

SUNSHINE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



OCTOBER 2023

ISSUE # 2

"Fall Into Learning this October "

Dear Sunshine Parents and Guardians,

We hope this newsletter finds you well and that you and your families are enjoying the many opportunities that this school year has to offer. As we embark on a new academic year, we want to take a moment to reflect on the vital role that parents play in our school community and the educational journey of our students.

At Sunshine Elementary we believe that education is a collaborative effort. It is a partnership between our educators, your children, and you, the parents. Together, we create an environment where our students can thrive academically, emotionally, and socially. This partnership is the cornerstone of our school's success.

Reading is the foundation of a child's education, and this month, we are placing a special emphasis on cultivating a love for reading among our students. Our teachers are working tirelessly to create engaging reading experiences both in the classroom and at home. We encourage you to set aside time each day for your child to read, explore new books, and discuss their favorite stories. Together, we can instill a lifelong love of reading that will serve them well throughout their academic journey.

Effective communication is key to a successful partnership. We encourage you to stay engaged with your child's education by attending parent-teacher conferences, joining our PTA, and keeping open lines of communication with your child's teachers. Our doors are always open, and we value your feedback and input as we work together to provide the best possible education for your child.

To keep you informed about school events, important dates, and your child's progress, we will continue to provide regular updates through newsletters, emails, and our school website. Please make sure to check these resources regularly to stay connected with our school community.

As we look ahead to the rest of the school year, we are excited about the opportunities for growth, learning, and development that lie ahead for your child. We are committed to working alongside you to ensure that every student reaches their full potential. Here's to a year filled with achievements, growth, and memorable moments!

Warm regards,

Denise Dorsett
Principal



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PTO Corner

Join PTO!

A great way for you or your high child to earn community service hours.

**Contact: Mr. Chodhry, President
sunshinepto7737@gmail.com**

Upcoming Events!

Holiday Fundraiser

September 19th – October 6th

Order your holiday gifts through the brochure.

Harvest Festival

October 4th, 6:30 pm -7:30 pm

PTO Spirit Night at Chuck-E-Cheese

October 27th, 3:00 pm-9:00 pm

Location: 8515 Pines Blvd.

Students who attend the fundraiser get 10 FREE POINTS and extra FREE POINTS for wearing their costumes!



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Important Dates

9/15-10/15 Celebrate Hispanic Heritage

10/3 SAC/SAF/PTO Meeting

10/4 Pumpkin Patch
(Students who purchased tickets only!!!)

10/9 - 10/13 - College and Career Week

10/13 - Eagles Go Pink in Support of Cancer Awareness

10/17 Fifth Grade Doktor Motion Field Trip

10/19 - Fifth Grade JA Bizz Town Field Trip

10/23 - Early Release Day/1st Quarter End

10/23- 10/27 Red Ribbon Week/ Book Fair

10/25 - Reading Night

10/26 Read for the Record

10/27 PTO Chch-E-Cheese Night

10/31 Storybook Character Parade

*School Spirit
Shirts on Sale!
\$10.00 / Scan QR
Code*



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Kindergarten

This month is a reminder of some things your child should be working on at home as well as at school. Practice gripping a pencil, crayon, or marker correctly. Recognize and write the letters of the alphabet in upper and lowercase forms starting with their name. Know the relationship between letters and the sounds they make. Recognize sight words to begin reading simple sentences. Have a concept of print that letters make up words and words make up sentences that end with punctuation. Hold a book correctly and understand that the sentences are read from left to right, top to bottom. These are the things we are working on daily; however, we need your help to reinforce skills and concepts at home. If you need any ideas to help your child, please let us know, we have a plethora of ideas waiting to share.



ASD Corner

The fall season is here! We look forward to all the learning experiences that this season includes. When you have a child with autism, however, these same things that can be fun also bring stresses and, possibly, meltdowns. Changes in your families or school schedules can bring possible overload for a child diagnosed with autism. This month we are focusing on continued efforts to maintain structure, routines, and sensory needs in our classrooms. We will keep routines as consistent as possible to best accommodate our students. By using tools such as social stories and picture exchange communication schedules, this will help our students prepare for new or difficult things. We are teaching your child what to expect and how to behave when uncomfortable changes or stressful occurrences in routines happen at school. Aides such as individualized schedules and positive reinforcement rewards help move toward their academic and social goals.

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First Grade

First graders are off to an amazing start! September was full of Science fun! We conducted experiments for each of the 5 senses and documented our findings in our Science journals. We'd like to thank all who have brought in school supplies. Please be sure to check binders daily for spelling & sight words, homework, important notifications, and any notes written in the agenda. Students are expected to study words and read for 10 minutes every night. Keep in mind that lanyards must be worn daily. It is also important that children know how to tie shoes. There are plenty of videos out there that make it easy. Thank you for your continued support.



Second Grade

Greetings, second-grade parents!! We are excited to announce that the students are adjusting well to the second grade. The beginning of the year assessments, F.A.S.T and i-Ready Diagnostic are complete. Therefore, we are thrilled to continue to build a healthy partnership with parents so all students can reach their highest potential. Let's stay connected by:

- *Communicating with the classroom teacher often.
- *Checking agenda daily
- *Attending scheduled conferences
- *Reviewing homework with your child daily
- *Being an ACTIVE participant in the educational process!!

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to reaching our academic goals this school year!

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Hello families and welcome to October! We are so happy that beginning of the year testing has concluded! Acquiring the data from the assessments, will assist us with creating tailored instruction to meet the needs of your child. This month we will finish teaching our first unit in reading on animal adaptations and transition to fiction-based reading selections. As we read and analyze myths and fables from different cultures, our students will have the chance to critically think about the choices the characters make and the consequences that follow.

In math, we will continue to work on multiplication and division. Multiplication is a fundamental skill that students will need throughout their educational journey. During science lessons, students will learn about the structure and function of plants. In Social Studies, students will learn about places and regions within North America and the Caribbean. They will also explore the location, physical features, and landmarks through a variety of activities and also investigate how people perceive these places and regions differently.

We would also like you to be aware that we are in the middle of parent teacher conferences! Please make sure you contact your child's teacher to set up a conference to discuss pertinent information regarding your child's performance. With your continued support and our students' unwavering determination, we are confident that the rest of the year will be filled with even more academic achievements and personal growth.



**Third
Grade**



**Fourth
Grade**

This school year is off to a strong start. Our kids have made a great effort and adjustment to getting back in school and are learning new skills. Last month, the students completed their beginning of the year FAST and IReady Diagnostic assessments. We will begin conferencing with parents to discuss your child's progress. Our first field trip is scheduled for November 14th. It will be a theatrical chorale performance entitled, "Meet Mr. Mozart". Please be on the lookout, a permission slip will be sent home with your child, soon.

So far, your child has learned in Math their multiplication facts with factors up to 12 and related division facts with automaticity. Be sure to continue working with your child on their multiplication facts. In ELA, they learned how to summarize, explain relevant details that support a central idea, and identify an author's purpose. Currently, your child is learning about "Changes to Land".

We must work together as a team for your child to become a successful 4th grade student. "Encourage and support your kids because children are apt to live up to what you believe of them." By Lady Bird Johnson, former First Lady of the U.S.

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Fifth Grade

5th Grade is going H.A.R.D this October!

We are so excited to continue celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month and are getting ready for other exciting events! As we prepare, we ask that parents/families make sure your child is staying on top of daily homework and logging their reading on Beanstack. Please continue to monitor I-Ready & SAVVAS.



Media



Music

Welcome to Music!!! All students will learn the fundamentals of music: rhythm, melody, form, and FUN!!! Our annual Holiday show will take place in December before winter break. I will begin preparing students for the performance in October. This year, I intend for third grade students to participate in the "Link Up" program. This program puts emphasis on students learning how to play the recorder along with an orchestra. Also, I will oversee an after-school violin program for selected fourth and fifth grade students. I look forward to an exciting, fun-filled learning experience with your children and your support is appreciated in advance.

Reading Across Broward

Happy October, Eagles. Reading Across Broward is a Broward County Public School incentive program that challenges your child to read every single day. They may read for pleasure, read to find answers, read to defend a point of view, read to persuade, read to laugh, read to cry, read to understand, and read to forget. We ask that you encourage, motivate, and inspire your child to become the next generation of readers!

October Book Fair

Sunshine's first Scholastic Book Fair will occur from October 23 – October 31, and we are excited! Students have an opportunity to peruse a variety of fiction and non-fiction literature. Students may improve their understanding of story structure, plot development, character analysis, main idea, vocabulary, and many more concepts. Practical application through reading hones your child's skills for improved academic success! Go Eagles!

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This month in Physical Education we have been learning the underhand toss and overhand throw. We learned to toss through three steps (step, aim, toss) and to overhand throw through four steps (step, aim, throw, finish). Overall, students are doing an excellent job focusing and learning the various steps to satisfy the standard. Students get to practice their skills through a distance and accuracy skillbuilder. When throwing for distance, students figure out how to make various objects travel as far as possible. When throwing for accuracy, students must figure out how to hit the designated target. Students are given opportunities to practice and find out what techniques make them successful versus which ones do not.



Physical Education



Literacy Tips

1. Be a reading and writing role model for your child.
2. Let your child see you reading for enjoyment and writing for an authentic purpose.
3. Read aloud with and to your child daily.
4. Ask your child questions before, during and after reading to support comprehension.
5. Stop throughout the story to predict or retell what has happened in the book.
6. Explore all sorts of reading materials with your child, both fiction and nonfiction: books, newspapers, magazines, recipes, etc.
7. Supply writing materials for your child to write letters, stories, grocery lists, signs, etc.
8. Have your child get and use a library card.
9. Visit the local library often to check out books with a variety of genres.
10. Tell stories to one another.
11. Make literacy experiences FUN!