

Morrow Elementary Patriot Press

Volume 5 - May 2018



Principal's Message

Dear Morrow Families,

It has been such a busy time here at school with so many great things happening! It is hard to believe we are already in the 4th quarter and the end of the school year is just around the corner. We continue to see a tremendous amount of growth from our students and are extremely proud of how far they have come.

We recently celebrated student success from the 3rd quarter by giving out awards and recognizing many student accomplishments. It was great to see the progress our Patriot students are continuing to make! We also had our Career Day for intermediate students, which gave them the opportunity to consider different career options and hear from several impressive guest speakers. One of our top priorities here at Morrow is to make our students college and career ready, and this event definitely helped us as we work towards this goal.

As you know, in April we began our Florida Standardized Assessments (FSA). We are very proud of all the hard work our 3rd through 5th grade students have put into preparing for the FSA. We are also very proud of the effort and focus they have displayed throughout these assessments. Thank you for your continued support at home.

The safety of our students will always be our first priority here at Morrow. We ask that you continue adhering to our arrival and dismissal procedures. It is extremely important that parents do NOT enter the bus loop. We recently provided you with a sign to put in your car with your child's name on it. If you pick your child up from school, please utilize this each day and ensure that it is visible to our staff.

As the end of the school year approaches, we have many events we would like you to be aware of. First, we will be recognizing our amazing Morrow Staff during Staff Appreciation Week, which will be celebrated May 7th - 11th. On May 17th, we have our School Advisory Council (SAC), School Advisory Forum (SAF), and PTA meetings beginning at 5:30 p.m., which will be followed by our Chorus/Drama Spring Performance at 6:30 p.m. We will also be taking time to recognize our students during our End of Year Awards Ceremonies. The dates and times for these ceremonies are provided in this newsletter on the Save the Date page. We really hope you can join us for these special events to celebrate and recognize the success of our Patriot students!

We truly appreciate everything you are doing to support your child and their education. Our partnership between home and school is essential for their success, so thank you for all that you do to support our Morrow Patriots.

Educationally Yours,

Dr. Laurel Crowle

IMPORTANT DATES

Morrow Elementary



Where We Care to be our Best Every Day!

May 2nd

Interims Issued

May 7th - May 11th

Staff Appreciation Week

May 11th

3rd Grade Mother's Day

Performance

8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

May 17th

SAC/SAF/PTA 5:30 p.m.

Spring Performance

6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

May 28th

Memorial Day

School Closed

May 29th

Volunteer and Partnership

Appreciation Breakfast

8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

June 6th

Early Release

12 Noon Dismissal

Last Day of School

Notes from Guidance – Ms. Nguyen



Good Day Parents, Students, and Staff:

Once again, congratulations to April's Student of the Month students, they were nominated by their teachers for having Tolerance. Please emphasize how important it is to have this character trait and praise them if they were honored at school this month on the morning announcements for displaying the trait.

We are in the middle of FSA testing in Reading, Math and Science. Testing can be stressful and overwhelming for our students. Therefore, please ensure that they are well rested and going to bed early so performance can be maximized. It is important for all students to eat a healthy breakfast to keep them alert during testing. It is important for students to arrive to school early or on time. Please contact Ms. Nguyen if you have any questions or concerns regarding testing.

As the end of the year approaches, please know I am available to all 5th grade parents to answer any middle school concerns or questions about how to transition into Middle School. I would be happy to share my experiences and guidance in this area. Please continue to communicate and follow up with your child's teachers on their academics and personal/social development, for it is an ongoing process.



Annual Title 1 School Parent Engagement Survey

Thank you for participating in the Annual Title 1 Parent Engagement Survey. We had a record number of surveys returned this year, with over 100 surveys. Our doors are always open for feedback on how we can make Morrow Elementary the best place for your child to learn. We are in the process of reviewing our 2018-2019 School Improvement Plan. If you would like to provide your input on this plan, the next SAC meeting will be 5/17/18 at 5:30 pm.

The Title 1 Department is hosting the Annual Community Health and Wellness Fair. Come out for Free Health Screenings, Food, Prizes and More! It will be held on Saturday April 28, 2018 at 10:00AM-1:30PM. The location is Atlantic Technical College- Arthur Ashe Campus- 1701 NW 23rd Ave. Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311. If you have any questions about Title 1 at Morrow Elementary, please contact Mr. Mason.

Educationally Yours,

Mrs. Mason, Literacy Coach



Greeting Parents,

A key component for building a solid foundation for reading in all of our learners is ensuring children have access to books at school and at home. In addition, your child's books should be appropriate for his or her level. Twice this year your child's teacher administered the Benchmark Assessment System (BAS) to determine your child's reading level. Teachers use the information from the BAS to develop their instruction to best support each child's reading development. Children may also stretch their skills by choosing books above their level, based on their interests. Below you will find a brief guide to where your student should currently be based on his/her grade level:

Kindergarten: Level D

First Grade: Level J

Second Grade: Level M

Third Grade: Level P

Fourth Grade: Level S

Fifth Grade: Level V

If you have any questions about your child's reading level or development, please contact your child's teacher or speak with me.

Happy Reading,

Mrs. Eldridge-Mason



Math Magic News



Congratulations Mathletes! On Saturday, April 7, 2018 seven fourth and fifth graders represented Morrow Elementary at Coral Springs High School for the **BCCTM Math Competition**. Each team was led by their 4th Grade Coach, Ms. Imbert and by their 5th Grade Coach, Ms. Servan.

Our Mathletes had to work as a team to answer eight questions. Each question had to be answered in 4 minutes. Each minute had points weighted. The quicker the problem was solved, the more points the team made. The students also had to do an individual test. Morrow Elementary was in competition with 90 other schools! The students and coaches were proud of the work they did as a team. Many parents were there to cheer and support their mathlete. In the 2018-2019 school year, encourage your students to be part of the Morrow Math Club. Information on the criteria for the next competition will be in your welcome packets in August.

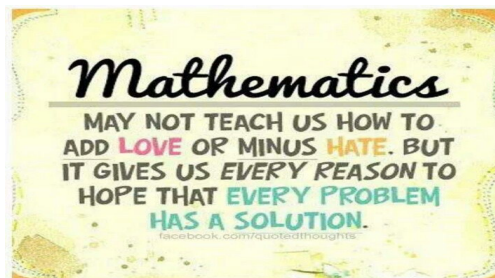
April was **FSA** season! On April 24th -26th, the 3rd, 4th and 5th students took their FSA state exams in Math. Parents and students, although the exams are over, please continue to have your students practice on i-Ready and KhanAcademy.com. They need to know how to convert measurement, understand multiplication tables, add, subtract, multiply and divide fractions. This will allow them to be ready for the next grade level. Parents, encourage your children to believe in their abilities the way you believe in them!

Find Dino's Secret Number by crossing out the numbers that it's not!

1. It's not less than $23 + 10$.
2. It's not $14 + 30$.
3. It's not $> 75 - 20$.
4. It's not $12 + 40$.
5. It's not $20 + 22$.

13	52	57
94	44	47
42	18	62

A Dino's Secret Number is _____



Ms. Tucker - Math Coach

Grade Level Happenings

Headstart and Pre-K

Greetings Families!

Here are some language development tips to help your child over the summer.

- Verbally give your child specific one-step and two-step directions and encourage him to follow through. Read to your child for a combined total of at least 20 minutes each day.
- While reading, point out how to hold a book (right-side up with the spine on the left) and the orientation in which we read the words and look at the pictures (left to right).
- After reading, ask your child what happened in the beginning, middle, and end of the story.
- Give your child plenty of opportunities to draw (without coloring books). Ask her to draw the things she sees around her.
- Teach your child the uppercase and lowercase letters and, most importantly, the sounds each letter makes through play and games.

Additional ideas can be found here: www.icanteachmychild.com/alphabet

Kindergarten

Hello Parents,

In Math our kindergarten students have been busy learning new math skills, which include identifying numerals, showing number representations, and using addition and subtraction. They have learned how to count, read and write numbers up to twenty. They will move forward in math by learning how to identify and describe shapes (squares, circles, triangles, rectangles, hexagons, cubes, cones, cylinders, and spheres). They will also analyze, compare, create and compose shapes.

In reading they are mastering sight words and becoming strong readers through their knowledge of letters and sounds recognition. Using literacy centers, reading groups, and IReady, the students have been growing in leaps and bounds!

In science, students have learned about the different states and changes of matter (physical, chemical, gas). Using the Science4Us curriculum students are engaged through standards-based digital and real-world experiences using the 5 E's to kindergarten (engage, explore, explain, elaborate and evaluate).

We also have an upcoming field trip to Swim Central, which will teach our students about water safety and swimming skills. It is a two-week experience for students. An informational notice was sent home which included contact information from the kindergarten team for any questions or concerns.

Grade Level Happenings

First Grade

Hello Morrow Families,

It has been such joy and pleasure covering some of the most interesting topics in our first-grade classes.

The past few weeks in Math we worked on graphing data and learning about 3 dimensional shapes.

In Language Arts we focused on Phonics and retelling the main ideas in a story. We compared different characters. Students can now explain the author's purpose for writing a story.

In Social Studies students learned interesting facts about our country. The students had fun completing projects depicting the information they learned about other countries around the world.

In Science we delved into topics concerning the stars and constellations. In acknowledgement of Earth Month our students completed assignments and activities on how they can be helpful stewards in protecting their planet.

The students had a wonderful time as they explored the hands-on exhibits at the Museum of Discovery and Science on April 5th.

We are looking forward to our next field trip. On Friday, May 5th the students will attend Broward Center to see the play "The Ugly Duckling."

Second Grade

Greetings Parents!

We are excited to start the fourth quarter of the year and finish strong. Our second graders are diligently working on improving their reading skills to prepare for the upcoming EOY (End of Year) test. Please encourage your child to read at home every day, for at least 20 minutes to enhance their proficiency in reading. This may also include online programs such as MyON or i-Ready. In math, we are learning how to tell time on a clock, the value of money and the concept of measurement. In writing, we learned how to write opinion and narrative paragraphs. Our focus for Social Studies is economics. The students learned how to identify the benefits of saving or spending money.

End of year conferences are in progress. Please plan to attend your child's conference to discuss your child's progress. We want to collaborate with you to ensure that your child achieves beyond their expected targets. Your input and ideas will be greatly appreciated. Please give us your input on how we can better serve your child.

During the week of May 7th – May 11th, students will be taking the Primary End of Year Reading Assessment. Please encourage your child to do their best!!!

Thank you for your continued support!!!

Grade Level Happenings

Third Grade

Hello Morrow Family!

Thank you for your continued support throughout the school year. Please continue to help us by ensuring your child comes to school daily and on time. Parents, please continue to encourage your child to do their best and remain focused always. Please encourage your child to follow all school rules, complete all assigned work and adhere to the school dress code. The third graders would like to invite you to their Mother's Day Performance! Mark your calendars for Friday, May 11th at 8:30 am. We hope to see you there!

Fourth Grade

Greetings Parents!

The end of the school year is quickly approaching in the blink of an eye. Even though we are finished with the state assessments, we are still working diligently to prepare your child for their upcoming 5th grade year. To complete the school year, we will be engaged in several interesting topics in all subject areas.

Over the summer, help your child to stay immersed in learning. Make sure they are still practicing their Math skills and working on increasing their Reading Lexile levels. Please help us to ensure they are carefully working on iReady, Reflex and MyOn at home. Naturally, take time to tell your child how proud you are of their hard work over this school year. It was a pleasure to teach such amazing students this year.

Fifth Grade

Dear Parents,

Morrow 5th Grade Learners have been busy getting ready to show what they know on their FSA and FCAT tests. Although testing is over, learning will continue. Soon it will be time to prepare for end of the year activities. Students are looking forward to their field trip to Universal Studios on May 23rd. Fifth graders will also participate in a "Moving Up" awards ceremony to conclude the 4th quarter and their last year in elementary school. Mark your calendars for that special event on June 5th. More information will be provided as we approach the day.

Planners/agendas will continue to be utilized to help students keep track of assignments. Parents, please check those planners daily. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's teacher.

Thank you for your continued participation in your child's education.

Science Success - Ms. Small-Williams

As the end of the year quickly approaches, I am elated to reminisce on our science journey. Students in Kindergarten through fifth grade had wonderful, hands-on scientific adventures. In the primary grades our learners were actively engaged in “Science Matters” story time moments, making observations while creating real-life rainbows, discovering the adaptations of various animals and understanding the life cycle of plants (to name a few).

To add, our intermediate learners were very competitive with our Benchmark Questions-style games, scientific jeopardy, studying adaptations of plants and animals creating “planimals”, observing rocks collected on our campus – identifying and categorizing to see if any of the designs and textures were similar to sedimentary rocks, igneous rocks or metamorphic rocks. Students also delved into creating interactive science notebook journals as a resource to refer to for studying and recalling pertinent science information. It was enjoyable exposing students to the Frayer Model to create vocabulary words.

Our learners were excited to demonstrate student-led hands-on live experiments. The volcano display and creativity from some of our 4th Grade Learners was simply fantastic. It was a joy to watch as our learners implement the Scientific Method as they proceeded to carry out the erupting volcanic experience. They were so focus and engaged.

Additionally, it would be very remiss of me if I did not mention the continuous participation from our Marvelous Steppers. Members of the Step Team volunteered to research various experiments and conducted them at our Science Fair. Some of the experiments included:

- “An Ocean Lamp with a Twist”
- “Wildcat Fluffy Slime”
- “Morrow Clear Slime”
- “The RGL Volcano”
- “Water Penny Drop”
- “K-D Penny Wash”
- “The Oobleck Slime Experiment”

While facilitating, I was able to hear our students use accountable talks as they partnered with peers to explain their hypothesis, possible problems, and radical solutions with the student body and our parents. Parents are still expressing gratitude and appreciation for an enjoyable evening.

To conclude, I would encourage you to ask your child to verbally share some of these activities with you. This was an INCREDIBLE school year. Our students are continuously striving to be fantastic super scientists. Thank you for an amazing school year!

- Mrs. Small-Williams
“Ms. Sunshine” ☺



Computer Science Creativity & Media News - Ms. Howe

The students are currently working on their i-Ready assignments for Reading and Math. Students are given assessments through the year to monitor achievement levels. This web-based learning program uses these assessments to assign activities on student's level and above their level. The student's achievement on the activities will also assign activities to help them increase their achievement. When students are at school and at home this web-based program is beneficial to help students achieve their goals. The website for this great program is www.i-ready.com.

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.

Melissa Howe

Computer Science/Media



PTA

To meet our recruitment goals the members of the PTA attended our SAC meeting. We were able to recruit more parents to join this organization. The PTA would like to welcome and thank all the parents who recently joined. We are thankful for your interest in the organization and look forward to the exchange of ideas on how to build Morrow's PTA for the next school year. We would also like to make known the vacancy of different positions on the PTA Board (president, vice president, treasurer, secretary and fundraising coordinator) and would love to have parents who would like to be a leader within this association. We are still continuously working on fundraising ideas that can help with some of the needs of our students.

- Ms. Hylton- Senior





Dear Parents,

As you know the Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) test is on-going for all students in grades 3 to 5. Here are three tips on how to get your child ready for Test Day.

1. Talk to your child about testing. It's helpful for children to understand why schools give tests and to know the different kinds of tests they will take.
2. Make sure your child gets a good night's sleep and eats a healthy breakfast
3. Encourage your child to remain positive and to do his/her best

EN ESPANOL

Queridos padres,

Como usted sabe, la prueba de la Evaluación de Normas de Florida (FSA) está en curso para todos los estudiantes en los grados 3 a 5. Aquí hay tres consejos sobre cómo preparar a su hijo para el Día de la Prueba.

1. Hable con su hijo sobre las pruebas. Es útil para los niños entender por qué las escuelas dan exámenes y conocer los diferentes tipos de pruebas que tomarán.
2. Asegúrese de que su hijo duerma bien y coma un desayuno saludable.
3. Aliente a su hijo a permanecer positivo y a hacer su mejor esfuerzo.

EN KREYOL

Che Paran,

Kom ou konen, tes pou evalue tout timoun nan eta florid la (FSA) en kou nan moman say a pouf tout trimount nan kales 3eme anew risk 5eme an. Me kek konsey nou ta renmen ba ou.

