

DANIA ELEMENTARY

Title I School

Lewis Jackson, Principal

Galina Markevich, Intern Principal

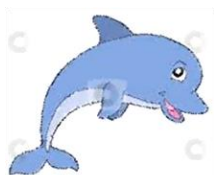
Spring 2023

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Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Community Members,

We have moved into the final quarter of the 2022-2023 school year. We must remind our students/children to “**Finish Strong.**” This is not the time to falter, waiver, and lose focus. Teachers continue to plan lessons to challenge and stimulate your child’s learning. Our students have begun the Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST). The students and teachers have been working hard; now it is time for them to shine!

Teachers will use the final quarter of this school year to implement projects that may take several days or weeks to complete. Some of these projects include dynamic educational field trips. We will also continue providing remedial and enrichment activities to promote student achievement. **Students must continue to arrive on time and be prepared to learn every day!**

Several great activities are planned for our Dania students. We have tentatively scheduled Earth Day celebrations, Arbor Day tree planting with the City of Dania Beach, Field Day activities, grade-level field trips, Kindergarten Water Day, and our annual end-of-the-year 5th Grade activities, including the Moving Up ceremony. **This is an exciting place to work and learn!**

We continue to promote the development of the “whole child.” This includes rigorous academics, citizenship, creative pursuits, and character education. Students will be studying **Tolerance**

during the month of April. Perhaps this would be an excellent time to discuss with your child(ren) the importance of understanding that there are many different kinds of people in the world with many different values.

Newspapers are filled with stories of struggles around the United States and the world, which can be traced to cultural disagreements. We must understand and respect other people’s beliefs and cultures. Visit www.goodcharacter.com for ideas to enhance lessons at home dealing with tolerance and other important character traits.

Sincerely,
Dr. Jackson

Title I News



Ms. Hall

Hi Dania Families. I am happy to report that Dania Elementary School has met our responsibility for completing the 2022-2023 Title 1 eBinder compliance documentation. Therefore, our school has reached 100% compliance.

Several Title 1 Parent Information items may be of interest to you.

The 2023-2024 Title 1 School-Parent Compact was finalized in March. The School-Parent Compact is a written agreement between the school and the parents of children participating in Title 1, Part A programs. It identifies the activities the parents, school staff, and students

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will undertake to share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement.

The 2023-2024 School Parent and Family Engagement (PFEP) Plan has also been completed. This plan involves the school's administration, faculty, and families working cooperatively to outline the parental activities for the 2023-2024 school year.

We want to thank all parents who participated in the development, evaluation, and revisions of the PFEP and the School-Parent Compact. We encourage you to attend our monthly SAC meetings to discuss important events and procedures.

If you have any questions regarding Title 1, please get in touch with me at 754-323-5350 or by email at Sandra.Hall@browardschools.com.



“See Something, Say Something.”



Pre-K and Kindergarten News

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

Kindergarten students have been like busy little bees learning, growing, and exploring! We spent some time learning about famous Americans that have made significant contributions to the development of our country and many of the symbols that represent our country and its rich history.

Life Cycles have added great excitement to our day. We have been observing and recording the life cycles of butterflies and ladybugs. We were so happy to release them into our garden. Taking

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care of Mother Earth is crucial to our classroom discussions. They are learning many ways to become stewards of the earth and protect our planet for future generations. Sooo... if they tell you to take your recyclable bags when you go shopping or turn off the water when you're brushing your teeth, please honor their request.

We have a wonderful SRO on our campus, and he provided an egg hunt for our little ones. The big smiles and happy hearts of the little ones were so uplifting. THANK YOU, Deputy Jackson.

Blending, sight words, reading, and retelling are integral parts of our daily. Please keep reading to and with your child daily. We are working on addition and subtraction equations, 2-D and 3-D shapes, and now measurements in math. You can keep an at-home journal to help them build a solid academic foundation!

Kindergarten is the place where you want to be!

First Grade News

Ms. Monteagudo, Ms. Rickman,
Ms. Garcia, Ms. Flores-Hall,
Ms. Cole



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Greetings from first grade! We are sad that this school year is almost coming to an end. However, we are so proud of how our students have progressed throughout first grade. They have shown incredible growth and are ready for 2nd grade.

Every day we continue to make friends and learn new things. As far as reading is concerned, students are currently learning to decode multi-syllabic words. We also continue to practice our consonant blends, vowel teams, diphthongs, and sight words. So far, in our reading series, we have also learned about characters, robots, community helpers, outer space, and trading goods. We have learned how to use visuals in our texts to help us understand

What we read, and how to find the main idea and key details in stories.

Lastly, we learned to distinguish between fiction and nonfiction texts and compare two texts about the same topic. In math, we have covered addition and subtraction 1-100, tens and one's place, less than, greater than, or equal to, time and measurement, collecting data, and 2-D and 3-D shapes.

In other school-wide news, we are preparing for our Mary Poppin-themed Spring Fest on May 19th. We are so excited!

Parents, please continue to encourage your child to read! Students should read for at least 30 minutes every night. They can read to you or read aloud independently. A quiet place to do homework is also extremely helpful.

Let us know if you have any questions. We thoroughly thank you for all your support and appreciate all you do.



Second Grade News

Ms. Curry, Mr. Reveron,
Ms. McDonald

The second-grade team would like to thank our parents for a beautiful 3rd quarter! Students worked on various reading, math, science, and social study skills this quarter. We have been learning about fables and non-fiction texts centered around technology and reading. In math, students continued working on double-digit addition and subtraction with regrouping; we also learned about money and time. In the 4th and final quarter of the school year, students will take the Primary end-of-year FAST Reading and Math assessment on May 3rd and 4th. Please continue reading at home nightly with your child for at least 30 minutes. Thank you for everything you do!

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



3rd Grade News!

It is hard to believe we are in Quarter 4 of the school year. We are very proud of the hard work and dedication our third graders continue to display. We are excited about our first off-campus field trip to Secret Woods in April. Students will participate in the Hammock Hike and Seek, Rockin in South Florida, and visit the Monarch Interpretive Center.

Reading and math practice should continue. End-of-the-year assessments start in May. The promotion criteria for third grade are scoring a Level 2 (285-299) or higher on the F.A.S.T. PM3-ELA. Keep in mind that Level 3 (300-314) demonstrates on-grade level, Level 4 (315-319) shows proficiency and Level 5 (330-360) demonstrates mastery. Alternative assessments are given to students who still need to meet the required promotion level on the F.A.S.T. PM3.

Social Emotional Learning (SEL) is an intricate component of our instructional practice. We understand that SEL is vital to academic and social skills development. SEL activities and strategies are visible in and outside our classrooms. Taking time to engage in SEL activities at home is a sound reinforcement. Some activities to implement at home are playing board games/puzzles, family discussions (conversation starters), mindful breathing, nature walks, and journaling. Authentic learning can take place anywhere.

Fourth Grade News

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



1. Language Arts/Reading and Writing: We focus on main and subordinate clauses and prepare for our Writing exam. 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 working through topic 13, identifying angles and angle measurements. Please ensure that your children are completing their Calendar Math nightly. I can't express how important it is to practice those skills daily. Unfortunately, many of our students are NOT completing their homework assignments and aren't always taking advantage of extra credit. Students will continue to practice mastering their multiplication facts with quick recall. They can log into Explore Learning to help with this.

3. Science: We have been doing cram sessions to catch up with the science. We just completed Cave formations.

Our FAST assessments are quickly approaching. The dates are 4/19 WRITING, 5/10 ELA, and 5/17 MATH. Here are some ways you can assist your child at home:

*Check their agendas and backpacks nightly/weekly.

*Ensure they complete all their homework assignments in reading and math.

*Work on Success Maker and Epic on the computer thrice 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 stay caught up. Call the office if your child will be absent.

Our "after-school tutoring camps" for Math, Science, and ELA, Monday to Friday, are ongoing.

We will have a few fundraising activities to help with some end-of-year parties for our fifth graders. On May 26, 2023, we will have a "Moving on Up Dance" in the school cafeteria for students only.

The F.A.S.T assessment for Science, ELA, and Math window is open and will occur throughout May 2023. Closer to the specific dates' letters will be sent out to inform parents. Students have been working very hard in Math and ELA 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," which offers extra support in the English Language. All these resources can be accessed through your child's Clever Portal. Students will be taking a fourth Cumulative Assessment in Math in May 2023. This will include questions from topics 1-14. In ELA class, students will be assessed in Units 1-10 in May. A book report will be due on May 5 for the ELA class on the book "Wonder."

The following are important end-of-year activities for our students to take part in before they go off to middle school:

- May 25th - Mizell Park field trip
- June 2nd - end-of-year field trip to Extreme Action Park
- June 5th - Frost Park
- June 6th - Field Day on school grounds
- June 7th, 2023 - Grade 5 Promotion

Some of the activities will be free, and some will be at a cost. You will receive 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.




Fifth Grade News

Ms. Rattigan, Mr. Cadotte,
Ms. Mizell

We are quickly approaching
the end of the school year.



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.



Math Corner
Ms. Hengge

Top high-tech math tutors

These guilt-free online games and apps allow kids to have some fun while pumping up their math muscles.

by: Sarah-Jane Lorenzo | *December 21, 2020*

Whether your child is learning online or in person this year, it can be tough to keep kids engaged — especially in math. But homework, worksheets, and flashcards aren't the only ways kids can build math skills! These computer games, video games, and apps are creative ways to make math fun.

An important note for parents to remember is that speed is not a goal in math. Spells have been linked to math anxiety. Since you know your child best, choose fun options and challenges for your child. If they're not fun for your child, skip it and try the next one!

Spending a bit of time playing these games can provide a productive break from traditional forms of studying and will help your student strengthen their math skills without feeling like they're putting in work.

1. Math Slither

This fun, addictive game is a great way to learn various skills, from addition and subtraction to decimals and division. It offers different skill-building settings for kids in preschool through eighth grade, and your student can choose the skill they want to practice. Math Slither adds a challenging twist to the viral game "Slither.io." Players guide an on-screen snake to food and try their best to avoid collisions with other snakes. To feed your snake, you must show it to eat the correct response to the math question at the top of the

Reading Corner

Ms. Hall



Hi, it is hard to believe our year is almost over! We have had many great reading experiences here at Dania Elementary. It is fantastic to see so much growth in our students!

Please continue to have your children read at least 20 minutes per day. This will help them with reading fluency and vocabulary. Asking questions about what they are reading will help them make connections in the book. 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.

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

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

Please reach out to me if you have any questions! You can call the school or email me at Sandra.Hall@browardschools.com.

screen. The game encourages memorization and quick thinking to benefit students in mastering skills like multiplication and fractions. Math Slither is free and a great way to help students challenge their math skills while taking a break from flash cards.

2. Prodigy

Interested in a game that helps your student progress over time? Prodigy is a fantastic world-building game that lets you tailor the math skills your child works on to their grade and the math curriculum in your state. Your child will play as a wizard, casting spells that require correct answers to math problems to fight evil. The game is free, and parents can make an account that lets them see their child's progress. Parents can also pay to upgrade their child's performance and unlock additional game features. Even though the game supports student learning up to the eighth grade, the simple storyline is probably best suited for younger learners in first through sixth grade.

3. Math-Play.com

Does your child want to be a millionaire? Math-Play.com offers a selection of Math Millionaire games suitable for first through seventh graders. The games cover topics ranging from order of operations and square roots to multiplication, division, and place values. For example, the Millionaire Money Game challenges kids to answer questions about money values and addition and is aligned with the Common Core math standards. All of the games are free to play.

4. Mr.Nussbaum Learning+Fun

This site offers many teacher-designed games and learning resources for first through sixth-grade students who want to improve particular math skills. Students can choose from games focusing on math concepts like patterns and time telling or graphing and rounding. The site also offers Common Core-aligned math games for first, second, and third graders. All of the games on the site are free for students to play.

5. Math Playground

For games geared towards creative problem-solving, check out Math Playground, a site hosting dozens of fun for kids from first to sixth grade. The games are organized by grade level and often cater to specific interests. Most games on the site are free to play, but parents can subscribe for access to even more.

https://www.greatschools.org/gk/articles/high-tech-math-tutors/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_content=040421.4

P.E. Updates

Coach Annin

Dear Students and Families, here are some news from the Coach's Corner. Our school donated \$622.42 to the American Heart Association during our Kids Heart Challenge. Sabrina Pierce from Mr. Daley's class was our top donor. YOUR SUPPORT, Dania PTA, staff, students, and community members made this fundraiser successful. Thank you to all who contributed.

Throughout the year, we worked on learning the skills in different physical activities in PE classes. We completed volleyball, football, frisbee, fitness, soccer, scooter, creative, and other units. Together with learning the skills, all students worked on showing good sportsmanship, self-management, respect, leadership, and creativity in our PE classes. Coach Annin's PE and Mindfulness Class page in Canvas describes our assignments, rules, and procedures.

Artist Corner

Ms. Laden

I want to acknowledge our two Dania Dolphins "Youth Art Month" Recipients... On March 16, 2023, there was a ceremony and reception at the K.C. Wright Building to honor two students from each school in BCPS (K-12th), and the theme was "Fine Arts is All of Us"...

Kyra Pachigar: "Valentine's Day"
(First Grade - Ms. Rickman's Class)
Audrina Hernandez: "Springtime Fairy"
(Fifth Grade - Mr. Cadotte's Class)

The Importance of Art in Child Development: creativity, motor skills, language development, visual learning, inventiveness, cultural awareness, and improved academic performance.

During the 3rd Quarter, Kindergarten and First Grade created drawings and paintings of Dinosaurs. Over 65 million years ago, the last known surviving dinosaur walked on Earth after living on Earth for 165 million years. I was thinking... "Why do children love dinosaurs?" There are dinosaurs found in movies, clothing, toys, and books. Dinosaurs are an example of a conceptual interest and imaginative play for children. The time of the dinosaurs provides rich source material around which any child's fantasy world might be built. Students would say that "dinosaurs are bigger than things around us and they were real because you can see their fossils and skeleton"... "Dinosaurs are awesome!" Dinosaurs can be the gateway to discovering Science. Children can recite dinosaur names - while most adults struggle.

Parents, Guardians, and Caregivers can demonstrate that learning is a lifelong, joyous process for Dinosaurs. Have fun discovering DINOSAURS!

During the 3rd Quarter, Second - Fifth Grade studied Ancient Egypt: mummies, sphinxes, tombs, hieroglyphics, and temples - artifacts unearthed - fascinating mysteries from the pyramids to the pharaohs. The pyramids at Giza were built over 4,500 years ago as tombs to house the bodies of the three pharaohs. The largest four-sided pyramid stood 481 feet (146 meters) high and was built from 2 million stone blocks.

We looked at the funerary mask of the pharaoh Tutankhamun (King Tut). It was made of solid gold inlaid with colored stones, including lapis lazuli, turquoise, onyx, and coral. The mask

weighs over 22.5 pounds (10.2 kilograms). The students started their journey by drawing and painting in the style of Ancient Egyptian artwork.

I thank you for the privilege of teaching your children!
Our Dania Dolphins Artists are Amazing!
Ms. Debbie Laden



Counselor's Corner

Mrs. Page

Hello Parents and Guardians!

The School Board of Broward County, Florida, is committed to teaching Character Education and has adopted eight core character traits as part of the Standards of Service Policy. The core character traits are Responsibility, Citizenship, Kindness, Respect, Honesty, Self-Control, and Tolerance.

The Character Trait we focus on in April is Tolerance. Talking with your child about tolerance and respect helps them learn more about the values you want them to have. Giving them opportunities to play and work with others is essential as well. This lets kids learn first-hand that everyone has something to contribute and to experience differences and similarities.

5th Grade Parents. We have been invited to Olsen Middle School for a campus tour on 5/24. More information and permission forms will be sent out soon! Although I am not ready to say goodbye to them, I am excited to help them prepare to transition to Middle School.

If you have any questions regarding your child, I am always available and can be contacted at 754-323-5362 or elysia.page@browardschools.com.

Safety First!

See Something, Say Something!