

# Gator Gazette

Aug.—Dec.  
20121

## From the Principal.....

Wow what a great start to the school year! It's hard to believe that we are already at the end of the 1st 9-weeks and report cards will be going home on Friday 10/22/21! Things are going great here at the CREEK and everyone is working hard to catch up, keep up, and keep forward. Please continue to support our efforts here at school with following rules, procedures, and learning all there is to know for your child's grade level expectations. There are lots of activities coming up soon so keep in contact through Dojo and other communication alerts. The Candy Man Fundraiser was a huge success! Final numbers will be shared as soon as all final information comes in and is settled. All funds will go right back to students and staff to support our school! The fundraiser celebration will be held on Friday 10/22/21 at various times throughout the day so get ready to PARTY! Also coming up is Halloween. Students may dress up in their Halloween best on Friday 10/29/21 as long as the costume is appropriate for school-- nothing scary and no face masks other than the required COVID mask. We encourage dressing as your favorite book character or for the profession you want to work in when you grow up! Your child's teacher will most likely have more details for you about this activity coming home soon! In closing, please know that we are working hard to make this the best school year ever despite all the challenges that come our way. We always want the best for our students and will do our best, with your help, to make students productive citizens!

Happy Fall!  
*Lori Goodman*  
Principal

## Dates to Remember

### September

Sept. 21—Curriculum Night

### October

Oct. 14—End of 1st grading period

Oct. 15— Teacher Workday

Oct. 22—Report Cards

Oct. 27—Early Dismissal

### November

Nov. 11—Veterans Day

Nov. 12 Wellness Day

Nov. 24—No School

Nov. 25—26 Thanksgiving Holidays

### December

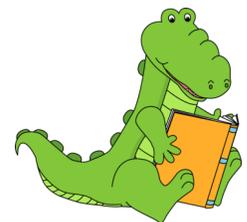
Dec. 1—Early Dismissal

Dec. 14—Literacy Night

Dec. 17—Early Dismissal

Dec. 17—End of second grading period

Dec. 20—31—Christmas Holidays—no school



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## **Guidance News**

Greetings from the SCE School Counseling Department and welcome back to all of our SCE Gator students and parents! The 2021-2022 school year is well on its way and we are excited to have the opportunity to work with each of you face-to-face! This year we will continue to build upon our strengths as we continue to explore our Social Emotional Learning curriculum. For most classes, guidance/character education lessons are every other week. Up to this point, we have covered the following objectives: Listening, Feelings/Emotions, Doing our Best, and Bullying Prevention. Please feel free to reach out if you need additional resources to address these topics. My commitment is to continue to work hard for your children, 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!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Jones, SCE School Counselor

[michellejones@wcps.org](mailto:michellejones@wcps.org)

919-751-7155

### **Literacy Night “Drive Thru” December 14th 6:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.**

Students will attend virtual activities and “drive thru” the car rider line to receive gifts.



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## **Media Center News**

The Media Center is a busy place. We have lots of new books that will be hitting the shelves very soon. We know the students can't wait. It is very important for parents to please check with their child(ren) on any overdue books/fines they may have in the Media Center. If you have any questions regarding an account please feel free to call the Media Center at 919-751-7155 ext. 4306



## **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 for uppercase and stair steps for most lowercase letters.) In addition to the alphabet, we have also introduced many high-frequency words, also known as sight words. We've worked on compound words, syllables, and spelling consonant-vowel-consonant (CVC) words. We have learned many of these things using our new HMH Into Reading curriculum.

In math, we have dived into our new curriculum, HMH Into Math. We've 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 also worked on positional words such as in, on, next to, between, under, and over. As the semester progresses, we will work on comparing numbers, classifying and composing shapes, and basic measurement.

We've learned about fire safety, eating healthy, community helpers, weather, and the seasons. Also, this year we were able to have a bit more normalcy and enjoyed a trip to the Wayne County Fair. We enjoyed a magic show, the acrobats, the animals, the project displays, and seeing all of the rides.

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 current protocols, the note must state that the sickness is not COVID-related. They must be fever free without medicine for at 24 hours. If it is COVID-related, please contact the school nurse for further directions.

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

The Kindergarten Staff



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## ***First Grade News***

First grade is off to a great start. Our students have been working on lots of sight words and stories with strategies for comprehension. Remember, reading is two parts. They must know the words and comprehend the story. Parents should be helping children with reading daily. We will be working on parts of speech, writing strategies, short vowels, story structure, text features and much more.

First graders are learning place value, practicing addition and subtraction, and much more in math. We will continue through the middle of the year with graphing, comparing numbers, measurement, and data.

We have finally received our homework communication folder. Please help students take very good care of these! They should be checked for messages daily.

Thanks,

First Grade Teachers



## ***ESL News***

**Our ESL department is happy to begin a new school year! Our 2021-2022 ESL staff includes Amber Duke, Nora Morton and Rhea Tan. We also have welcomed a tutor, Mrs. Gardner, to help kindergarten students. We are currently working very diligently making sure we have all our Gators accounted for and set into the North Carolina system. This is always a large and time consuming task.**

**This school year the ESL students will be working in their HMH reading books on specific skills and vocabulary to help make them successful in their homeroom. Each grade level will practice reading, writing, listening and speaking in their ESL class. We realize that students with limited English proficiency need time, patience and love in order to succeed.**

**Thank you for continuing to support our students!**

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## ***Second Grade News***

Since the start of the 2020-2021 school year, everyone has adjusted nicely and we are now settled into a routine. We have nine second grade classes this year, two of those being dual-language. Our second grade team consists of teachers, Hannah Brozovsky, Lisa Davis, Tessa Denton, Mercedes Hopkins, Jessica Anderson, Emily Oliver, Luz Ponce, Summer Rose and the instructional assistants are Amy Gainey and Coral Vilanueva.

For the math curriculum this year we are excited to have a new math program called HMH “Into Math” and we also use “Into Reading.” To supplement we use Think Up Math and Think Up Reading.

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

- \*Make sure they complete homework daily.
- \*Help students learn more responsibility with organization of homework folder and book bag.
- \*Encourage students to complete Imagine Learning and Freckle Math online.
- \*Read to and with your child each night.
- \*Make sure that they can tie their shoes!

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.

We will have a Fall celebration On October 29<sup>th</sup> and students are allowed to wear costumes to school. Students will not be allowed to wear scary costumes or masks. Parents may send wrapped items for class parties.

## ***Third Grade News***

Wow! It seems like we just started school and now we are almost half way through the school year! We are so proud of how hard the third graders have worked and how they have adapted to the heavy testing schedule in third grade.

Please encourage your student to read every night. Third grade reading is very intensive. It weaves throughout our entire curriculum. In addition, the sooner your students learn ALL multiplication tables, the better off they will be.

The students learned about Hispanic Heritage and culture the first nine weeks to coincide with Hispanic Heritage Month. There are so many great traditions and cultures to be learned about and it has been celebrated all month here at Spring Creek.

Most students are learning about the skeletal system and many will have projects due soon. And we will soon begin learning about our solar system.

Thank you for your help and support,

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## ***Fourth Grade News***

It is hard to believe that the first nine weeks is over! Fourth Graders have been very busy at the Creek. In math, gators started out learning about line plots and graphing. Next, they learned how to figure out multiplicative comparisons. Fourth Grade math teachers cannot stress enough that students must learn their multiplication and division facts. Students have also learned the difference between a factor and multiple, as well as being able to identify numbers as either prime or composite. Towards the end of the nine weeks have been spent working on area and perimeter problems. In language arts, students have been working hard on inferencing, theme, and main idea. Students should be reading daily at home for at least 20 minutes. In science this past nine weeks gators have been studying about magnets and types of energy. Since fourth grade's social studies focus is North Carolina history, students have been learning about NC State Symbols. Do you know what our state's beverage is? No, it's not Pepsi! It happens to be milk! Recently, all classes in fourth grade sent home order forms for Class Tshirts. The cost for a tshirt is \$10.00. The absolute last day to turn in money is October 29.

## ***Fourth Grade News***

Welcome back to Spring Creek Art Room news. This year we have been learning about several different artist to include Pablo Picasso, Frida Kahlo and Henri Matisse. Our Gators were very successful in representing Spring Creek at The Wayne County Agricultural Fair. Twenty students had art entries and we received 13 blue ribbons.

Any donations of glue sticks, Sharpie markers or disinfecting wipes will greatly be appreciated.

Thank You,

Mrs. Amos

## ***Music Notes***

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The 2021-2022 school year is going strong, and it so exciting to be in school with all my students!! As you know, we have an A week/B week for our resource classes. This means most classes have Music every other week. We are working hard and learning while we are enjoying the beauty of music! We are learning about PATRIOTIC music in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade, while we are exploring a children's game song in Spanish in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and a traditional Spanish children's song about baby chicks in Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade.

As we study music here at SCE, we incorporate many activities, including singing, moving, listening, analyzing, and playing instruments. As we learn in Music class, we have 5 classroom rules that help us be great learners!

1. Pay attention.
2. Follow directions.
3. Raise your hand.
4. Show respect.
5. Do your best.

Great things that have happened so far this year...

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade students performed "You're A Grand Old Flag" in the Talent Contest at the Wayne County Fair on October 6<sup>th</sup> and won 1<sup>st</sup> place in their category! Congratulations to these students!!

Coming up this year...

Students will be selected to sing at the WCPS Choral Showcase, which is a FUNDRAISER for all the Music teachers in Wayne County Public Schools! More information will go home about this if your child is selected.

Thank you for helping your children grow as they learn in all subject areas as well as helping them learn to be good citizens!!

HAVE A GREAT YEAR!!

Mrs. Rose

## ***P.E. News***

Welcome Gators to a great year in PE! We are so excited to have our classes back in-person in the gym! This year we have established our classroom management and expectations, practiced general fitness exercises in the area of aerobic fitness, muscular strength and endurance, flexibility and agility! We have almost completed our Physical Fitness Pre-Assessments which consists of...The Pacer test, Shuttle Run, Sit and Reach, Plank 60 second challenge, Sit-Up Challenge and will be testing the students on the Mile Run (1/4 mile for Kindergarten, 1/2 Mile for 1st grade, 3/4 Mile for 2nd Grade and a Mile for 3rd and 4th graders). We will start our Running Unit as the weather cools off, before it gets too cold! Ask the students about the fun activities we've already completed. We have practiced a variety of throwing at targets using Rolling, Underhand and Overhead throwing. Students have worked cooperatively to build huts out of hula hoops in our most recent activity. Kindergarten and First Grade have learned about the dangers of Poisons and Medicines. They learned about "STOPPING and asking first!" The year is flying by, as we cannot believe the first quarter is complete! We look forward to a productive, successful year of moving with our gators!

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## **Title I News**

### *Greetings from Title I,*

*It is hard to believe we are starting the second semester of the school year! 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 & Curriculum Night on Wednesday, September 21, 2021. Parents and guardians were sent electronic invitations, ClassDojo messages, flyers, and alerts to inform them 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, 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. Later, parents were provided specific, grade level curriculum information within separate sessions. If you are interested in viewing the meeting, please contact any one of the Title I teachers and a copy will be provided.

### **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 provide a VIRTUAL tour of the materials available for check-out through the “**Parent & Teacher Resource Center**” located in rooms 804-806 in the educational cottage (trailer). Maintaining a lending library of learning resources, games, and activities for families to use at home is one of the ways we support all of our students. Without leaving the comfort of your home, you can tour the many engaging and educational materials offered and view demonstrations using some of our most popular items. Time will be provided to explore items of interest with the help of one of your “tour guides” and all your questions will be answered during the virtual session.

Our Annual Family Literacy Night will once again be a “drive-through” experience. Our “Making Readers Bright” Literacy engagement event will take place on Tuesday, December 14th. The evening will include classroom virtual sessions offering literacy activities 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.

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## ***Title I News Continued***

Later in the semester, a parent seminar will be offered to provide state-wide testing information 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. Notifications regarding this informative session will be sent out in the coming weeks.

### **Parent Resource Center**

Have you scheduled a visit to our “**Parent & Teacher Resource Center**” located in rooms 804-806 in the educational cottage (trailer) yet? We have many NEW and exciting resources and activities available to enhance your child’s learning experience and a plethora of engaging games for the entire family to enjoy and learn through play that you can check out for your child! In order to take advantage of this great opportunity, please contact your child’s teacher to discuss areas in need and convenient times for you to visit. The teacher will then schedule a time with Mrs. Thomas for you to visit and check out materials. This process will allow us time to get the data we need and identify the resources in a timely manner. You are encouraged to speak with your child’s teacher regularly to discuss your child’s academic needs. Due to CDD Guidelines, along with teaching and duty schedules, visits and pick-up times are by appointment only. We hope to hear from you soon!

*The Title I Team **THANK 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!***