



Galaxy Gazette

Challenger Elementary School

Happy
Holidays!

From the Principal

Dear Parents,

The holiday season would not be complete without our Singing Stars' Winter Concert. I would especially like to thank our music teacher, Tara Sperry, for putting together a great show and our art teacher, Holly Doherty, who lead the students in creating holiday cards for our military overseas.

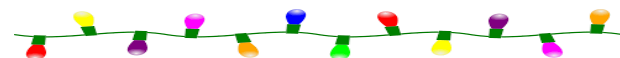
Thank you to our parents and students who came out for the Harvest Fest. Thanks to Ms. Boza and our fabulous PTA; our fall Book Fair had its best turnout in Challenger history.

When we return to school on January 9, we will begin our Field Day events with kindergarten and first grade. Coach Hamad has many fun events planned. When your child has their field day, be sure they wear comfortable running shoes, bring sunscreen and a water bottle. Sunglasses and hats are permitted, and they will receive their field day t-shirt to wear for this event. If you are an approved volunteer and can spare the time, please email our PTA at challenger elementarypta@gmail.com to be placed on the schedule. Only approved volunteers will be allowed on the field with students. Visit our school website, and link to the volunteer site for approval.

We will begin the Broward Standards Assessment, benchmark test, in January, for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students. Our next family event will be our Literacy & Technology Night in February. I hope to see you there.

Have a joyous and safe holiday season.

Tara Zdanowicz, Principal



Kindergarten Round-Up
February 22, 2017 9:00 a.m.

Parenting Workshops: ESE's Growth Mindset
on January 24 & Active Parenting Course (6
Sessions) Look for fliers in January.

Tara Zdanowicz
Principal

Tara Pasteur
Assistant Principal



January

9	Field Day K/1 st Gr.	Coming Events
10	Field Day 2 nd /3 rd Gr.	
10/11	3 rd Gr. testing -ELA	
11	Field Day 4 th /5 th Gr.	
12	Early Release day 12:45 pm – Pre-K Field Day	
13	No School – Teacher Planning	
14	Spelling Bee Regionals	
16	No School-MLK Day	
17/18	3 RD Gr. Testing - Math	
19	Papa John's Family Night	
19/20	5 th Gr. Testing – ELA	
24	ESE Growth Mindset Workshop 6:30 p.m.	
24/25	5 th Gr. Testing – Math	
26/27	4 th Gr. Testing - ELA	
27	SAC/SAF Mtg. 8:00-9:00 am	
30/31	5 th Gr. Testing - Science	

February

1/2	4 th Gr. Testing – Math
1	Active Parenting Workshop 6:00-8:00 pm
2	Papa John's Family Night
2	Report Cards Issued
6	Picture Day- Class Photo
8	Active Parenting Workshop 6:00-8:00 pm
9	Literacy & Technology Night 6:30-8:00 pm
13	3 rd Gr. Honor Roll 9:00 am
15	4 th Gr. Honor Roll 9:00 am
15	Active Parenting Workshop 6:00-8:00 pm
16	5 th Gr. Honor Roll 9:00 am
20	No School- President's Day
22	Kindergarten Round-Up 9:00 am
22	Active Parenting Workshop 6:00-8:00 pm
23	Early Release Day 12:45 pm
24	SAC/SAF Mtg. 8:00-9:00 am
28	4 th Gr. Testing - Writing

March

1	Active Parenting Workshop 6:00-8:00 pm
2	Dr. Seuss Night 6:00-8:00 pm
8	Active Parenting Workshop 6:00-8:00 pm
9	Papa John's Family Night
17	SAC/SAF 8:00-9:00 am
23	Early Release Day 12:45 pm
24	No School – Teacher Planning
27-31	Spring Book Fair
28/29	3 rd Gr. Testing - ELA

Challenger Elementary

5703 NW 94th Avenue
Tamarac, Florida - 33321 754-322-5750
Rocketeers 754-322-5793
Absentee Number 754-322-5752
<http://challenger.browardschools.com>

Participate!

Honor Roll



If your 3rd – 5th grade child made the Honor Roll, we want to reward that achievement by acknowledging those students in a special ceremony that will be held at 9:15 a.m. in our cafeteria: 3rd - Feb. 13th, 4th -Feb. 14th, 5th - Feb. 16th. Invitations to parents will be sent with your child a week prior to the ceremony. Students are asked to dress in their best attire (no jeans/denim) to receive their Honor Roll certificate from our principal, Ms. Zdanowicz, and Assistant Principal, Mrs. Pasteur.

Picture Day

February 6th – Class pictures & make-ups for individual photos. Uniform required.



Literacy & Technology Night

You are invited to our Literacy & Technology Night, February 9, from 6:30 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. Come for hands on fun and learn how literacy is integrated with technology in our school every day, and what is available to you from your home computer. This will be a fun night with homework passes going to students who bring their parent(s).



Papa John's Pizza Nights:

January 19, February 2, March 9



Collect those Box Tops.
Every top adds up!



Collecting Pennies for a Cure

We are soliciting your support for the **Leukemia & Lymphoma Society**, as we launch our collection drive to help in the fight against blood cancers. We invite you to support your student, as they help to collect their pennies, and further invite you to visit our online giving page to make a donation. No amount is too small, and in giving, we teach our students an invaluable lesson in compassion...giving to others in need. We look forward to your support. Thank you. Our online page is:

<http://events.ils.org/pages/sfl/ChallengerElementarySchool-2017>



Spelling Bee

Challenger has the honor of participating in The Civil Rights Spelling Bee hosted by the City of Lauderdale. The preliminary round will be held on Saturday, January 14, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. and the championship round on January 18, at 7:00 pm. Special thanks to our fifth grade teacher, Mrs. LaPorte, for coaching our students in this event.



NO Dismissals after 2:15 p.m.

If you change the way your child is going home, decide this before your child leaves for school, and send a note to the teacher explaining how your child will go home that day or you may email us at challengerdismissalchange@browardschools.com

Kindergarten students were treated to a visit from our own Tamarac firefighters with a close up and personal look at their life-saving fire trucks. We appreciate their support and efforts in teaching our students about the important service they provide to our city.

What's New



Our Super Hero Circuit Run was a BLAST!! Kids had a fun time enjoying lots of different courses and games, such as relay races, scooter races, hula hoop dancing, chin ups, and many others. This was a fundraiser that was held to allow the kids to have fun, exercise and help raise money for the PTA. The money raised will be used on many great things throughout the year for the students, without the students having to go door to door trying to sell items. Students were grouped by grade (Kindergarten – 2nd) and (3rd – 5th). Within those groups, the student that brought in the most money won an iPad mini.

Winners of the iPad mini's were:

Damari – Kindergarten (Group: K – 2) and Carter Johnson – 4th grade (Group: 3 – 5)

We are still determining which classes for each group will join the PTA, Ms. Zdanowicz, and Mrs. Pasteur in a dance party for their participation in the fundraiser.

PTA has had some fun events, and the Super Hero Circuit Run fundraiser that has supplied the art room with new essential supplies and enabled us to continue saving money to be used towards new technology in your child's classroom as well as continuing to offer fun events in the new year!

We continue to thank all our parents and school staff that helped support the PTA and look forward to many great things in the New Year! We hope everyone has a Happy Holiday season and a Happy New Year!



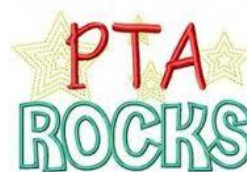
Team Spirit!

CONGRATULATIONS to Challenger Elementary on their first year having a basketball team and cheerleading squad. Our PTA supplied their new uniforms, and will continue to support them as their year progresses!

Go Rockets!



K-kids had another successful pet food drive for the holiday season. These students lead the way in serving others.



Jan. 9, 2017 Kindergarten & 1st Grade

Jan. 10 2nd & 3rd Grades

Jan. 11 4th & 5th Grades

Field day will be from 9a.m. until approximately 11a.m. on your child's scheduled day (as listed above). Parents who would like to volunteer or just watch their children participate in field day are welcome. Please make sure you are cleared by the county or you will not be permitted to stay per our Safety Code.

To volunteer and obtain clearance, register at: browardschools.com/getinvolved/application-note. Then, email PTA to let them know the day(s)/time you are available: challenger elementarypta@gmail.com

Looking Back

If you think 2016 was fun,
just wait until the new year!



Congratulations to Miss McEwen, for being selected by her peers to be Challenger's Teacher of the Year for 2016-17. Miss McEwen works one on one with our ESE students.



Congratulations to Mrs. Montano, for being selected by her peers to be Challenger's Employee of the Year for 2016-17. Mrs. Montano is a Teacher Assistant for ESE and our ESOL contact. She works with our ESE students one-on-one every day.



Challenger Recorder Club performed for the holidays at the City of Tamarac and Ft. Lauderdale Airport.

Yearbook 2016-17

Now is the time to order your full color yearbook for just \$20.00. Well worth the memories you'll have for years to come.



To order or upload your own photos from school events, visit:

<http://community.pictavo.com/>

It's easy to register and order. Our school number is 62416 or look us up by city/state.

Sponsored by PTA

