# Earthkeeper's Voice

Volume 4, Issue 10

#### **Title I School**

May 2023

#### Message from the Principal, Mrs. Katherine Good

#### Greetings Parents and Students,

Happy May! We are coming towards the end the year. End of year testing will be the first three weeks of May. We are working hard to maintain the academic rigor and standards-based instruction for all students. We continue to do classroom visits and see our children very engaged in learning. Our teachers and students will be working hard to maintain commitment to academic excellence. In addition, the dedication to student achievement is always the primary focus for the entire Fairway community. Fairway Elementary is climbing towards academic success.

#### **School Updates:**

Please help us honor our teachers and staff. National Teacher Appreciation Day is May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Teacher and Staff Appreciation week is May 8<sup>th</sup> through May 12<sup>th</sup>. Please see the flyer going home with some suggested goodies.

Please remember that our school hours are from 8:10 a.m. to 2:10 p.m. Please make sure you are on time for arrival and dismissal. Please note that all gates will be closed at 8:10 a.m. We want to start instruction promptly.

Our goal this year is to continue to increase our student achievement, promote character education with our students and to assist our struggling students with additional resources. Research has shown that when schools develop strong partnerships with parents, students reap the benefit academically and socially. Please join PTO and SAC.

Please don't forget that we are a uniform school. All students must be in uniform daily. Take the opportunity to purchase Fairway t-shirts to be worn on fieldtrip days for safety and easy identification. Students may also wear the t-shirts on Fridays to show their school pride. Please help us to enforce our uniform policies. Uniforms help us recognize our students in case of an emergency. It also allows students to concentrate on academics instead of the latest fashion trends.

Your proud principal,

Mrs. Katherine Good

#### **COVID UPDATES & Protocols**

- Parents please make sure that if your child presents ANY symptoms of being sick, please DO NOT send them to school.
- If a child test positive for covid keep them home and students will need to quarantine for a minimum number of days as outlined by the Department of Health. (5 days)

#### **FortifyFL APP**

Parents please know that the district does have a safety reporting app. Its called FortifyFI. You can download this app and report any suspicious activity on this app anonymously.

#### How to Work With Your Child's Teacher

- Get to know your child's teacher(s), and the earlier the better. Don't wait for a special program if there is a problem or if your child has any special needs. It helps teachers to know everything they can about your child.
- Share important information that can make it easier for teachers to understand your child. Sometimes things that happen at home can affect how children learn.
- 3. **Find out what's expected**. Ask about homework and other special assignments.
- 4. Join the parent-teacher organization. Be sure to volunteer for at least one thing during the year. That way, you'll be making things better for your child .....and for all children in the school.

### Important Date(s) To Remember



#### **May Dates**

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4th-FAST Test PM#3-Grades VPK-2 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>-FCAT Science-5<sup>th</sup> Grade 16<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>-FAST test PM#3-Grades 3-5 29th-No School-Schools Closed

#### **PTO Information**

Please continue to support PTO by being a member. Please support PTO with their Teacher and Staff Appreciation flyer to shower teachers and staff with gifts of Appreciation. Please help us honor our teachers and staff. National Teacher Appreciation Day is May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Teacher and Staff Appreciation week is May 8<sup>th</sup> through May 12<sup>th</sup>. Please see the flyer going home with some suggested goodies.

#### Title 1 News:

Please make sure that you attend family nights planned by the school. Parent Involvement is key to our student's educational experience. Thank you for completing the Title 1 Customer Survey and the Broward County District Survey. Your input matters.

The School Board of Broward County, Florida, prohibits any policy or procedure which results in discrimination on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, national origin, marital status, race, religion or sexual orientation. Individuals who wish to file a discrimination and/or harassment complaint may call the Director of Equal Opportunities at 754-321-2150 or Teletype Machine TTY 754-321-2158.

#### **Procedures and Rules**

<u>MASKS</u>-Highly recommended. Students do not have wear masks when they are outside, during lunch for PE or recess that is outside.

AGENDA BOOKS: Agenda books keep your child aware of important dates/homework assignments, and are used as a communication tool between the teacher and the parent. Please check your child's agenda booklet daily.

ATTENDANCE: Attendance at school often determines pupil progress. Students should attend school daily and arrive on time. In the event of an absence, a call is required beginning with the first day and continuing with all subsequent days. Remember, the IMT (Information Management Technician must be notified of your child's absence within 48 hours of the absence. Please make sure you call 754-323-5650-Mrs. Ducksworth.

**Quarantine**: If you child has to quarantine because of a positive covid case in school the child will access the teacher's canvas course for classwork that needs to be completed. If a child is going to need a laptop, they must sign a laptop our through our Micro-tech Mr. Jan Horvath. Teachers will be working on TEAMS link for children to try and join live links.

<u>CONFERENCES:</u> Conferences ensure better understanding among the teachers, students, and parents. A parent or teacher may request a conference at any time. Please call the school to arrange for a convenient time to talk to your child's teacher.

DROP OFF/PICK UP AREAS: For the safety of our students, parents are asked to pick up primary students (K-2) on the west side of the school, (entering from Fairway Blvd). and intermediate students (3-5) on the east side of the school (entering from Harbor Blvd.). Students may be dropped off from 7:40- 8:10 in the primary or intermediate areas. Dropping off students in the Bus Loading Zone is prohibited.

#### **GATES CLOSED AND LOCKED:**

The gates in the bus loop will be open from 7:40-8:10 for buses ONLY. In the morning the gates will be locked at 8:10 a.m. If your child arrives late to school, the child must be escorted by an adult and signed in, If you need to enter the campus any time after 8:10 a.m. the campus monitor will assist

The gates in the afternoon on both Primary and Intermediate car loops will close at 2:25 p.m. You will have to come sign them out if you are late. Please note that families that are consistently late will be spoken to be administration and referred to the social worker.

**EARLY DISMISSAL/SIGN OUT**: According to School Board Policy, students are not permitted to be picked up 30 minutes prior to the end of the school day. The last 30 minutes are very critical. Teachers are conducting final review of lessons, distributing important school information, or giving homework assignments. We thank you in advance for your cooperation with this matter.

<u>PARENT-TEACHER Organization (PTO)</u>: We welcome and encourage your assistance in providing guidance and service to our students, staff and community; including your attendance and participation at PTO meetings, School Advisory Council, and many more activities to come.

SCHOOL DRESS CODE: School Uniforms are MANDATORY at Fairway Elementary. It is very important that students are in their uniforms every day.

Students MUST wear an ID badge every day. Parents will be notified if your child isn't in compliance with the dress code policy.

**SCHOOL SAFETY:** Safety is a major priority at Fairway. We have established policies to ensure the safety of our students, staff, parents, and visitors.

It is important to understand that everyone's safety is compromised when the policies are not followed.

- **MASKS-**Highly recommended .
- All visitors are required to report to the front office prepared to show I.D. before entering the school for any reason. Everyone must go through our STAR system. Masks are highly recommended.
- Parents are required to show I.D. before entering the school for teacher-parent conferences, academic awards or graduation events.
- Early Childhood parents must show ID
- Students are not allowed in the school building before
   7:30 am. If your child would like breakfast he/she must be in the breakfast line from 7:15 a.m. to 7:45 a.m.
- Any change in a student's usual dismissal procedure must be reported to the student's teacher in writing prior to the change taking place.
- Please note that we will be conducting monthly fire drills and LOCKDOWN Drills. They are a part of our district safety mandates.

#### **ESOL UPDATES**

#### ESOL Contact-Mrs. Mobley 754-323-5650

If your child was identified as an ELL, which means your child can have instruction in English, in addition to taking other classes. ELLs take an English language proficiency test every year. Testing helps teachers understand whether students have the language skills they need to fully participate in the classroom

#### **Guidance Corner/Character Education-April/May -Tolerance**

Tolerance is the character trait for April. Tolerance is recognizing and respecting differences, values, and beliefs of other people. Talking together about tolerance and respect helps kids learn more about the values you want them to have. Giving them opportunities to play and work with others is important as well. This lets kids learn firsthand that everyone has something to contribute and to experience differences and similarities.

## Ideas to Do as a Family Things parents can do to help kids learn tolerance include:

- Notice your own attitudes. Parents who want to help their kids value diversity can be sensitive to cultural stereotypes they may have learned and try to correct them. Demonstrate an attitude of respect for others
- Remember that kids are always listening. Be aware of the way you talk about people who are different from yourself. Do not make jokes that perpetuate stereotypes. Although some of these might seem like harmless fun, they can undo attitudes of tolerance and respect.
- Select books, toys, music, art, and videos carefully. Keep in mind the powerful effect the media and pop culture have on shaping attitudes.

#### **EARLY RELEASE DATES:**

#### October 20, February 14, March 16, April 20, and June 8

Early Release Days are designated by the School Board of Broward County. On the following days students are dismissed at 12:10 pm.

**HOMEWORK**: Children are encouraged to study at home. Setting aside a definite time each evening for homework will develop good work habits. Routine study time is an excellent plan, particularly if it is done with a parent in a relaxed and positive setting. The classroom teachers will assign homework.

**INTERIM REPORTS**: An interim report is sent home half-way through a reporting quarter to notify parents of progress. If you want to request a conference, or if the teacher requests a conference, please call the school to arrange a convenient time. Please sign the interim report and return it to the school immediately. Interim dates are as follows:

September 13, November 29, February 14, & May 2nd

#### **Procedures and Rules (Continued)**

<u>Parents please make sure you are following all traffic rules in the morning.</u> Please DO NOT park in the swale areas or in driveways of residents in the area. Please do not get out of your cars, as that stops the flow of traffic. As a reminder, no parent may access the primary car loop. If you feel you need to walk your child, please use the entrance off Harbor Blvd and park your cars and you may walk to the intermediate car loop gate only. Staff, safety patrols, and volunteers will assist children and walk them to the cafeteria.

Parents who have scheduled conferences with teachers or need to speak to a member of support staff or administration may do so by going directly to the front office. Administration is always available. Your driver's license or passport is required when you enter, as all visitors must be scanned through our Raptor system in the front office to ensure our students' safety at all times.

We will be continuing our practice of using email alerts to keep in constant contact with our parents. Special events, field trips, and other reminders and announcements will be sent to you via email, phone, and through the Broward Schools App and Parentlink. All Back to School Forms will be completed ON-LINE at, <a href="www.browardschools.com/bts">www.browardschools.com/bts</a>. Fairway Elementary will be collecting hard copies of emergency contact forms which will be in your child first day packet. If you need assistance filling out forms on-line, please stop by the front office and we will be happy to help you.

Further, Fairway communication will be via parentlink, remind and social media, follow us on Instagram, and Twitter for up to date information.

Please make sure that all free and reduced lunch applications are submitted on—line as soon as possible. Breakfast and lunch are free however the applications still need to be filled out. The website is <a href="www.applyforlunch.com">www.applyforlunch.com</a>. If you need any assistance in completing the application, feel free to come to the school and we are happy to help you. Please remember that families that are not approved for free or reduced lunch benefits will be paying full price for lunch until approved. However, we will never leave a child without having a lunch. It is very important that parents check their child's account balance regularly as we want to ensure that all students receive a full lunch every day.

As a reminder, Fairway Elementary has universal free breakfast for all students. Breakfast is served daily from 7:45 - 8:25 a.m. in the cafeteria. Students must arrive in the cafeteria no later than 8:20 a.m. in order to be served. If children arrive after 8:20 a.m. they will get a "grab and go breakfast."

Our school theme for this year is "Learning is Out of this World". We know the 2022-2023 school year will be FANTASTIC! It is truly an honor to serve the parents and students of Fairway Elementary. I am truly PROUD to be the principal. I look forward to another year leading this amazing school. As always, feel free to email or call me with any questions you may have. I can be reached at 754-323-5650 or <a href="mailto:Kathy.good@browardschools.com">Kathy.good@browardschools.com</a> See you soon; I can't wait to hug all of my earthkeepers!!!

Proud to be an Earthkeeper,

Katherine Good, Principal

START NOW!!! Remind your child the importance of coming to school prepared to learn; good nights sleep, a healthy breakfast, and words of encouragement from parents are an excellent beginning to every day!



Dear Students & Parents,

We will be celebrating our Annual Teacher & Staff Appreciation week the second week in May. This year the theme is YOU'RE SO SWEET! Below are some suggestion of ways you can contribute to the fun of showering our teachers and staff with the appreciation they deserve!

National Teacher Appreciation Day is May 2, 2023 Fairway PTO is providing a special treat.

MON. 08	<b>TUES. 09</b>	<b>WED. 10</b>	THURS. 11	FRI. 12
DONUT KNOW	LAY SOME	THANKS FOR	HERE'S THE	
WHAT WE'D DO	SUGAR ON ME	MAKING US		YOU'RE THE
WITHOUT YOU!	TUESDAY!	SMART	SCOOP!	SWEETEST!
Bring in some donuts for your teacher.	Bring in some sweet fruits for your teacher.	COOKIES!		Bring in anything
		Have your student	Have your student	you feel your teacher would enjoy!
		bring in a cookie	write a letter	
			explaining why	
		or granola bar treat	his/her Teacher is	
		for their <u>Teacher</u> !	the greatest and give it to them	

<sup>\*</sup> The ideas above are all optional suggestions to participate in the daily themes/activities. If you have other ideas or would like to show your appreciation to teachers and staff in different ways - please feel free!

We <u>can't</u> wait for all the fun to begin! Sincerely,

Fairway Administration & PTO