the Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Foundation. With parental approval, students can participate by visiting a particular workplace of a parent, guardian, adult relative, or adult family friend. Broward County Public schools will observe the National Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day on Friday, February 2, 2018. The Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day event is designed to assist students in formulating some ideas about future career paths. A day at work will heighten the aspirations of students and help them to make the connection between academic success and success in the world of work. In addition, this activity will provide the opportunity for parents and other adults to showcase their places of employment, explain their job responsibilities, introduce their co-workers, and present the various career choices that are available in the workplace. Our goal is to make this day worthwhile for every participant.

Broward County Public Schools' Participation On February 2, 2018, all departments, schools, centers, and administrative offices will provide employees the opportunity to bring their child or a child who has the permission of his or her parent/guardian to work for the purpose of making the connection between school and work on Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day. Please note that due to the state mandated testing period, the district date does not align with the National Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day. Absences 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 must complete the District field trip forms at least five (5) days in advance. 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. Each student will be granted an excused absence to participate in the Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day on February 2, 2018. Make-Up Work 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, principals and teachers should encourage the sharing of experiences by students who participate in this activity.

*Morrow Connections.....Get Involved – Get Engaged – Make an Impact!!*



## **Family Homework Project- Gingerbread Person**



Dear Families,

Please work together with your child to dress the gingerbread provided to represent a holiday tradition you celebrate. Be creative, you can use materials for clothing and yarn for hair. You can always use crayons or markers as well. Use the writing paper to write about a Holiday Tradition. Please send the completed project back to school by Friday, December 15. We will hang them on display at our Winter Showcase for all to admire. Have fun!

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People from all over the world have many different traditions. Traditions are activities that people do every year, or at least on a regular basis. Many traditions are activities that people do to help celebrate holidays. Inform your classmates about traditions within your own family.

**\*For Grades Pre-K-2:** Complete the My Holiday Traditions Worksheet & Ginger Bread Man

**\*For Grades 3-5:** Include the following information:

- How did this tradition begin?
- What family tradition are you writing about?
- Why did you choose to write about this particular tradition?
- How did this tradition begin?
- Describe your family tradition in detail. (What do you do? Who participates? When does it occur?)
- Why is this tradition practiced?
- What do you think about this tradition? Explain.
- Is it something you would like to continue practicing? Explain.
- Do you feel that family traditions are important? Explain.

# my family's traditions

**Write about a holiday you celebrate.**

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