

D E C E M B E R 2 0 1 8  
E D I T I O N

the



# SANDPIPER POST

CAMILLE LACHANCE, PRINCIPAL  
MELISSA HERNANDEZ, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

CREATING MEMORABLE MOMENTS FOR OUR STUDENTS!!!  
(754) 322-8450 [HTTP://SANDPIPER.BROWARDSCHOOLS.COM/](http://sandpiper.browardschools.com/)  
[HTTP://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/SANDPIPERSUNRISE](http://www.facebook.com/sandpipersunrise)

## A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Believe it or not, it's December. I wish you and your family, "Happy Holidays!" We had two special events in December. On December 6th, selected students participated in a Literacy Night at Barnes and Nobles. Students read literacy projects created in class. We enjoyed listening to these creative projects. On December 5th, Sandpiper students with Autism participated in the Special Olympics event at Northeast High School. Staff and parents cheered on our students!

Interim Reports were issued to students. Interim Report is an excellent opportunity to learn about your student's academic progress. If you have questions, after reviewing your child's interim report, please contact the teacher for more information on your child's strengths, challenges, and next steps. We hope you will discuss your child's strengths and their learning goals with them.

Winter Break begins December 24, 2018 through January 7, 2019. School resumes on Tuesday, January 8, 2019. Have a happy holiday season with family and friends!

Season Greetings,

Camille LaChance  
Principal



**Our School Vision is  
"Educating today's  
students to succeed in  
tomorrow's world."**

*VERY  
IMPORTANT*

**School begins at 8:00 am.  
Breakfast service begins  
at 7:15am in the cafeteria.  
Students arriving late  
need to be accompanied  
by a parent to the office  
for a late pass.**

**Please report all absences  
by calling the front office  
at (754) 322-8450.**

## *A Message From the Assistant Principal:*

Code Red Drills have been mandated for all schools by the State of Florida to ensure the safety of our students and staff. These Code Red Drills are implemented on a monthly basis, similar to fire drills.

In the month of January, Sandpiper ES will have a live drill with Broward County Police and Special Investigative Unit. The date of the drill will not be pre-announced due to potential security and attendance issues. Instead, our school will send families a Parent Link message via phone call, text message, and/or e-mail approximately 20 minutes after the live drill to alert everybody that the drill has been completed. Please do not contact your child during the Code Red Drills, as it is important for all students to learn the safety procedures in case of an emergency.

We are very fortunate to have our SRO Officer on duty that quickly alerts us to the incidents around Sunrise neighborhood. Our students are safe at all times and the Sandpiper staff is very proud of how our students respond to our monthly drills and how our teachers calmly lead them through the drill. The Code Red monthly drills afford us an opportunity to see how the steps of our emergency plan are properly carried out.

A big thank you to our school safety team and Officer Kroger, and the office team for their responsiveness and constant suggestions on how to make our school even safer!



## ***KINDERGARTEN***



It was the month of December and all through Sandpiper, the kindergarteners were learning and getting much smarter! We're gaining more knowledge in reading, science, and math, to keep us going on the right path!

Kindergarteners had their first Field Day at Sandpiper filled with fun activities and competitions! They learned about good sportsmanship and cheering for their teammates. Having fun and doing your best made everyone a winner! A good time was had by all!

The Holiday Boutique was another fun time for our children. They shopped for family and friends in the famous PTA store filled with many cool items for all!

All children, including Kindergarten, participated online in the National Hour of Code. Children were able to experience how computer programming affects technology in our daily lives.

The children are having so much fun with gingerbread activities, learning about different holidays and respect for others.

Children are utilizing their knowledge with sounds to chunk into words and then sentences. Reading and writing is a must for a successful education. Keep practicing at home.

As we approach our Winter Break, teachers are asking parents to continue reading with/and to your children. Remember to always ask questions about stories that you read. Some children can keep a journal. Remember to practice letters, sounds, and sight words. These come in handy when reading and writing sentences and stories. Also, continue to review math strategies. Academic games are a great way to reinforce what they need to keep them motivated in learning!

We wish to thank everyone for working with "our" children to continue making kindergarten successful! Have a safe and wonderful winter break. Let's return to school in January and hit the ground running to more success! HAPPY 2019 to come!

## ***FIRST GRADE***



December is a great time for reading. This month, we are focusing on holiday classics in the classroom. We are also integrating these lessons with math, science, and social studies.

First Grade Field Day was a success!

We are also learning about winter holidays and our students will be taking part in classroom activities and a winter celebration during the week of December 17<sup>th</sup>. We are asking that you send in \$5 to help with our classroom activities and celebrations.

During Winter Break it is important to relax and enjoy the holiday time. We also want our students to continue to keep their reading and math skills on track. Please use i-Ready at home to have your child review reading and math skills. Reflex Math is a great website that will increase your child's addition and subtraction fluency. Our students have been working on Reflex Math in the classroom and computer lab.

In January, students that solve 2,000 math facts will be invited to the Reflex Math Rockstar Celebration. Thank you for your continued support in your child's education.

Happy Holidays!



# Classroom Happenings

## SECOND GRADE

Second grade is looking forward to our Field day on Dec. 17. 2018. We will have fun and exciting holiday events planned, as well. More information will be coming.

Second grade students have just finished learning how characters in a story respond to major events and challenges and how to describe the connection between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts, or steps in a technical procedure.

In December, we will be learning to describe how words and phrases supply rhythm and meaning in a story, poem, or song. We are also determining the meaning of unfamiliar words and phrases in a text relevant to a second grade topic.

Last month in math, we learned two digit addition and are now learning two digit subtraction.

Please continue having students go on iReady reading and math each night as well as reading for pleasure and completing all homework assignments in time. Please be sure to fill out the Reading Across Broward logs. Thank you for your continued support.

Have a wonderful, safe holiday season. Enjoy time with family and friends. See you in 2019.

## THIRD GRADE

I-Ready Leads to Success!

We're so proud of the children who make the effort to use I-Ready, this important website supports noticeable improvements in reading and math skills. Students need to meet the I-Ready goal of spending 45 minutes weekly on I-Ready Reading and I-Ready Math. Parents, please remind your child to work on I-Ready Reading 45 minutes per week, [www.i-Ready.com](http://www.i-Ready.com), you will see great results.

Work on reaching your Reflex Math Goal. A little bit of work every day, goes a long way. Reflex Math <https://www.reflexmath.com/>

It's beginning to look like ...Winter Break

As the holidays rapidly approach we'd like to wish you and your family a very happy and healthy holiday. We'd also like you to request that your child sets aside a few minutes to work on their academics. We really don't want the children to fall behind. Please remind your child to take the time to read for fifteen to twenty minutes daily. Spend 45 minutes weekly on I-Ready.

### Not Naughty, Just NICE

As your child prepares their list of requests for presents ask them which books, they'd like to receive. Take the time during Winter Break to read daily.



# Classroom Happenings

## **FOURTH GRADE**



In December, 4th grade will continue working on literature and informational texts: first and third person points of view and comparing accounts of the same topic.

Fourth grade students are also working on Opinion Writing. We are working on providing evidence from the text in our writing to help support our opinion.

Please continue to have your child read a minimum of 20 minutes daily.

In math, we are working on multiples, factors, and prime and composite numbers. We will be starting fractions soon. Please have your 4th grader continue practicing multiplication and division fluency (0-12).



## **FIFTH GRADE**



Wow! November went by so fast.

Week of Code is a wonderful experience to learn different ways to code via computer or robot. Each of the 5th grade classes teamed up with a younger grade and worked on coding skills.

Billie Swamp is fast approaching on December 19. Field Day for 5th grade is on December 20. Please ask your child what their class color is.

Over break make sure your child is studying and reading regularly. We will take the BSA in January. In order to go to the Rock and Roll Party in the Spring, students need to keep up with their I-Ready 45 minutes in math and reading.

Lots of students have received Accelerated Reader Charms. Ask your child to tell you what level they are on.

Have a great holiday break.



# Classroom Happenings

## **SPECIAL PROGRAMS**



During the holiday season we all receive a lot of catalogues. A great activity is to create category pages. To reinforce language skills, have the child find pictures of items that are similar in color, shape, foods, animals, etc. Its a great way to recycle all that holiday mail.



## **SPECIALS**



Art Club and Chorus did an outstanding job with their talents at the Barnes and Noble Night on Thursday December 6. Art club students paired up to create their own face paint shop with designs they have become experts in painting. So many stopped by their booth to get a fabulous look for the night. Chorus performed a collection of winter themed songs.

The Specials team is also preparing for Sandpiper's Field Days. Each grade level will participate on different days. Students will work together at team building stations as well as some competition activities. If you are an approved volunteer and would like to help out at field day, please contact Ms. Boyd. The field day schedule is: Dec. 11 (Kinder/VPK), Dec. 12 (First Grade), Dec. 17 (Second Grade), Dec. 18 (Third Grade), Dec 19 (Fourth Grade), Dec 20 (Fifth Grade).



# News Around Sandpiper

## GUIDANCE



Counselor's Corner- Ms. Molinelli

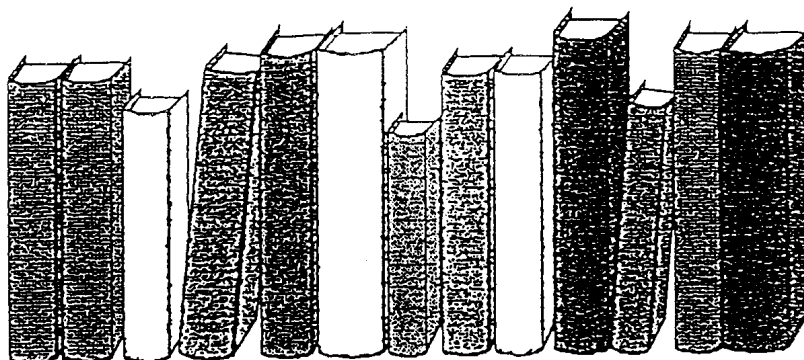
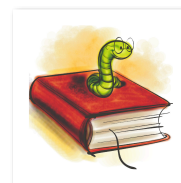
In December we focus on the character trait of kindness. Kindness includes being helpful, thoughtful, compassionate and considerate. Ask your children to think of someone that they care about, and then develop ways that they can show that person appreciation. A handmade card or note or an offer to help with a chore goes a long way to show caring and compassion. Sharing a favorite toy or treat with a sibling or friend also teaches children to be kind.

December is filled with different holidays and observances. Help your child to learn about how different groups celebrate holidays; this fosters respect for the many different groups of people that make up our community. Local food and toy drives are great ways for children to experience the joy of giving and generosity. Challenge your student to do a good deed without getting caught doing it. Ask them how it feels to do something kind, even if they receive no thanks or praise for it.

Second grade will be participating in lessons from the "I'm Thumbody" program this month. This program helps enhance our students' self-esteem. We will continue our pro-friendship and anti-bullying information with presentations on morning announcements.

Enjoy the holiday season and a great Winter Break!





Fifteen Reasons Why Books  
Make Good Entertainment and Gifts for Children  
All Through the Year!

1. Books don't have to be assembled
2. Books don't need batteries
3. Books don't need extension cords
4. You won't need to call a dealer to service a book
5. Books are easier to wrap than footballs
6. Books don't bite, scratch, kick, bark or have to be walked in the middle of the night
7. Books don't irritate allergies
8. Books look good with any decor
9. Books won't scratch the coffee table
10. Books won't get stale before they arrive
11. Books don't go out of style
12. Books don't shrink, stretch, fade or need ironing
13. Books don't have zippers that break
14. When you are finished with a book, it's not empty
15. Books help create readers!



## *VPK and Pre-K News*

Last month the children participated in Thanksgiving and Career Day activities and had a blast!

December is going to be an exciting month for the VPK and Pre-K classes as well. Students will have fun learning about Winter, December holidays, and clothing. On December 20th, Pre-K and VPK will join Kindergarten and First Grade students to enjoy Polar Express activities. We will all wear our pajamas to school, drink hot chocolate, complete art projects and more! The Pre-K and VPK teachers wish you a safe and happy Winter Break!

Please check out the November Early Learning Newsletter. The month highlighted Family Engagement, Handling Trauma in Early Childhood, Veteran's Day, and December dates.



# Early Learning Parents' Pages

## November 2018



- Trauma and Young Children
- Family Engagement
- How To Stay Connected
- Explore Adoption
- Celebrate **VETERANS DAY**

## Handling Trauma and Young Children

**Y**oung children may be exposed to trauma in many ways...

watching new reports, movies or tv shows with violence; experiencing or seeing violence in their homes or neighborhoods; being involved or witnessing a tragic accident; experiencing a disaster such as a hurricane, earthquake, flood, tornado;

parents' divorce or separation; or death of a family member, close friend or pet. How a young child is exposed to trauma and family or caregivers react to his behavior during or after the event make a difference in a child's reactions.

As parent or caregiver, you may not recognize the **effects of these events** on your child or know how to help them cope with grief or anxiety.

There are signs you can look for that indicate your child may need more support and comfort from you or help from a professional. In the weeks or months after a disaster or other **traumatic event**, pay close attention to

your child for any physical signs of trauma. Is he having difficulty sleeping or sleeping for long periods of time? Is he refusing to go to child care or pre-



school? Does he refuse to eat, eats only small amounts of food or over-eats? Does he have a hard time paying attention to you (or others) when you talk or read to him or play with him? These may be signs of trauma. Difficulty separating from you, worrying about where you are going, asking lots of questions about his and family members' safety, health and locations (Where is daddy? Is grandma at the hospital? Where are you going to buy groceries?) may be other signs your child is suffering from toxic stress.

If your child has experienced trauma, you can help them feel safe and secure by spending time holding, cuddling or sitting close to them and talking calmly about how you will keep them safe. They will benefit from your touch and your calmness. Even if you are anxious and do not feel calm, make sure to use a calm tone of voice and do not talk about your worries when they can hear you or see you. Listen to your child and **answer all of their questions** without specific details that may frighten them.

Acknowledge your child's feelings by simply confirming what they tell you: "I can see that you are worried about the weather. Another storm is coming, but it is not a **hurricane**." If you do not know the answer to a question, don't worry. Just tell them, "I don't know, but I will try to find out." Your child needs to know that

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## In This Issue

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Family Engagement

Veterans Day

How Families Stay Connected

Explore Adoption

December Dates

OFFICE OF  
**Early Learning**

LEARN EARLY. LEARN FOR LIFE.

# Early Learning Parents' Pages

## Family Engagement Month

November is National Family Engagement Month. It is also [Florida Family Engagement Month](#). You may wonder, "What is **family engagement** and why is it so important that it has a whole month of recognition and celebration?"

Family engagement is important for preparing children for school and life. Research shows that family engagement

- Increases a child's motivation to learn.
- Reduces behavioral problems.
- Improves social-emotional development.
- Improves school readiness skills, such as impulse control, attention,

memory and planning skills.

Your child benefits from your family being engaged in his learning, [healthy development](#) and well-being at home your child is enrolled in a child care or preschool program, your family can engage with the program by having a positive relationship with the teachers and directors or administrators. Family members communicate with the school, center or child care family home on a regular basis.

A partnership between your family and all of your child's caregivers or teacher supports his healthy development and [learning](#). You talk with teachers or caregivers about your concerns and goals for your child. The teachers or caregivers keep you informed about your child's [social and emotional development, language, math and other skills](#) he is

learning at school. Your family attends meetings, conferences and other school events as often as possible and discusses problems he may be having at home with his teachers or

caregivers.

Family engagement includes [everyday routine tasks](#) and activities you do with your child at home to support his learning and health.



What does family engagement **look** like?

Parents or other family members...

- [Reading](#) a book to a child.
- [Talking or singing](#) to their baby as they change their diaper, dress them or give them a bath.
- Playing a game with their child.
- Taking their child to a park or going for a walk and asking questions about what their child sees.
- [Singing the Alphabet Song](#) to their child or playing games with letters and letter sounds.
- Stacking blocks with their toddler.

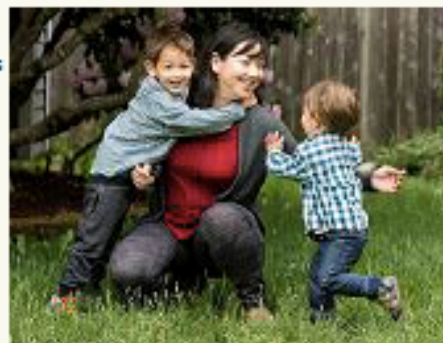
What does family engagement **sound** like?

- Parents or other family members...
- Asking their toddler to name body parts as they point to their arms, legs, toes, fingers, eyes, nose and mouth.
- Singing silly songs while riding in the car or singing lullabies at bedtime.
- Telling their preschooler the names of vegetables in the grocery store.
- Talking to their child's teacher about what they are learning this week at school.
- [Asking their pediatrician](#) about their child's weight and height or why she is not walking yet.
- Explaining to their child how to make new friends.

What does family engagement **feel** like?

Parents or other family members are...

- Excited when their baby starts to stand, crawl or walk and show their excitement to the baby.
- Concerned when their preschooler runs out into the street when a car is coming and tell their child they were afraid she would get hurt.
- Happy when their infant smiles at them and they smile back at him.
- Surprised when their toddler likes the vegetables they made for dinner and praise her for trying new, healthy foods.
- Proud when the teacher tells them their child is kind to other children at school and they give their child a big hug.
- Disappointed because they have to work and cannot stay with their child every day, but....
- Pleased that they found a great child care center or preschool that is a caring, loving place where their child loves to go while they are at work.



# Early Learning Parents' Pages

## Veterans Day

November 11 is Veterans Day. Your child may be curious about this holiday and ask questions about veterans or Veterans Day parades. Thanking veterans for their service to our country is its purpose. Talk with your child about ways your family can thank a veteran. Suggestions for ways your family can say thanks on Veterans Day (and every day):

- Fly an American flag outside your home. Have your child help raise and lower the flag each day.
- Participate in or watch a Veterans Day parade together.
- Personally thank a veteran for their service.
- Send a care package to a military service member at home or overseas.
- Donate to organizations like Operation Homefront or the Wounded Warrior Project.
- Help your child make a card or write a note to thank a veteran. Mail or take it to a local veterans' clinic, hospital or VFW or VVA. For a location, go to <https://www.vfw.org/find-a-post>.



Books for young children that help explain the importance of this day:



For school-age children, "H" is for Honor, written by David Scillian, tells us about the different branches of the military.



Veterans, by Valerie Pfundstein, is a rhyming picture book about friends and neighbors who served our country in the military.

## How To Stay Connected

November is the beginning of the holiday season for many families and staying connected with family members is part of many holiday celebrations. Sharing traditions, traveling to visit relatives, sending cards or letters, and calling or skyping family members makes the holidays personal and special. You may have family members who live or work in different cities, states or countries and have to make an extra effort to talk or visit with them. If you are part of a military family, you need to plan early to share holiday messages, send cards and gifts, or schedule time to talk or skype with them.

Staying connected is a challenge military families face. If you are in the military and have young children, it is especially important for you to **connect** with your child on a regular basis. **Babies on the Homefront** is a mobile app that helps military family members connect with babies, toddlers and preschoolers no matter where they are stationed. A dad, mom or other family member can **read a story** or sing a song with their child at bedtime; give their child a thumbs-up, high-five or a kiss with kid-friendly emojis. You can store videos of yourself singing, reading bedtime stories and telling stories about your childhood in the app so your child can view them at different times. **Parenting2Go** is an app that will help you strengthen relationships with your child and reconnect with them after a deployment.



During separation and stress that you may be experiencing, there are resources on the **Zero to Three website** such as **brochures** and **flyers** that focus on the unique experience of parenting a baby or toddler and staying engaged with your young child. Create a personalized **Over There activity book** for your child that you can read together on Skype or make a video of you reading the book and store it on the **Babies on the Homefront** app. As one of the most important people in your child's life, you need to know how to connect with your child in **ways appropriate for their age**. To learn more about your child's development and to find ways to support your child's development as they grow, subscribe to the **Just in Time Parenting** e-newsletters.

It is difficult to stay connected with young children when you are away from home or live in a different city, state or country, but technology makes it easier. The benefits for your child far exceed the time and effort it takes to continue to interact with your child as much as possible.

# Early Learning Parents' Pages

## Explore Adoption

Do you want every child in Florida to have a safe household, loving parents and a chance to grow up in a positive, loving environment? For some Florida children this is just a dream, but it can happen if you consider adoption. Adoption creates space for a child to grow, thrive and fulfill his or her dreams. Florida has a special adoption initiative that promotes the benefits of public adoption for families called [Explore Adoption](#).

If you are thinking about expanding your family, please consider adopting a child who is older or has special needs. If you would like to adopt more than one child, consider children who are part of a sibling group. You can contact [Explore Adoption](#) to learn more about children available to adopt immediately in the state or your local community.

There are supports and resources for families who adopt one or more children. Florida offers a monthly subsidy for health care; free college tuition for the adopted child at any state

university, community college or vocational school in Florida; and adoption assistance for families who adopt a child with special needs. Federal tax credits are available for families as well.

If you want to make a real difference in the life of a child, explore adoption and adopt a child who needs someone like you.

Consider making a child's dream come true.

## Trauma and Children

*Continued from pg. 1*

they can trust you to [answer questions](#) and accept their feelings so they will feel safe again.

It may take six months to a year for your child to feel safe and secure once again. Certain sounds, locations or pictures may trigger feelings of helplessness and fear or anger. Reassure them that [you are there to keep them safe](#) and offer different ways to deal with their [fears](#).

How to help children cope after a traumatic event: [Ages 0-2](#), [Ages 2-5](#), [Ages 6-11](#), [Help Kids Cope App](#), [Complex Trauma](#), [Trauma Informed Care](#).

## Special dates in December

Dec. 1 Clark Kent's Birthday ♦ Dec. 2 Special Ed Day & World Aids Day ♦ Dec. 4 Cookie Day ♦ Dec. 5 Bathtub Party Day ♦ Dec. 7 Cotton Candy Day ♦ Dec. 9 Gingerbread Decorating Day ♦ Dec. 10 Human Rights Day ♦ Dec. 11 Kaleidoscope Day ♦ Dec. 12 Chanukah ♦ Dec. 14 Monkey Day ♦ Dec. 15 Ugly Christmas Sweater Day ♦ Dec. 17 Maple Syrup Day ♦ Dec. 19 Oatmeal Muffin Day ♦ Dec. 21 Winter Solstice & World Peace Day ♦ Dec. 25 Christmas ♦ Dec. 26 Boxing Day & Candy Cane Day ♦ Dec. 27 Fruitcake Day & Visit the Zoo Day ♦ Dec. 28 Chocolate Day ♦ Dec. 29 Tick Tock Day ♦ Dec. 30 Bacon Day ♦ Dec. 31 New Year's Eve



Rodney J. MacKinnon  
Executive Director



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Sandpiper is asking for your help. It is time for the Title I Parent Survey. The purpose of the survey is to provide parents the opportunity to provide valuable feedback and ideas that will be used to enhance the educational programs at Sandpiper Elementary.

Your child should have already brought home a paper copy of the survey, and you received a link to the electronic survey. Additionally, there are computers available in the front office for your use to complete the survey.

Copies of the surveys in other languages are also available in the front office, upon request.

The deadline for completing, and returning the survey is Jan. 18, 2019.

Once again, thank you for taking the time to complete the survey and providing your valuable input.

Happy Holidays.



Reflex Math is reinstated and students are to continue the Rock Star challenge!

The goal for the challenge will be the same but the time will be extended through the winter break until January 18.

The Rock Star celebration will be January 25, Friday.

# *Sunrise Chess Calendar Winners*

**Thank you** to the students for participating in the City's 2019 Chess Calendar Art Contest. Thank you for Ms. Fowler who helped students with their art work entries into the contest. Sunrise is excited to share the names of this year's Sandpiper Elementary School winners, listed below:

Harry Balanta - Grade 5

Deserie Softleigh - Grade 5

Othniel Hazel - Grade 2

These student will be recognized and honored at a Sunrise City Commission meeting in January.







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12/17 – Wear Holiday Socks

12/18 – Wear Your Favorite Holiday Colors

12/19 – Wear Holiday Shirts

12/20 – Wear Pajamas (Polar Express Day)

12/21 – Wear Holiday Hats

