



Panther Paws

Office: 754-322-7850

<https://www.browardschools.com/parkside>

Lanea Hall, Principal
Mark Andriesse, Assistant Principal

Volume 21, Issue 4
December 2020

Calendar of Events

December

12/2: Honor Roll Celebrations, 7 PM

12/3: School Advisory Council/ School Advisory Forum Meeting, 7:30 AM

12/3: Student of the Month Celebration, 7 PM

12/21/20–1/3/2021: Winter Break (No School)



Meal Distribution Continues

Our cafeteria continues to provide meals for students who are learning virtually from home. On Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 to 12 PM, parents can pick up meals in our car loop. Each meal pack will cover multiple days of breakfast and lunch. You can view our menus by visiting <https://schools.mealviewer.com/school/ParksideElementarySchool>



Administrator's Corner

'Tis the season to be filled with joy, love, and giving. We have entered the last month of 2020 and it has been quite a year. We have been through a year of struggles, frustration, anxiety, and stress; but hopefully, there has been some growth as well. Despite these many challenges, we continue to persevere and do our jobs to the very best of our ability. We thank you for your continued patience each and every day. Parkside has one of the best, if not the best, staff in the entire district. I am so proud to represent them as their leader.

We continue to do our best to keep your children connected daily with a functioning laptop. There have been several students who are having issues with chargers lately. When we have assessed them, we are finding that students are breaking them by possibly forcing them into the laptop the wrong way or bending them by pulling. With computer issues, we can usually get these fixed, but with the chargers, we must purchase new ones. We really need your help in monitoring your children when they are on their laptops at home. If a student continually breaks computers or chargers over and over, we may have to charge an obligation. Thank you for helping us with this concern.

Our PTA has done a wonderful job this year despite not being able to do many of our usual activities. Since so many of our students are not face to face and we cannot allow volunteers, we wanted to share a few pictures from the school of things they were able to do for us with the money they have earned last year. Also, I want to recognize some students and our wonderful art teacher Mrs. Mastrianni, for creating the mural of students that is part of this display. Nicholas M, Valentina I., Sophia M., Lily S., Jonathan F., Annabelle P., Rama R., AnTung,W., Mya B., Cassandra C., Justin D., and Madison O. These are the current students who contributed to the piece. We did have a few 5th graders who have now moved on to middle school. Thank you to all of these students, Mrs. Mastrianni and the PTA for their support. Hope you enjoy!

Thank you to all of the families who participated in the Virtual award assemblies this week. Even though it is not exactly the same as doing it in person, I hope you enjoyed them. We will continue these for the remainder of the year. We are also going to try and organize a family night in January or February. This would be more of a night for parents. More information will be forthcoming.

All of us here at Parkside are very thankful for your children and the joy they bring us each and every day. I want to take a moment to thank you for all of your support and patience during this time. As we come to the end of this year and start into 2021, it is my hope for you and your families that you will find some peace and comfort in the year to come.

Lanea Hall, Principal



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Kindergarten

Our Kindergarten students have been very busy. The children are working hard and learning how to become great readers during reading groups. Please take some time every day to read with them at home and practice sight words daily. Ask them about a story they have read and talk to them about the parts of a book. Challenge them to write a sentence or two about the story they read! In Math, we have learned numbers 1-10, comparing numbers, and now we're working on addition. Try to practice writing numbers, counting items up to 20, comparing numbers, and simple addition facts up to 10 while at home this break! Another skill that we encourage you to work on is fine motor skills- such as cutting with scissors, writing letters and numbers, etc. During Social Studies last month, we learned about Native Americans, Pilgrims, and Thanksgiving. We also talked a lot about fire safety before that. Ask your child what they know! Also, please remember to spend some time on iReady each day in both math and reading. Thank you for everything you do and keep up the great work!

1st Grade

The month of November went by quickly! We spent time discussing family traditions and talking about the things we are truly thankful for. We also took some time to look at how the life of the Pilgrims in the past is so different from the life now in present time. Ask your child to share some of the differences and similarities they learned about the past and present.

In Math, we are finishing the chapters on addition and subtraction strategies. After these chapters, we will be learning how addition and subtraction are related! Remember, practicing math facts helps build math fluency. Please encourage your child to practice nightly. Using i-Ready or Sumdog are smart ways to practice math, too!

December will be full of learning! Please continue to support your child's academic progress by reading, practicing sight words, and learning math facts nightly!

2nd GRADE

Second Graders are doing an amazing job persevering through these difficult times. We are learning problem-solving skills and doing our best each and every day. In Reading, we are discovering new resources and will focus on Main Idea and Details, Author's Purpose, and Cause and Effect. Please continue to read with your child for at least 20-30 minutes each day.

There are many online resources and you may also use books you have at home. In Math, we are continuing Chapter 4: Two Digit Addition. Please make sure your child knows their basic addition facts. This will help them so much as they begin to add and subtract higher numbers. They can use online resources or flash cards to practice these math facts. Be sure your child is getting their 45 minutes of i-Ready Reading and Math each week. Please continue to check Course Progress on Canvas to see if your child is keeping up with their assignments. You can reach out to your child's teacher with any questions about the resources that are available. We are wishing you and your family a safe and happy holiday season!

THIRD GRADE

Can you believe that 2020 is almost over? What a crazy year I'm sure we will never forget! We are so proud of how hard our students have been working at home and in school. Now that we are completing the 2nd quarter, we are expecting our students to take more responsibility with completing assignments and turning them in by the due date. Last week, the district has established that a student's camera MUST be on to be counted as present. This month we will be working on division. Reading this month will focus on fables and the theme or message learned from each one. We will end the quarter off by taking our fourth out of the eight keystones. We want to encourage you to keep practicing math facts with your child and ensure that they get their 45 minutes weekly completed on i-Ready reading and math. Finally, we wish you a happy and healthy holiday season and look forward to the start of 2021!

4th grade

Fourth graders have been hard at work practicing multiplication and learning about factors and multiples as we prepare to begin division very soon. In Reading, we continue to explore more meaningful literature and expand our vocabulary. We are budding writers, too! We are using our strong vocabulary and grammar skills to build elaborative paragraphs that convey our thoughts. In Science we will be looking at how matter changes. Social Studies has been exciting learning about the presidential election, the history of Thanksgiving, and the native tribes of Florida! A lot of growth has occurred in the three and a half months that we have been connected. We are proud of how perseverant and flexible our students and families have been.

Grade 5

Wow, has the time flown by! We can't believe we are approaching the end of 2020. The second quarter is in full swing and classes are in a routine. Please remember that classes begin promptly at 8 a.m. and end at 2 p.m. each day. Students are expected to be logged into class and participating for the duration of the school day to ensure that no instructional time is lost. Students have been busy learning about concepts with decimals and how to solve real-world problems. In Reading, we have been working on a variety of skills in reading learning how to analyze fiction and non-fiction texts. Social Studies has led us to study Native Americans and students will complete a project this month to display their knowledge of Native American traditions. In Science, we are learning about chemical and physical changes of matter. In the area of writing, classes are working on informative writing using two texts and using elaboration to personalize their essays. Please make sure to continue monitoring your child's progress in their Canvas courses. You are able to view which assignments they have completed, are past due, and their grades. This feature is an amazing way to ensure your child is on track for academic success. Please contact your teacher with any questions or concerns.

Lastly, be on the lookout for information regarding 5th grade t-shirts, information regarding online ordering will be sent home from your child's teacher. All payments will be made online and a pick-up date at school will be announced once shirts arrive. Have a wonderful holiday break with your family and an amazing New Year!

Aftercare Courier December 2020

We hope you had an enjoyable and restful Thanksgiving break! Aftercare registration is currently open and it is available online through our web site. Just visit <http://www.browardschools.com/parkside> and click on Register for Aftercare under School News. Please note that the user name for the registration form is "web" and the password field is blank. There are only 3 weeks remaining before our Winter Holiday Break! Please remember that we are paying weekly this year instead of monthly. Payments are due on Sunday evening before we return on Monday's. The next 3 weeks will each have 5 days which is \$70.00. If you have been approved for a scholarship, you must call Mrs. Wilkerson to manually put in your payment. If you would like to, you can call the aftercare number at 754-322-7893 when you arrive, and we will have your child packed and ready to go. Thanks for hanging in here with us. We look forward to more normal days!

Sincerely, Lakay Wilkerson
lakay.wilkerson@browardschools.com



Greetings from the Parkside PTA!



Thank you everyone who participated in our annual Holiday Shop. We hope this brought smiles to many of the students' faces buying presents for their loved ones. Spirit shirts and masks are still on sale. You can purchase them at https://info3512689.wixsite.com/parkside?fbclid=IwAR2PPpiEjuynZR-DueNx-6PLWDXgzN5eZig31mAUx5eqB4wTwP_fz-hKY9g In January, we will be selling the Domino's Slice the Price Card so everyone can enjoy some fresh hot pizza for all of 2021. We hope everyone has a great holiday season!



Sincerely, the Parkside PTA Board

Counselor's Corner: December's Character Trait— Kindness

Dear Parents,

The Development of Close Friendships: Parents often become very concerned when their child reports that he or she doesn't have any close friends, and rightly so. Friendships are an important part of elementary school and without a good friendship circle, it is hard to develop the skills needed to get along with others. As elementary school children grow, they relate to their close friends more deeply. Parents can help to encourage individual friendships, which later grow into friendship circles. Typical development of close friendships by grade and gender:

Grade	What they do with close friends	How they view close friends
Kindergarten and First Grade	They will play with anyone. Closer friends are determined by how often they get together after school.	Close friends share activities and toys
2nd & 3rd grade	Boys and girls often publicly avoid each other. BOYS: Start to organize into small group games with rules. They form temporary clubs with a leader. GIRLS: A closer group of 4 or 5 friends sometimes become a friendship circle.	Close friends begin to cooperate and adjust to each others' actions and thoughts. BOYS: sometimes exclude others from their clubs but it's only temporary. GIRLS: sometimes threaten each other with "not being friends" but they don't mean it.
4th grade	Best friends begin to emerge. BOYS: Small groups begin to hang around with each other. GIRLS: Friendship circles are more constant, and begin to center on interests-bike riding, ballet, soccer, theater group, etc.	Close friends have common interests, likes and dislikes, similar abilities, compatible personalities.
5th grade	BOYS: Hang around exclusively with a group of other boys with similar interests. GIRLS: Longer telephone calls and sharing secrets make their debut.	Close friends are intimate and support each other.

In partnership,
Ms. Engle, School Counselor
marjorie.engle@browardschools.com,
754-322-7856



School Improvement/Title 1 Update



School Advisory Council (SAC): SAC is a committee of parents, community members, and teachers who meet to discuss and monitor our School Improvement Plan. The focus of SAC is primarily student achievement but many issues are discussed that affect the school. SAC has an official elected membership but all are welcome to attend each meeting.

School Advisory Forum (SAF): SAF is an open forum to discuss any school or community issue. While SAC focuses on the School Improvement Plan, SAF is the place to get more information, address any other concerns, or share ideas that impact the school. SAF has no official membership and our SAF meetings are held back to back with our SAC meetings.

How can parents get involved and participate in the SAC/SAF committee? Parents are encouraged to attend the monthly meeting of the SAC/SAF at our school, usually on the first Thursday of each month. Our next meeting will take place on **December 3rd via Microsoft TEAMS. Please join us! You can follow this link at the time of the meeting:** <https://rb.gv/xiazom>

Why is it important for parents to be active participants? The SAC committee provides a place where parents can voice their opinions and suggestions. They have an active role in making decisions that will best serve the students. SAC also gives the opportunity for parents to actively participate in setting goals and making plans to achieve those academic goals. SAC allows for parents to identify issues that need to be addressed concerning the school climate. We look forward to seeing you there!

Broward County Public Schools & Flying Classroom Presents

VIRTUAL FALL ZOOM FEST

December 19, 2020 ✈️ 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Immerse yourself in a STEM+ world of learning, with Guinness World Record Holder & National Geographic Explorer,

CAPTAIN BARRINGTON IRVING!



The Flying Classroom Virtual Team will guide you through Captain Irving's global adventures and provide you with your very own materials kit to follow along, courtesy of Title I.

Fill one, of 300 available spots with the link below, to take part in this engaging learning experience:

<https://forms.gle/3GGbnDusvQtsN9BbA>

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For more information, contact: support@flyingclassroom.com

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FAMILIES LEARNING

Together

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DAY 1

Check Out Your Library

Libraries offer valuable information and exciting adventures. Visit your local library as a family and ask for a tour to discover its depth of offerings, and then take advantage of your library card and weekend with free books, music, and movies!

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)



DAY 4

Kid-Friendly Kitchen Restaurant

Create an imaginary restaurant with your child. Create a menu together, assign roles (host, server, chef), and discuss whom you would invite as your "customers." You could even take a trip to the grocery store to find your recipes' ingredients. This is a great activity to explain why you would make certain choices and to use lots of details when describing menu items.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)

DAY 2

Bring a Book to Life

Draw pictures of your children's favorite book characters and cut them out to make puppets. Use the puppets to act out a scene together. Bringing the narrative to life through dramatic play or retelling the story helps children to better understand character development and the storytelling process.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)



DAY 3

Share Your Sunday Morning Memories

Storytelling is a great way to promote literacy and build familiar bonds. Share with your children what Sunday morning was like when you were their age. What traditions did you and your family uphold? Ask your child to retell your family memories in his or her own words.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)

DAY 5

Build a Word Jar

Flipping through a dictionary, write down new words and their definitions. Collect these new vocabulary words in a Word Jar. At dinner, extract new words and create sentences out loud together. If there's time, draw pictures depicting the new word to extend the learning.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)



DAY 6

Interview One Another

Take turns pretending to be a newspaper reporter or detective. Ask each other important questions of "who," "what," "when," "where," and "why." Pause after each question to allow your children time to think about the question and what they want to say. Pausing to think teaches children the give and take of conversation and the importance of taking time to understand information they are receiving.

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DAY 7

Turn Friends into Pen Pals

Together, write a letter to a faraway friend or family member. Talk about what you might say or which fond memories you may share with the recipient. In addition to being a great deal of fun, writing a letter to someone faraway helps your child practice important writing and storytelling skills.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)

DAY 8

Thoughtful Television Talk

Watch a TV program together as a family. Afterwards, ask your child what part he or she liked best and why. Offer your own opinions, and talk about how sitcoms were different when you were growing up. Talking about television shows can help family members understand the experiences of others and build a stronger bond.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)



DAY 9

Sidewalk Stories with Chalk

Encourage your children to use chalk to write a poem or story about the weather or your neighborhood on the sidewalk. You could even suggest writing a poem about the sidewalk itself! Varying the writing medium will create excitement around the literacy experience.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)

DAY 10

Create Picture Stories

Take photos or draw pictures of your child doing a favorite activity. Write a story together, using the pictures as illustrations. Picture books help children develop critical thinking skills as their brains take in the picture and the text and make connections between the two.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)



DAY 11

Family Fairytale Fun

Start a story together as a family. One person starts the story and tells one to three sentences. Then the next person takes over and adds the next one to three sentences. See how everyone weaves their own interests and imagination into the plot.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)

DAY 12

Around the World

Find a newspaper article or book about someone who lives in a different part of the U.S. or world. Research and discuss as a family how that person's everyday reality may differ because of where they were born. What do they wear? What do they eat? What games do they play? Learning to understand and respect cultural differences is important in our global and ever-growing diverse world.

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DAY 13

Fun with Family History

Did Grandpa fight in a World War? Was your grandma born in a different country? Write a story together about an important event in your family's history. Illustrate the story and fasten it together into a book for the family library. Knowing where you came from is important to gaining a strong sense of identity.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)

DAY 14

Listen to Your Children's Stories

Ask your child to tell you a favorite story. It can be a new story or an old one with new twists and characters. Write down what your child says. Read it back to your child. Save the story to read it again. Let your child's imagination inspire you to come up with your own adult stories to write down and later share.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)

DAY 15

Wake up, Word Up: Letter of the Day

Over breakfast, work together to choose a letter of the day. Everyone looks for objects that begin with that letter during the day. You may see this letter everywhere! Or, you may only notice it in a few places. Talk about all the things your family observed that day, and marvel at the world around you.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)

DAY 16

Gratitude Posters

Our days get busy, and sometimes we forget to say "thank you" to the people who make our lives so very special. Make a list in words and/or pictures of three great things you like about each person in your family. Hang your lists up for everyone to see (this also works great in classrooms).

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)



DAY 17

Family Stretches

Unwind together as a family before bedtime, and try out a few beginner yoga poses or deep stretching. Spending time relaxing together can be just as important as staying active.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)

DAY 18

Shape Up with Dinner Geometry

Shapes are everywhere, even on your dinner plate. Look at your dinner table and name all the shapes you see as a way to practice recognizing shapes. See who can find the most!

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)





FAMILIES LEARNING

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DAY 19

Who's Important To You?

Tell or write a story about an adult who is or was important in your life. Ask your child to do the same. Share your stories out loud, and see if you can think of all the important people who make up your life.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)



DAY 20

Tasty Togetherness



Take your taste buds on an adventure and try different foods from all over the world. Keep a journal of what you're trying. Note how the food tastes (salty, sweet, sour, etc.). What did you like about it? Did it remind you of another food? How would you describe it to your friends? Learning to eat different foods is not only healthy, but can be fun for the whole family.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)

DAY 21

Head in the Clouds

Take the time to stare at the clouds and see if there are any interesting shapes in the sky. Wonder what it would be like to fly. Where would you go? What would you do? Imagine the possibilities with your child

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)

DAY 22

Mystery Dinner Guests

Before dinner, have everyone choose a famous person from history and research the person's life. While eating, take turns asking each other questions to learn more about the other "famous people" at the table. Try to guess each other's identity!

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)

DAY 23

Flashlight Stories

Pretend you're camping and there's no electricity for a reading light. Instead, read by flashlight! Take turns reading to experience how different it is to read in the dark. Talk about what it would be like to go back in time and read without electricity. You could even go to the library and pick out a story about the discovery of electricity!

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)



DAY 24

Get Cooking



Bring math into the kitchen and include the whole family when preparing a recipe. Practice measuring out ingredients using different sizes of measuring cups. How many scoops does it take to make 1 cup? How many cups? How would you prepare the recipe for 24 guests? You don't need to be a professional chef to share the joys of cooking and learning with your friends and family members.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)



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DAY 25

School Days

Share stories about what your school days were like and compare your experience with everyone in your family. We think you'll find the learning process and in-school gadgets have changed quite a bit over the years. Together make a list of the top five things you love about school and why learning will always be important.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)



DAY 26

What a Gem

When is your birthday? What is your birthstone? Look up where the gemstone comes from and learn about its special powers! Do you like your birth gem's special powers? Which stone is your favorite?



[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)

DAY 27

Dreamland

What's the craziest dream you've ever had? Sit down with your family members and talk about dreams. Which dreams can you remember? What's the funniest dream you've ever had? The scariest? As a family, have everyone keep a dream journal and compare notes. And, if you have a pet, you can even imagine what he or she dreams about!

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)

DAY 28

Over the Moon

Take the time to observe the night sky together. Notice the moon and how it changes size (and even color) from day to day, or map out a constellation or cluster of stars on aluminum foil by poking holes with a tooth pick. Inside, put a light behind the aluminum sheet to make your own night sky.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)



DAY 29

Mary Had a Little Rhyme

Learn a popular lullaby from another culture, or recite nursery rhymes you know by heart. Encourage your toddler to sing them with you. You can even change around the words to make the songs about your family! Nursery rhymes are important to the process of learning early language skills.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)

DAY 30

Imagination Vacation

Imagine that you were going on vacation today, instead of school or work. Where would you go? How long would you stay? What is the weather like and what will you do? More importantly, what should you pack? This is a great way to practice giving descriptions and thinking about important information, like weather and things to do.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)