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Coral Springs Elementary "Title I"  
***THE BEAR BULLETIN 10/24/22***



Coral Springs  
Elementary

**10/24** - 2nd Quarter Begins  
**10/28** - Individual Picture Day  
**11/8** - No School—Employee Planning  
**11/10** - Report Cards Issued  
**11/11** - No School—Veterans Day  
**11/14** - Award Ceremonies—Intermediate  
9:00 - 10:30 a.m.  
**11/15** - Award Ceremonies—Primary  
9:00 - 10:30 a.m.  
**11/21—11/25** - No School—Thanksgiving  
Break

*Soaring to New  
Heights*

Student  
Opportunities  
to Achieve  
and Rise



## PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Greetings Coral Springs Elementary Families.

I hope everything is well with all our families. Welcome to the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of the school year. Families, this is the time of the school year where I encourage you to reach out to your child or children's teachers to schedule parent teacher conferences. During the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, teachers start identifying students who are not meeting early criteria for promotion. When parents are aware as well, it allows us to work together to ensure success by the end of the school year. Our goal this year is to make sure 100% of our students demonstrate growth with the new assessment system.

**Thank You** -Shout out to all of our families who sent candy and/or attended our Spectacular Spooktacular. It was amazing to see so many families out enjoying the fun with us last Thursday. Families, that's only a snippet of what's to come this school year. We want our families involved. Research shows that Parental involvement increases Student Achievement!!! Let's get our school on the road to success.

Also a HUGE thank you to the following parents who have stepped up to support district and school initiatives by volunteering their time to serve on very important committees.

- SAC Secretary - Yvette Sandoval (Mother of a 1st grade scholar)
- SAF Chair - Victoria Sanon (Mother of a Head Start scholar)
- Facilities Task Force Meetings - Nadi Francis (Mother of a scholar in Special Programs)
- Decorating Committee – Ashley Stewart (Mother of 2nd & 4th grade girls)

**Car Loop** - Parents are to move all the way forward and always stay inside cars. Coral Springs Elementary staff are available to assist. Everyone needs to be conscientious of each other. Everyone needs to get somewhere each morning; a little common courtesy will go a long way.

**Attendance** - Arrival is 7:45 - 8:30 a.m. daily. There are too many scholars arriving to school late or too early in the a.m. Parents, your child's safety is your responsibility prior to 7:45 a.m. We DO NOT have Supervision on Campus prior to 7:45 a.m. For our late arrivals, teachers are in place and ready to teach starting at 8:30 a.m. promptly.

**Dismissal** - We end school at 2:30 p.m. daily. There are too many scholars being picked up after 3:00 p.m. If this continues, parents will need to park and walk out to the P.E. courts to sign their children out for the day. Coral Springs Elementary staff participate in planning and training after school each day. Having scholars picked up late interferes with our professional learning.

### **B.E.S.T Standards (Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking)**

Families, a large percentage of our scholars are performing below grade level. Therefore, making sure your child/ren come to school daily, stay engaged, remain in school all day, and completing homework is critical to all our success. We recently completed the first of three assessment windows for the new assessment system, the F.A.S.T. (PM1), assessing student knowledge on the B.E.S.T. Standards. The results are as follows:

PM1 - Viewed as a diagnostic, what do students know?

PM2 - We should see growth from PM1 -

PM3 - Accountability score - determines what students have learned and promotion criteria

I encourage all families to stay in contact with teachers to stay in tuned on how their own children are performing.

See results of PM1

| Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | Level 4 | Level 5 |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 65%     | 17%     | 13%     | 5%      | 1%      |

#### **Level Descriptors**

**Level 1 - Students performing at Level 1 are just beginning to access the challenging content of the B.E.S.T. Standards.**

**Level 2 - Students at this level demonstrate a below satisfactory level of success with the challenging content of the Florida B.E.S.T. Standards.**

**Level 3 -Students at this level demonstrate on-grade-level success with the challenging content of the Florida B.E.S.T. Standards.**

**Level 4 - Students at this level demonstrate an above satisfactory level of success with the challenging content of the Florida B.E.S.T. Standards**

**Level 5 - Students at this level demonstrate mastery of the most challenging content of the Florida B.E.S.T. Standards**

As you can see families, we have a lot of work to do. Please take advantage of any tutoring that we offer, and again, please make sure your children are in school all day every day.

**See Something Say Something**—In an emergency, call 911 immediately. To submit a safety concern that is not urgent, you can do so confidentially or anonymously. Help identify and intervene with at-risk individuals BEFORE they hurt themselves or others by reporting non-urgent threats, harassing behaviors, illegal activity (vandalism, theft, the sale of drugs), as well as information about planned crimes. Below are ways to report a safety concern:

- [www.getfortifyfl.com](http://www.getfortifyfl.com)
- [www.browardschools.com/Securitytips](http://www.browardschools.com/Securitytips)
- 754-321-3500
- [SecurityTips@browardschools.com](mailto:SecurityTips@browardschools.com)

We look forward to a successful remainder of the school year, and we appreciate your continued support.

Until the next newsletter, stay safe and follow us on Facebook and Twitter  
Twitter handle (vonda oliver @CSPK8Principal)

Educationally Yours,  
Ms. Vonda L. Oliver, Proud Principal

## The Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (F.A.S.T.)

The Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (F.A.S.T.) is a progress monitoring assessment that is administered three times per year, which measures student success with the Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) Standards. It includes assessments in English Language Arts (VPK through grade 10) and Mathematics (VPK through grade 8). Progress monitoring provides real-time data that will inform students, teachers and parents about individual student growth.

Students in Algebra 1, Geometry, Biology, US History and Civics will take the state End-of-Course (EOC) assessment that will constitute 30% of the final course grade. Students in grades 5 and 8 will continue to take the statewide Science Assessment in the spring.

### Achievement Levels

Achievement levels describe the success a student has achieved on the B.E.S.T. Standards which are tested on the F.A.S.T.

Achievement levels range from 1 to 5, with Level 1 being the lowest and Level 5 being the highest.

### Testing Tips

- Show your child you are supportive
- Discuss materials sent home with your child
- Ensure your child gets a good night's sleep
- Make sure your child eats a good breakfast
- Have your child at school on time



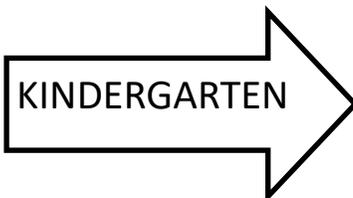
### Academic Proficiency and Promotion Requirements

Report cards are provided at regular intervals to keep parents fully informed of their child's academic proficiency. If your child has not demonstrated mastery/proficiency (grade C or better) in a reading, language arts, mathematics, or science course, he/she is not meeting minimum state and district expectations. Promotion is based on how well students are performing according to the B.E.S.T. Standards. The Volusia County School Board has established criteria for student progression, which includes state and district requirements. The Student Progression Plan can be accessed on the district's website at <https://www.vcsedu.org/school-counseling/student-progression-plan>

## HEADSTART/PREK

In Ms. Lasky's Specialized PreK class we are starting to learn about what happens in Fall in Specialized PreK and talking about Fire Safety. We have met the letter people Mr. N, Ms. W and Ms. P. The puppets the students made in class will be in their bookbags on Fridays for you to review the letters with them. In the next few weeks, we look forward to meeting Mr. H with his happy hair, Mr. M with his munching mouth and Ms. A who says achoo when she is happy. Students will be working on counting and learning about one-to-one correspondence in math. They will continue to work on patterning, too. We have been reading books about how we are all special and unique in our own way and how families are the same and different. Please send in a family picture with your child. Next, we will be learning about ways to stay safe and people in our community.

Ms. Di Siena, Ms. Guirand and Ms. Kelleher/Mrs. Martinelli have started the Balls Creative Curriculum Unit. Fall screenings have been completed and the Head Start teachers will begin scheduling home visits. Fall re-screenings will take place within the next six weeks. We will also continue learning colors, shapes, alphabets, sounds, counting, sorting, rhyming, and name recognition.



Students have been busy learning about the rules and procedures in Kindergarten. In reading, we have been learning about parts of a book and will begin discussing story elements such as characters, setting, problem, and solution. In math, students recently practiced working with numbers 0-5 and are currently working on numbers 6-10. In science, students are learning about living things and what they need to grow and survive. Students will soon get the opportunity to participate in Water Safety Education Lessons through the Swim Central Water Safety Education Program.

## 1ST GRADE

In Quarter 2, first grade is excited for our upcoming fall festivities. In Reading, first graders are going to be learning about text features, story elements, descriptive words in a text, and the moral of a story. In writing, students will practice writing narratives, using subject-verb agreements and contractions. In math, students will learn to subtract with facts up to 20 and understand the meaning of the equal sign. In science, students will learn about the water on earth's surface, our needs of water and how to be safe around water. In Social Studies, students will learn about Native American history and holidays around the world.

## 2ND GRADE

In reading, second grade scholars will be moving into Unit 2 in Benchmark Advance where they will read a range of genres including fable, fairy tale, and realistic fiction, in which characters must confront and overcome a problem. They will synthesize information to build an understanding that all stories, whether traditional or modern, have characters who face problems, problems can be caused by internal or external challenges, and how to build knowledge about solving problems in the real world by looking at how characters face challenges in stories.

Please ensure that your child is reading nightly through Scholastic Pro and answering the ThinkMore questions. Don't forget to record those minutes through Beanstack! Your child will have an opportunity to receive an award depending on the number of minutes read this school year! Thank you for your partnership!

In Science, scholars will be working on Force and Motion, they will demonstrate the greater the force applied to an object, the greater the change in motion. They will also explain how the body is composed of different parts that work together in a system. In addition, scholars will describe how soil is made and classify soil. Lastly, in Science, scholars will explain how people use electricity.

In Social Studies scholars will discuss immigration and identify the different reasons people come to the United States and the contributions of immigrants today. Scholars will evaluate the contributions of Veterans, Native Americans, African Americans, Hispanics and women. They will also identify symbols that represent the United States.

## 3RD GRADE

Our third-grade scholars are busy learners. In **Reading**, students are discovering a range of famous poems, folktales, and well-known myths. Using the content, the students are summarizing details from a story orally and in writing using sentence frames, gestures, and visuals. Also, we are learning about how vital details contribute to the setting, characters, plot, and theme of a story orally and in writing. We are diving deeper into the following grammar skills: adjectives, adverbs, and irregular and regular future tense verbs. In **Writing**, they are learning how to write an Opinion essay through mentor texts. In **Social Studies**, we are excited to venture into ways characters shape our lives. Some topics include **Rules and Order** and **You and the Government**.

In **Math**, students have been learning different strategies to multiply. In our next topic, they will learn how to use multiplication to divide. We will be moving to Geometry and learning about quadrilaterals, area, and perimeter. In **Science**, students start to learn about the plant's structure and functions. They will learn about the various parts of the plant and how each part helps with the plant's survival.

Let's work together as a team. Please continue to use the websites provided on the Clever dashboard such as Scholastic Pro and Tumble books and have your child read daily to help improve vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension. In math, continue to use Reflex Math to help with fluency and Success Maker to reinforce standards. Thank you for your continued support. You can reach out to your child's teacher with any concerns or questions.

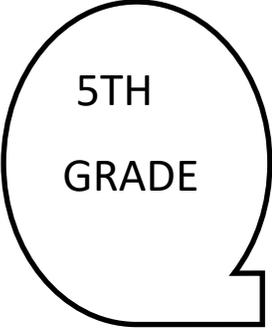
## 4TH GRADE

Greetings families! What a busy quarter it has been! There has been a change with respect to the 4<sup>th</sup> grade teachers. Mrs. Wheeler is no longer teacher ELA in 4<sup>th</sup> grade but is now a 5<sup>th</sup> grade Math/Science teacher. This change has resulted in her homeroom students being moved to Mrs. Slater. Mrs. Slater will provide ELA instruction to all 4<sup>th</sup> grade students and Ms. Hartley will continue as the Math/Science teacher. Please feel free to contact either if you have any questions or concerns regarding this change. We're continuing to reinforce expectations and routines. We're asking for assistance reinforcing appropriate school behavior with your child.

In reading, we are currently developing our skills by identifying the main idea, key details and summarizing a text in both literature and informational text. Tying into reading, we're working on developing the controlling main idea (CMI) of an essay by identifying various components of the writing process. We're also working on understanding how to analyze a prompt to better understand how to focus an essay. In math, we've completed topics covering place-value, basic multiplication and division facts and will be finishing up multiplying by 1-digit numbers before the end of the quarter. Daily review of multiplication facts, up to 12, would greatly benefit all students. In science, we've learned about classifying rocks, properties of minerals, what effects changes to the land and have begun to learn about behaviors, traits and adaptations among the animal and plant kingdoms.

We are looking forward to our trip the movies in November to see *Black Panther: Wakanda Forever*. Be on the lookout for the permission slip! Also, we encourage you to utilize the online service when paying for this or any trips and/or school obligations. Directions will be sent when the permission slip is released. We hope to schedule a few other trips, whether in-person or virtual, within the school year. Again, students must demonstrate appropriate behavior throughout the school year to be invited to field trips and other non-academic activities.

As we close out the first quarter and begin to prepare for the second, please remember to regularly check on your student's progress by viewing their grades and assignments on Pinnacle. Help your child develop their time management skills and commitment towards their learning by ensuring they are submitting assignments completed and on time. We cannot give credit for work we do not receive. Regular reading is imperative to the development of a child's reading skills. Students should be reading daily for at least 30 minutes, uninterrupted. While we're no longer utilizing iReady, Reflex Math is available to help strengthen students' math fluency, even at home. Lastly, parent-teacher conferences have started. Please be on the lookout for those requests and let your child's teacher know what your availability is, so that we may better schedule conferences. Thank you for your dedication to your child's education. We look forward to continuing a great school year!



5TH  
GRADE

Happy Autumn, Fifth Grade Families...If you can call it that. Here in South Florida, we do welcome the slightly cooler temperatures but still enjoy wearing shorts and flip-flops year-round! However, our classrooms seem to be the coldest places on earth, so this is just a reminder to send in a light jacket to help your child bundle up while they learn. Well, the 5th-grade train is moving full steam ahead. In reading, we recently completed Unit 1 in our new textbook, Benchmark Advance. We discovered so much about corn until it was coming out of our "ears"! In Unit 2 we will be concentrating on Literary text with an emphasis on characters' relationships. The students will build on their knowledge of story elements, inferencing, and characters' perspectives. We will also begin writing opinion/argumentative pieces while helping to build confidence in your child's ability to construct clear and organized essays.

Coming up in math, we will transition from multiplying multi-digit whole numbers to multiplying decimals. It is critical that the students are consistently practicing their math facts on Reflex each night, as fifth-grade math depends on multiplication and division fluency. Finally, in science, we are finishing up human body systems and transitioning into functional structures of organisms.

Finishing with exciting news about our first field trip coming up next month as we team up with the 4<sup>th</sup> graders for a trip to the movies. More information is forthcoming. Please continue to encourage your child to read nightly. As they say, "A child who reads, will be an adult who thinks." Have an amazing month!

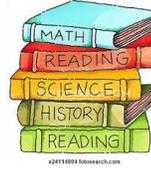
## SPECIAL EDUCATION

Ms. Omega— As we come near the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter, our class has been soaring through B.E.S.T standards utilizing the Benchmark Advance Reading series and Envision/Savaas Bridge Math materials. Students have developed an understanding of class routine and procedures for the ELA/Math block. A timer is now utilized to adhere to the schedule since we at times get caught up having so much fun learning. That loud buzzing sound lets us know it's time to stop and either rotate to the next mini lesson, small group or subject. The expectation is to continue routines and small group instruction following a set schedule and remember that there is always another day ahead to continue a deep dive into critical content. For ELA, we are on Unit 2 and the Essential Question is *How do you Reveal Yourself to Others*. Students learn to draw inferences and analyze character, plot, and theme. Unit 2 opening story includes excerpts from the famous "Dorothy and the Wizard of Oz". Wow! Surprisingly, students were unfamiliar with "The Wizard of OZ" in my class and boy did I feel old. I blame the Marvel franchise! But students have now been exposed to the classic story which was a joy. In Writing they will learn about an opinion essay and how to use relevant details to write a summary. We are moving forward in Math and are now on Topic 3: Multiplying Multi Digit Numbers and the various ways to find a product. such as using estimation and standard algorithm. Science has become very interesting. We are learning about the Human Body. We hope to engage students in lots of collaborative projects and discussions on a topic that connects us all. I look forward to the upcoming holiday season and the many great learning experiences in store for our scholars.

Ms. Sullivan — in reading, students are working in Unit 2 of Benchmark Advance which is how characters shape stories. Students are learning about how to use the plot to summarize a literary text. In writing, we are learning how to write an opinion essay. In math, students are continuing to learn about multiplication and division. In science, students are learning the structure and function of plants.



## SPECIALS



### **MEDIA:**

Currently Media scholars are engaged with learning more about our new and wonderful curriculum, "Benchmark Advanced" which is assessment based and geared towards helping students to develop higher order thinking skills. This curriculum has much to offer in all subject areas, so I am delighted to infuse different aspects through Media lessons. This will be my focus over the next few weeks, as I join with colleagues and give support with the Standards/Benchmarks that are being taught.

It is also my delight to work with our current Pre-k students as they develop readiness skills to advance to Kindergarten. They are being exposed to stories, songs, coordination through coloring and creating simple objects. Through media they also learn about concepts of kindness, friendship, sharing and liking themselves.

I would like all to know that we will not be having our November Book Fair this year, but look forward to having one during the month of March 2023. More information will be coming soon. Finally, this serves also as a quick reminder to all students to keep logging reading minutes in Beanstack in preparation for the Reading Across Broward Awards. March 31 will be the deadline for logging minutes for this school year and I would like to encourage all parents and scholars to give their support in this regard.

### **SCIENCE:**

We are continuing science specials in an illuminating way. Kindergarten will experience "Properties of Objects." 1st grade will be taught "Basic Needs" of living things. 2nd grade will discover Force and Motion." 3rd grade will be educated in "Photosynthesis." 4th grade will learn about "Properties of Minerals." 5th grade will gain wisdom in "Chemical and Physical Changes."

### **ART:**

In our second quarter, Coral Springs art scholars will study about the Aboriginal Art of Australia. They will learn about the symbols used in this art, the history of the aboriginal people and why they made this art. K-2 students will create a picture of their hand, which is a symbol used in this art. They will decorate it with a dot pattern in the style of Australian aboriginal art. Art scholars of grades 3-5 will do a drawing of a lizard incorporating the same dot pattern as mentioned above.

## ESE NEWS

MTSS/RTI or Response to Intervention is a process that serves as an early identifier of students who may be at risk with academic or behavioral difficulty. When a scholar is having difficulty in a subject area, teachers will come to RTI with their concerns about the student. If there are academic concerns teachers will notify parents and you will receive a letter that your child is on RTI. This process makes sure that your child is receiving interventions in the classroom to assist them in the academic area of concern. A scholar receives interventions for a minimum of 6 weeks on Tier 2. If that scholar is still struggling, then the student may move to a more intensive tier which is Tier 3. If you receive a letter in regard to MTSS/RTI please sign it and send it back. The letter is an acknowledgement that you were notified. If you have questions, please call the school (7540 322-5900) and ask for Michele Dowling. I will be happy to assist you.

## LITERACY CORNER

We're off to a great start this year. We have administered our first ELA Benchmark Unit Assessment and our scholars did well! We are looking to reward even more students after each assessment. This month, students have been working on Story Elements/Theme/Summarize & Central Idea/Details. Please help reinforce these skills at home by encouraging your child to read daily and asking them to give you a summary of what they read. Our scholars are expected to use "Good Reader Strategies" whenever they are reading. You can reinforce these skills at home by reading with your child and encouraging your child to read on their own.

### Good Reader Strategies

- Predict
- Visualize
- Ask Questions
- Make Connections
- Infer
- Summarize

Remember readers are champions! It is imperative to continue learning at home by reading with your child daily. If you follow this then Coral Springs Elementary will S.O.A.R.!"

## GUIDANCE

Now that we are well into the school year there are a couple of exciting things we have planned. This quarter we will have our Harvest Drive. Every year Coral Springs Elementary runs the Harvest Drive to help families in need. Last year we helped over 25 families in our school. Our goal this year is to help around 30 families.

Also, the Florida Department of Education requires all schools to teach a comprehensive health mandate. In this mandate, I will be covering two topics: Substance Abuse and Human Trafficking. All students will receive this lesson in the second quarter. There is no Opt-out for these lessons. Most importantly, if your family needs any assistance do not hesitate to reach out to Mrs. Duncan. I can be reached at 754-322-5900 or [Jamine.Duncan@browardschools.com](mailto:Jamine.Duncan@browardschools.com). If School is not open and you have a crisis here are some resources for you:

First Call for Help:

**2-1-1**

Broward County Public Schools Mental Health Hotline: ☎

**754-321-HELP (4357)**

National Crisis Text Line:

**741741**

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline:

**1-800-273-TALK (8255)**