

# Patriot Pride

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## PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Proud Patriot Families,

Thank you for all your support as we continue to navigate the twists and turns accompanying the start of this school year. There is nothing like being together again. Our staff was so excited to meet their new students and see the return of familiar faces. Students are doing an admirable job observing safety guidelines. The purpose of these guidelines is to keep our students and staff safe.

The number one way you can help us keep our staff and students safe is to continue following the COVID 19 protocols sent home earlier this year. If your child has COVID like symptoms, please do not send them to school. If your child or a member of your household are awaiting test results, have tested positive, or have come into contact with a person who has tested positive, they should not come to school. If any of these situations apply to you or your family, please contact the school. We will help you determine your next steps including quarantine information.

In addition to keeping all students and staff members safe, maintaining high standards and academic excellence, caring about the whole child, and supporting our families are our top priorities.

I encourage all our parents to sign-up for Parent Portal, as we will send interim reports and report cards home electronically again this year. Regularly logging into your Parent Portal account will help you stay up to date with your child's learning experience.

I truly hope you are keeping your head above water and keeping an optimistic attitude out there! I know the times are tough as we continue facing COVID as well as the cold and flu season headed this way with the cooler months approaching. Please continue to stay safe and know we are here for you at CPE. We can do anything together.

Lastly, I encourage you to connect with us on our school Facebook page, webpage, and through the Remind application. A strong home-school connection is one of the best indicators of student success.

We look forward to learning with you this year and for your continued support.

Sincerely your principal,

Mrs. Dardis

### Upcoming Events:

December 6 – Reading Wonderland

December 15 – SAC Meeting

December 17 – End of 2<sup>nd</sup> 9 weeks/1<sup>st</sup> Semester

December 20 – January 3 – Winter Break

January 4 – Students return to school

January 12 – Early Dismissal at 12:30 pm

January 14 – Report Cards distributed electronically

January 17 – Holiday – No School

January 28 – PBIS Reward (Double Recess)

February 2 – Early Dismissal at 12:30

## GRADE LEVEL NEWS

### Kindergarten News:

Kindergarten students are continuing to work hard at learning their sight words. We practice these daily by reading them in our weekly text and using them to write sentences. They are encouraged to practice them nightly at home as well. You can see a current list of words we are working on in their agendas every Monday. In Reading, we are also working to identify the topic and key details of a text. Please read with your child for 20 minutes every night. Students are super excited about reading, taking AR quizzes and can tell you all about their individualized AR goals. Math has been all about adding and subtracting. We have created addition and subtraction stories and word problems about turkeys, fireflies, ducks, cookies, and pretty much anything else you can think of. We end our day in Science as we discuss and explore properties of matter.

### First Grade News:

Our first graders are doing an amazing job learning new skills and reading! In language arts, they are continuing to describe story elements and identify the topic and important details. They have worked hard learning sight words and short vowel word patterns. We have already jumped into harder spelling patterns with letter blends and digraphs. Soon students will begin long vowel spelling patterns. Please help your child practice their spelling words and sight words daily. In math, students are learning to add and subtract within 20 and how to find the missing addend in an addition problem. Students will begin to learn how to find an unknown number in an addition and subtraction problem, as well as how to solve real-world word problems using objects, drawings, or equations to represent the problem. Continue reading with your child every night to help them become better readers and so they are ready to take AR tests on their library books.

### Second Grade News:

We hope that everyone is having a great school year so far. What are our second-grade leaders learning this year? In Reading, we are learning how to identify text features (titles, pictures, headings, and graphs) and how these features can help us better understand what we are reading. Second Grade Mathematicians are working on two-digit addition and subtraction strategies. They are expected to master solving addition and subtraction equations while using different strategies. Second Grade Scientists will be investigating how pushes and pulls (forces) have an effect on objects. They will demonstrate that the greater the force, the greater the distance an object will travel. They will also be learning that magnets can make objects move without touching them.

## Student Leaders

These students have exhibited the seven habits for the month of September and October.

### **Kindergarten:**

Mrs. Horton – Franklin Ray and Prim Voyles

Mrs. Richardson – Elizabeth Sanders and Phoenix Tapiato  
Ms. Rogers – Copeland Wolfe and Derek Reyes-Cardé

### **1<sup>st</sup> Grade:**

Ms. Arnold – Hayden Morgan and Letticia Enrique-Cardenas  
Ms. Delisle – Kaci Smith and Charlotte Champion

Mrs. Portillo – Payton Anderson and Chloe Whipple

Mrs. Steele – Bethany Moore and Kayden Henry

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Grade:**

Ms. Grant – MiQuis Evans and Juliana Aponte

Mrs. Hollingsworth – Lily Rodriguez and Carl Crawford  
Ms. Pierce – Ethan Beard and Dorian Plummer

Mrs. Watler – Hunter Hidalgo and Zoey Matthews

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Grade:**

Mrs. Amezcuita – Kendra Wheeler and Jaxton Wiggins  
Mrs. Gramza – Zoey Herring and Keyshlian Mercado Rivera

Ms. Lockhart – Aryauna McArthur and Khani Smith

### **4<sup>th</sup> Grade:**

Ms. Camp – Martavis Jackson and Aaliyama Arredondo  
Ms. Hayes – Kayden Clark and Sofia Benitez

Mrs. Maldonado – Claire Maslyn and Jurnee Swierczynski

### **5<sup>th</sup> Grade:**

Mrs. Beardsley – Gavyn Rickerson and Addison Richardson

Mrs. Lunsford – Cooper Chastain and Brylee Watkins

Ms. Rivera – Brooklyn Bowles and Silvia Ramirez



### **Third Grade News:**

This fall season third grade is working hard at practicing all of our third grade standards. We are learning our multiplication and division strategies, applying them to word problems and real-life situations. This Winter, third graders will start our Geometry unit; shapes and fractions. Students will get many hands-on opportunities to partition various food manipulatives into fractions! In Reading students will be focusing on determining main idea with supporting key details, describing how a character changes throughout a story and what events trigger those changes. Students will even get an opportunity to rewrite the ending to well-known stories taking out the big event that changed the character. Third grade is in for an exciting-filled 2nd quarter!

### **Fourth Grade News:**

Hello from fourth! We have been tackling standards and making memories! Leader in Me lessons have been a great learning experience for everyone. We have gotten to learn more about each other and have learned what being a leader is truly about. In Reading, we have learned about main idea, theme, comparing and contrasting points of view, and text structure. We have also been busy reteaching and enriching those concepts during small group time.

In Math, we have flown through base-10, multiplication, and division. We will be starting fractions and decimals soon. Keep practicing those math facts at home, they are a key foundation skill for fourth grade.

In Science, we finished up Interdependence and Heredity and Reproduction in plants and animals. Our next concepts will be Earth's movements, Constellations, and Phases of the Moon. This is one of our favorite units to teach!

Please refer to our weekly newsletter to stay informed on everything that is happening in 4<sup>th</sup> grade, make sure your child is reading at least 20mins per night, and if you have not scheduled a conference with your child's teacher, please do so.

### **Fifth Grade News:**

Hello from 5th grade! We have been busy learning so many great things! In reading, we have been working on theme in dramas and poetry. We have learned how the speaker's thoughts, words, actions, along with mood and tone help readers determine the theme. We have enjoyed fun games in order to practice using context clues to help understand unknown words and to determine the meaning of figurative language. We have begun practicing opinion essay writing and just completed a very interesting essay on the use of drones. Be sure to ask your child what their opinion is on drones, are they helpful or harmful? He/she will be able to give you some interesting facts to support their opinion.

In math, we have been working on fractions. We have completed multiplying and dividing fractions, and are moving on to adding and subtracting fractions with unlike denominators. Please encourage your child to keep practicing those multiplication facts, which are necessary to ensure success with most math skills/standards. Science has been a blast! We have done so many different activities, science investigations and experiments, such as a weather and climate escape room, separating mixtures, and exploring matter. We will be working on physical and chemical changes and dissolving over the next few weeks.

5<sup>th</sup> grade has been diligently working to meet our weekly and quarterly AR goals. Please keep encouraging your child to read nightly and to take those AR test to earn points. As always, be sure to continue to check your class Dojo page and/or weekly newsletters to stay informed on everything that is happening in 5th grade.

Ms. Schultz – Keziah Alfred and Hendrix Hamlin

Mrs. Weaver – Alassia Owens

Mrs. Zimmerman – Ezra Sharp and Austin Wiechowski

### **Pre-K:**

Mrs. Jakubik/Mrs. Oxley – D'Aria Mikell and Annabella Wilson

Mrs. Roberts – Prince Ward and Micah Chumley

### **7- Habits Spotlight**

Students earn a Patriot stamp each day if they have made great choices and have followed our 7 habits each day. At the end of each month, students will be rewarded for earning the patriot stamps in their agenda with participation in our PBIS Leadership event. We will celebrate students' positive behavior efforts with a movie on Friday, December 17<sup>th</sup> and double recess on Friday, January 28<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to check your child's agenda daily for those Patriot Stamps.

Each month students will learn about one of the seven habits in great detail. During the month of November, students have learned about habit number two, Beginning with the End in Mind. December will focus on habit number 3, Putting First Things First. Be sure to ask your child what these habits mean and how they can demonstrate them at home.

## Art Updates

Since we have started the new 9 weeks, art is moving onto such concepts as space, texture, and value, as well as certain skills such as cutting, gluing, painting, and manipulating paper in other ways. We work on these skills in all grade levels with the complexities growing with each grade level. During the next few months our projects will include these skills, tied in with certain themes such as Veteran's day, autumn, and the upcoming winter!

I wanted to take a minute to also let parents know the reason they do not usually see their child's artwork sent home. I keep my students' artwork in their portfolios throughout the year so I have wonderful pieces to submit to different museums or art fair exhibitions, as well as our annual art show at CPE! Every year I have so much wonderful art from these talented students and we usually have art accepted into these museums and exhibitions. No worries though, all artwork will be sent home at the end of the year for you and your family to enjoy!

Ms. Meyer

## FROM THE MEDIA CENTER:

Fall is in the air and we have many things to be thankful for in the Media Center. Students contributed to our "30 Days of Thankfulness" display. Winter is right around the corner, so be on the lookout for some chilly books about snowmen, snow, and everything in between. Stock up on some hot chocolate and have a fun night cuddled up reading together. Also, make sure to look for an upcoming flyer about our Reading Wonderland Parent Night in the Media Center.



## ACADEMIC COACHES CORNER:

### Math with M&M's

Have your child open a small bag of M&M's. How many of each color do you have? Create a chart with the colors written on the page. Then have your child write the number of each color next to the word. Which color has the greatest amount? Which color has the least? How many more \_\_\_\_\_ do you have than \_\_\_\_\_? Older students can create a graph to show the number of M&M's of each color.

Our third, fourth and fifth grade students have been learning about multiplication for the last several weeks. Your child has learned multiple strategies to help him/her solve a multiplication problem; however, the most effective way for your child to become better at multiplication is to memorize the facts. Make flashcards with your child and practice them all the time! The more your child practices the basic multiplication facts (0-12), the more fluent he/she will become.

### Reading

The students (and teachers) are working hard to ensure AR points are earned daily. When we reach our school-wide goal of 21,000 points, we will all watch Mrs. Dardis and Mrs. Wiggins do their jobs from the roof of the school for a day. Please continue encouraging your child to read nightly and to continue taking those AR tests.

Additionally, Mrs. Paye is looking for sponsors to help purchase/provide larger prizes to the top AR earners this school year. If you are interested, please reach out to her at [Madison.Paye@polk-fl.net](mailto:Madison.Paye@polk-fl.net).

Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Paye