



Dragon Tales Newsletter
Driftwood Elementary School
Contact Number 754-323-5450
April 2018



Principal's Message

Good morning. Due to technical difficulties we are unable to send out our usual newsletter. Therefore, to maintain communication this monthly newsletter will go out with our children. In addition, we encourage you to log on to our school website: <http://driftwoodelem.browardschools.com>. We also invite you to follow Driftwood Elementary on Twitter and Facebook for the latest updates and pictures of school activities. Thank you.

Remember to join me for our monthly coffee chat the second Tuesday of each month, starting at 7:30 a.m. and followed by our SAC/SAF meetings. See you on Tuesday, May 8 at 7:30 a.m. in our Media Center. Everyone is invited to attend!

Remember, our Kindergarten registration for the 2018-19 school year is now open.

Have a wonderful month!

Mrs. Rashid, Proud Principal

Assistant Principal's Corner

I would like to encourage all of our parents/guardians to take a few minutes and provide your input. The Customer Satisfaction Survey is conducted by the Broward County School District in an effort to improve System Practices. We value your opinion and ask that you please take time to complete the Customer Satisfaction Survey during the survey window of April 2nd through May 3. The link for completing the Parent Survey is as follows: <https://eprovesurveys.advanced.org/surveys/#/action/60990/p568>

We have computers available in the Main Office for those needing to complete the survey at school. Please be assured that your responses to this survey will be anonymous. Your honest opinion is appreciated. Thank you for taking your time to complete the survey.

Mrs. Cruz

Literacy Corner - By Mrs. Moran, Literacy Coach

Happy spring to all of you! We have some great things going on here at Driftwood Elementary for ELA! We recently participated in a vocabulary parade, our first and second graders went to a book reading by a real-life author, and our pre-k and kindergarteners watched the Fantasy Theater perform! On April 4th, our debate team did amazingly well at our final competition. So much so, that on May 5th, we will compete at Nova High School for Broward's first ever Elementary Championships! Wish us luck!

We will celebrate El Dia De Los Libros, on April 30th with our kindergarten dual language students. Mr. Runcie will be visiting us, so we are very excited.

Our 3rd-5th graders are busy preparing for the FSA. Parents, please make sure all students get enough sleep and eat a good breakfast. Attendance is very important on testing days; we are striving for 100 percent! The best preparation you can do at home is to read! Research tells us that students who read on average of 20 minutes per day score in the 90th percentile on National Reading Achievement Tests.

Thanks for all you do!

Math Corner - By Ms. Pomales, Math Coach

Hello Driftwood Families.

Our students continue to work hard in preparation for FSA testing in April and May. In addition to receiving stellar instruction from our teachers in the classroom, the students continue to practice essential math skills using our iReady Standards Mastery test. It's important to remember that our students will continue to work hard after testing, so that essential math skills are not lost. Continuous practice leads to success!

Remember, math fluency for grade levels K-5 is the foundation to complex math problem solving skills. Daily practice of addition, subtraction and multiplication problems is recommended. Keep up the hard work

Guidance Corner

April is an anxious time for some of our students, due to FSA testing. Some symptoms of anxiety are: butterflies in the stomach, pain or upset stomach, cold, sweaty palms, headaches, nausea, and sleepless nights.

Some tests anxiety tips that parents can do at home are the following.

- Help your child to prepare everything that they will need for the exam the night before— pen, pencil, ruler, eraser, etc.
- Do something fun on the night before the exam to distract them like playing a board game, watching a movie, or participating in a sporting activity.
- Make sure they eat a healthy breakfast on the day of the exam, as the brain needs lots of energy to maintain focus. Foods such as eggs, cereal, fresh fruits and whole wheat toast.

Congratulation to our 3rd graders on a successful testing week! As a reminder, testing continues for grades 4th and 5th. Please encourage your children to always believe in themselves and stay positive.

"Shoot for the moon and if you miss, you will still land among the stars". Les Brown.

Mrs. Palau, Guidance Counselor

FSA Testing Dates:

Fifth Grade Math - April 23 - 24

Fifth Grade ELA - April 25 - 26

Fourth Grade ELA - April 30 - May 1

Fifth Grade FCAT Science - May 1 - 2

Fourth Grade Math - May 2 - 3

PTO Corner

Teacher Appreciation Week is scheduled for May 7th through May 11th. This is the perfect time to celebrate all the teachers, staff, and administrators who have made a difference in your child's school life. Any gesture of thanks, whether it is with a handwritten note, flowers, candy or gift cards, will be appreciated.

Be on the lookout for a flyer about our final Menchie's fundraiser of the year. Students will have until May 14th to purchase *either a chocolate or vanilla yogurt cup with toppings from Menchies.* The students will then eat their special treat at an assembly on Friday, May 18th.

The School Store is the place to be on Friday mornings. Ms. Garcia always has fun and inexpensive items for sale. Those students who come by on Friday mornings wearing their Spirit shirts are given a raffle ticket to be eligible for a prize.

Local businesses are encouraged to advertise with a banner on the school's fence off of 69th Avenue. The price for 1 year from the date of payment is \$300. Please contact the front office or email us at driftwoodpto@hotmail.com if your business is interested.

The election for next year's PTO Board will be held this month. If you are interested in serving on next year's Board or want to become an active volunteer with the PTO, please contact the front office or email us at driftwoodpto@hotmail.com to find out the exact date for this month's meeting and Election date.

Smiles,
Raquel Suarez, President