



Gator Gazette

Aug—Dec.
2020

From the Principal.....

Upcoming Events

Greetings Gator Families!

Wow! Can you believe we are already into the 2nd 9-weeks and the holidays are just around the corner? SCE continues to work hard to overcome the challenges we are all faced with during this *'different way' of conducting school*. I want to say a very heartfelt, *'THANK YOU'*, to parents and students, for your diligence in doing all the things we have asked you to do! Thank you for following all the procedures we have outlined to maintain safety and for keeping the learning happening, while at home, for your child(ren). We will continue to work together to make things go smoothly, safely, and progressing on toward excellence.

Here are just a few important reminders:

- All car riders should be following the procedures as set up in the side lot. Remember to let students out in the morning from the drivers side of the car to avoid students and staff being in the line of traffic.
- Follow the directions of the staff on duty. They will direct you when to move, pull up, drop off, and exit the campus. This is critical for maintaining safety.
- No cars should be in the front lot when buses are loading and unloading.
- Please remember to treat our staff with kindness! We are working hard to keep everyone safe. So, thanks for your patience!
- Remember to have your child's Attestation Form filled out prior to showing it to staff to help speed up the process.
- Learning is critical! Continue to participate, both face-to-face and virtually! Grades and attendance will continue to count every day!

Thank you for working with us to make the best of this truly different learning experience for all of us! It is my wish and hope that you will remain safe, stay the course, and continue practicing perseverance!

Kind Regards,
Lori Goodman

Nov. 25th—27th

No School



Thanksgiving Holidays

Dec. 21st—Jan. 5th

No School

Christmas Holidays



Christmas Sock Day—Dec. 14th

Christmas PJ Day (Cohort A) - Dec. 15th

Christmas Headgear Day—Dec. 17th

Christmas PJ Day (Cohort B) - Dec. 18th

Updates from the School Nurse

- New guidance was issued a few weeks ago and a new question was added to the attestation form regarding anyone in the household having symptoms related to COVID-19. If anyone in the home has symptoms of fever, new cough, shortness of breath/difficulty breathing and/or loss of taste or smell then students cannot attend school until there is an evaluation of symptoms by the doctor. If the doctor says the symptoms are not COVID related and gives an alternative diagnosis then students can return to school. Remember, students need to be FREE from fever for 24 hours prior to returning to school without having to use any fever reducing medications such as Tylenol or Motrin.
- Some of you may ask "What is a new cough?" Well that is a great question! Many children have problems with seasonal allergies and even asthma this time of year or with weather changes. If a child has these conditions and typically develops a cough then this would not be considered a new cough. A new cough would need to be evaluated by the primary care doctor and a doctor's note would need to be provided for students to return if the new cough is not related to COVID.
- If anyone in the home has tested positive for COVID or is going to be tested for COVID, please notify the teacher, front office or the school nurse. The school has guidance to follow on the time students should be quarantined and we need to make sure this is communicated to you correctly.

KINDERGARTEN/NEW NC HEALTH ASSESSMENT AND IMMUNIZATION UPDATE

The deadline for these documents to be turned in has been extended to December 30, 2020. Letters have been sent out and phone calls have been made if you still need to turn in health assessments or immunization records.

Thank you for taking the time to read these updates. I am at school Monday-Friday from 7am-3pm. Please call me anytime if you have questions.

Stay safe,
Hayley Fly, RN
School Nurse

ESL News

The SCE EL Department is off to a wonderful start this year. We are low in staff but high in perseverance. Mrs. Amber Duke is serving 3rd and 4th grades. Mrs. Rhea Tan is serving 2nd and 3rd grades. Mrs. Nora Morton is serving 1st and 3rd grades with a few Kindergarten students added to the mix. All EL students need to be working in Imagine Learning in addition to assignments from your EL teachers. We will continue to focus on Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing this year as students prepare to take the ACCESS tests in Winter 2021.

Kindergarten News

We have been busy in kindergarten! Since school began, kindergarteners have been working hard on learning the school and classroom expectations. The children have also met many new people!

Aside from learning what is expected of them as “little gators,” the children have begun learning to identify the letters of the alphabet and the sound that each one makes. When we introduce a new letter, we focus a lot on correct letter formation. (When practicing at home, please encourage your child to start at the top, “upstairs” line.) In addition to the alphabet, we have also introduced many high-frequency words, also known as sight words. We have learned many of these things using our new HMH Into Reading curriculum.

In math, we have worked on reading and writing numbers 0 to 20 and recognizing different shapes – circle, square, rectangle, triangle, hexagon, cube, cylinder, rectangular prism, cone, and sphere. We have described them and begun to compare them.

We’ve learned about fire safety, eating healthy, and community helpers.

Parents/guardians, please check your child’s folder each day! Important information from your child’s teacher and the school office is inside. When your child is absent from school, please send a note in their folder. If they were sick, please send in a doctor’s note. With our new protocols, the note must state that the sickness is not COVID-related. They must be fever free without medicine for at 24 hours.

Please be sure students are logging into Google Classroom and completing assignments when they are remote. New material is taught every day.

Please know that we sincerely appreciate your support. Thank you for all that you do to help us help your child.

The Kindergarten Staff



First Grade News

First Grade Parents,

We are focusing on the future this year! As we begin our second quarter, please make sure your student is working hard daily. They should know all the letters in the alphabet, as well as the sounds they make. Students should be able to blend words together and they should be practicing reading every day. Counting and addition concepts have been taught and students should recognize numbers from 1-120. Remember, everything they learn from now on depends on these basic skills!

Students should be attending school in person or online **FIVE** days each week. If they do not complete online work or come in person, they are counted absent.

Please make sure any classroom concerns are addressed immediately. Don't wait until the end of the grading quarter. You may contact your teacher through email, phone, or Class Dojo.

Check your child's homework folder daily. Lots of communications go home in the folder. Please note the "Bring Back to School" side and the "Leave at Home" side.

Car riders need to be dropped off on the sidewalk. Please sit them in the back seat on the driver's side of the car. This makes drop off safer. This way students aren't walking in between cars during dark morning hours.

As always, we want our children to prosper. This year is difficult but not impossible. We can do this!

Thank you,

First Grade Teachers

Second Grade News

Even though school looks a lot different this year, everyone has adjusted nicely and we are now settled into a routine. We have eight second grade classes this year, two of those being all-virtual. Our second grade team consists of teachers, Hannah Brozovsky, Lisa Davis, Tessa Denton, Mercedes Hopkins, Connie Miller, Emily Oliver, and new to our team, Luz Ponce and Michelle Mays, and instructional assistants Lisa Gammon and Maleka Johnson.

... continued

We are excited to have a new reading program, HMH Into Reading, this year. The student books are consumable this year which make it easier to do both virtual and hybrid classes. The program is divided into 12 modules (units). This program comes with a plethora of resources that can be utilized in the classroom as well as at home.

Also new to second grade is the Heggerty Phonemic Awareness Curriculum, Think Up Math and Think Up Reading. We are using these resources along with the HMH and our Go Math program to ensure that we are covering all of the second grade content in a way that works best for your child.

Here are a few important ways you can help your child succeed:

Remind them to wear a mask when coming to school.

- Sign the attestation form each day that your child is well before coming to school.
- Make sure they have completed all daily assignments and turn in.
- Please make sure the students are completing all of their work independently.
- Students should be reading daily.

If you haven't already done so, please make sure you are signed up for your child's Class Dojo. This is an effective tool we use to communicate between school and home. Parents should check Dojo at least once a day for messages from your child's teacher.

With the holiday season quickly approaching, we would like to wish all of you a wonderful and safe Thanksgiving and Christmas!

Third Grade News

Well, that was a chaotic 9 weeks. We would like to thank you for all of your help and hard work with your students.

We would like to ask you to make sure that your child logs into GOOGLE CLASSROOM daily. If your student is not logging in he/she will be counted absent. In addition, work is being turned in that is left blank. Please help your student get work turned in daily. Please, please, please let your child work independently.

Students should be practicing multiplication facts everyday. This is a key math skill for third graders. Also, students should be reading daily using his/her teacher's assignments.

Finally, please encourage your student to wear masks correctly, wash hands often, and practice good hygiene.

Fourth Grade News

It's hard to believe we have already completed the first 9 weeks! Fourth graders---- whether online or in person, have been busy! In math, your child has been working on finding area and perimeter. What a great skill to know how to do in the real world! Here is a suggestion to get them involved at home: Let them figure out the area of their bedroom so they can know how much carpet or flooring needed to buy. Let them figure out the perimeter of your backyard so you can buy fencing. Those are just a few suggestions! In science, all classes have been studying "Forms of Energy"- MELTS- Magnetic, Electrical, Light, Thermal, and Sound. In Social Studies, your child has been learning about colonies and settlements in NC. Last, but certainly not least, let's not forget reading! First of all, please make sure that your child is reading daily. In class, they have been working on finding the main idea (nonfiction), identifying theme in stories and songs. Perhaps set a time everyday where everyone in the family drops everything and reads. It is so important!

As we all know, this school year has required every one of us to change how we do things. The fourth grade teachers want to thank you parents for your support! Together we will get through this.

Art News

Welcome to the 2020-2021 Spring Creek school year and welcome to our school, Mrs. Rionna Bisette, our new Art Teacher. Mrs. Bisette joins us from Dillard Middle School. She is also an Art Teacher at Brogden Primary School.

This year we are traveling ART ON A CART. During the first semester Mrs. Amos and Mrs. Bisette have been focusing on teaching the Elements and Principles of Art. Our projects have introduced and emphasized color, shape, pattern, value and 2-D and 3-D design. We have been studying about Pablo Picasso and Henri Matisse, 2 artists that created great works with a concentration on shape and color. Frida Kahlo, an artist from Mexico and known for her many self portraits, along with her Azul Museum in Mexico. Romero Britto, an artist from Brazil creates colorful patterns and designs and is known for his artwork in New York, Miami and even Super Bowl events. As the holiday season approaches, we will be having lots of fun and festive projects to include painting , working with yarn creating weavings and 3-D paper sculptures.

The art rooms are always grateful for any donations of Sharpie markers, glue sticks, yarn , feathers and sequins.

Thank you for your support of The Arts!

Mrs. Amos & Mrs. Bisette

Music News with Mrs. Rose and Mr. Guevara

Hello, everyone!

We are so excited that we are able to see some of our students face-to-face! We are presenting our music lessons in our Music Google Classrooms as well as in person with students here at school!

We have been working on several elements of music, including beat/rhythm, dynamics (loud/soft), tempo (fast/slow), and form. We will continue to build on these elements all through the year!

As you go to your Music lessons in your Music Google Classrooms, be sure to complete the quizzes and upload your activities when they are finished. We have seen some wonderful responses and videos from our students demonstrating their performances from lessons. We are looking forward to seeing all that our wonderful students will accomplish!

P.E. News

Greetings from the Gator PE teachers! We hope you are navigating through these un-chartered waters a little better as time is passing! Please reach out to us if you are having any trouble accessing your virtual PE and Health Lessons. Our emails are under our pictures. We are enjoying seeing classes in person and sharing the same information and lessons to those of you at home! We are offering a mix of Health, Fitness and Athletic skills in our lessons. Please make sure students are completing the Exit Ticket at the end of the lessons, so we can see that they had access to our lessons. Many of the lessons have extra material for your child to use if they wish! Our lessons will be posted by Wednesday each week with the exit ticket due the next Tuesday! That gives you a full week to access the movement activities and Health lessons! Have Fun and KEEP MOVING! We can't wait to see you all soon! Happy Fall to you all!!!



Davidcarter@wcps.org



jackielewis@wcps.org



maryfranklin@wcps.org

Media Center News

Notices have been sent home with students who have outstanding fines or overdue books from the library.

If you have any questions about notices you have received please call Mrs. Crumpler at 919-751-7155.

Focused on the Future in Title I

Greetings from Title I,

It is hard to believe we are now in the month of November. Leaves are falling, temperatures are changing, and holidays are quickly approaching. Title I wishes to take this opportunity to say thank you for all you do to support our school and your children. The partnership between home and school is very important to the success of our children. As we continue to focus on teaching and learning, please know we are committed to fostering our students' growth and development.

What is Title I?

Title I is a federally funded educational program that is designed to support all students in achieving the State Standards. The goal is to emphasize high academic standards in an effort to help students succeed academically and reach grade level performance expectations. The goals of Title I are consistent with the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)*, reauthorized as the *No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001*, which includes setting high academic standards, measuring student's progress, analyzing data for desired results, and involving parents in educational decisions. All Spring Creek Elementary students, including those with disabilities, children with limited English proficiency, and students who are achieving above standards, are eligible to receive Title I services. These services can include individual or small groups with a Title I Lead teacher to increase reading and math outcomes. Students are identified for instructional support based on the student's academic needs to either enhance or enrich literacy or mathematical skills.

Virtual Annual Title I Meeting

Again this year, SCE "kicked off" our Title I Parent and Engagement opportunities by conducting a virtual Annual Title I Meeting on Wednesday, September 23, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. Parents were sent electronic invitations, Dojo messages, and alerts to inform parents about this informative session. During the session, parents had the opportunity to meet and greet our Principal, Mrs. Goodman, our Assistant Principal, Mrs. Jacobs, and Title I Lead Teachers, Mrs. Davis-Smith, Mrs. Galloway, and Mrs. Thomas. The session *focused on the Title I program and budget, expectations from SCE teachers and parents, The Parents Right to Know and Parent and Family Engagement Policies, and the importance of the Parent Resource Center. We were thrilled to see the parents who were able to join and elated to answer questions. If you are interested in viewing the meeting, please contact any one of the Title I teachers and a copy will be provided.*

Focused on Title I Parent/Family Engagement Opportunities

Please mark your calendars! We have several Title I Parent & Family Engagement opportunities offered this semester. The first opportunity will *focus on state-wide testing and testing strategies for our Third and Fourth Grade parents and students. We want to ensure that parents have the tools to assist their children when helping with homework. We will demonstrate some key strategies to help your child be a bit more successful with classroom assignments, graded assessments, and End-of-Grade assessments. This Virtual Parent Seminar will be offered on Wednesday, November 18th. Our Annual Family Literacy & Data Chat Events will be a "drive-through experience this year and will include virtual sessions for you to enjoy with your child. In addition, you will have an opportunity to schedule a session with your child's teacher to discuss your child's progress. Our Literacy Fun for the Family will take place on Wednesday, December 16th.*

Continued....

Title I News

Parent Resource Center

Please remember to visit our “**Parent & Teacher Resource Center**” located in rooms 804-806 in the educational cottage (trailer). It has a variety of games and activities you can check out to enhance your child’s learning experience. We have a plethora of engaging games that the entire family can play and learn. In order to take advantage of this great opportunity, please contact your child’s teacher to discuss areas in need. The teacher will schedule a time with Mrs. Thomas for you to visit and check out materials. Due to CDC Guidelines, Morning and Car Duty, Face to Face, and online instruction times, our pickup hours have been revised from last year. New hours to pick up items are Wednesdays from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. However, you can speak with your child’s teacher at any time to discuss his or her academic needs. This will allow us time to get the data we need and identify the resources in a timely manner.

*The Title I Team **THANKS YOU** for your time, patience, and dedication! Although this year may be a little different, know that our staff is working tirelessly to serve our students at SCE. We appreciate **YOU!***

Guidance News

Greetings from the SCE School Counseling Department and welcome back to all of our SCE Gator students and parents! The 2020-2021 school year is well on its way and, as different as it may be, we are excited to have the opportunity to work with each of you! This year we will continue to build upon our strengths as we work together to navigate the challenging circumstances we all face. Our commitment is to continue to work hard for your child, plan for the needs of our students and move forward in the quest for excellence. We are a team and together we will make it a positive and productive school year! Please feel free to reach out to either of us if we can assist you in any way. As part of the support team at Spring Creek Elementary, we are here to assist you however possible!

Looking forward to a successful year!

Mrs. Jones and Ms. DeCostanzo, SCE School Counselors

michellejones@wcps.org

marybethdecostanzo@wcps.org

919-751-7155