



EAGLE NEWS | Parent's Newsletter | March '21

Dear Parents,


We are excited that scholars have the opportunity to come back to school for in-person learning in March. The updated phase-in schedule is the following:

- Week of March 8: Self-contained special education scholars
- Week of March 15: Pre-K – 2nd grade scholars
- Week of March 22: 3rd-8th grade scholars

Additional information is forthcoming on hybrid and remote learning. Stay tuned. As we transition our scholars back to school- it is imperative that scholars follow all safety protocols that are in place to ensure their safe return. In addition, no uniform is required.

Wade Park takes a disciplined, proactive approach to ensure a safe learning environment for our students. We have clear expectations for student behavior, and strategies for stopping conflicts or preventing trouble before it occurs. In the event of an emergency, the school will notify you via phone. As such, it is imperative that we have your current phone number & address. If you have any questions, please reach out. Thank you for your support!

Warm regards,


Dr. Lee Clinton Buddy Jr.

Proud Principal

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Kindergarten through Fourth Grade

NEWS YOU CAN USE

What's Happening in Kindergarten

In Kindergarten, we have been exploring what it means to try hard. We have been working on mastering our letters and sounds. We are studying our sight words and have begun blending sounds together to make words. Scholars have also been working hard to write sentences and stories so we can make connections to our own experiences. In math, we have been learning how to identify greater or lesser numbers within 10, and matching equal groups within 10.

How Can You Help!

Make a special time and place to read with your child every day. While you read, ask:

- What do you think will happen next? Why?
- What happens in the beginning/middle/end?
- What do you think the word means? How do you know?

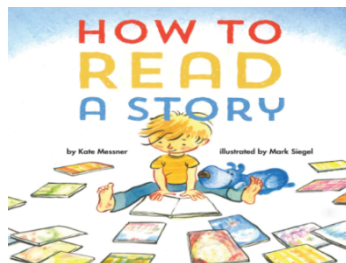
Play with sounds, letters, and words to help develop skills that are important for reading:

- Sing songs that rhyme and ask your child to tell you more words that rhyme.
- Ask your child to find letters or words around town—on street signs, in stores, anywhere!
- Say words and ask your child to tell you the beginning or end sound.

Gather 10 buttons and 10 pennies. Line them up in groups of different quantities. Ask your child how many are in each set, and if there are more buttons or pennies. Change the number in each set and repeat the activity.

What's Happening in First Grade?

In First Grade, scholars have been working on singular and plural nouns. We really enjoyed studying our history during Black History Month. We are continuing to work with addition and subtraction problems using pictures and objects. Make sure you check out your scholar's journal in Seesaw to see all their latest work.





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What's Happening in Second Grade

In the primary grades, we will continue to practice these tips for reading comprehension:

- Find a story
- Find someone to read to and/or with
- Find a cozy spot.
- Look at the book's cover to make predictions prior to reading.
- Open the book and read aloud.
- Hold the book up and share the pictures.
- If you don't know the word, try sounding it out or look at the pictures to see what makes sense.
- If you need a break, pause for a minute and talk to your reading buddy to predict what will happen next.

Please visit your local library to read more about great reading tips!

What's Happening in Third Grade

Now that we've gotten through most of this "virtual school year", you may be noticing that your child is reluctant to write. If so, this article from time4writing.com shares a few tips that are sure to increase your child's excitement for getting their ideas down on paper (or typed on their device)!

Writing Can Be Fun: Tips to Enhance Your Child's Desire to Write

Young minds are full of imagination, wonder and curiosity. Writing can be an amazing outlet for kids – allowing them full reign to express their personality and creativity. Even so, most kids dread the thought of writing, especially when it comes to tedious writing assignments in school.

And in the age of email, text messaging and social networking, kids' tolerance for writing anything longer than a few sentences is being severely tested.

Being able to write and write well is an essential skill for all ages. That's why it's even more important today to encourage your children at a very early age to write, learn how to spell and follow rules of grammar and punctuation. So how can you help make writing fun for your children?

Play Some Writing Games

If you have a group of kids, you can play the ol' grapevine game – you know, where you whisper something to one person, they tell it to someone else, and so on until the last person says out loud what they heard – and the version is often far different from how it began. To make it into a writing game, have one child write out a sentence on a piece of paper then pass it to the next participant. The next child will change one word in the sentence and so on until it reaches the last player. When the final sentence is read aloud, everyone will be amazed at how one word can entirely change a story or message.



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Another fun group writing game is to have a child begin a story with one sentence, then each person adds on a sentence and builds the story until everyone is doubled over in laughter or the story ends.

Whenever your child begs or whines for something, turn it into a persuasive writing opportunity. Have him tell you in writing what he wants, why he wants it, what he would do with it if he got it and why he thinks he deserves it. Of course, you must set the expectation that his argument is no guarantee he will get what he wants, only that it will increase his chances.

What's Happening in Fourth Grade

New Math vs. Old Math

If your child's math homework/seesaw assignments, have you scratching your head or groaning, *you're not alone!* Here's the scoop on the new approach to teaching math:

Well before parents had to support their kids heading back to school in a pandemic, helping them with their math homework was hard. But now, in the midst of figuring out the ins and outs of virtual or hybrid learning, it might feel even tougher, and "new math" isn't helping matters. The concept has caught a lot of flak from parents on social media and beyond.

Parents who grew up in the '80s and '90s and earlier learned basic formulas, such as long division to solve math problems. But starting in 2010, the CCSI aimed to change the way American students were taught English language arts and mathematics. State Standards for Mathematical Practice were designed with three main goals:

- Provide graduating high school students with the skills they need to be successful either in the workforce or in post-secondary education
- Boost math test scores for all American students
- Smooth out the differences between individual state curriculums and practices

Helpful New Math Resources:

Parents and students would do well to check out any of the following resources, which Moldavan says can help them wrap their heads around new math strategies and keep students engaged while we transition to remote learning.

Khan Academy offers math videos/tutorials that walk you through each step.

Math Playground and NCTM's Illuminations provide games and simulators.

IXL Math and Virtual Nerd offer practice exercises with feedback.

To read this article in its entirety, please visit parents.com.



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Middle School Team

February was a very busy month with Black History month, literacy month and science fair projects. Thank you to all students who participated and to parents for all of your support at home to ensure that students are meeting deadlines. We encourage students to read at home for 20 minutes daily. You can find more helpful ideas to encourage reading at home here: [Reading In Middle School](#)

Fifth Grade

In 5th grade math our Problem of the Day is now geared toward test prep. We are continuing our study of fractions and will move onto decimals soon. For social studies we are learning more about the exploration and settlement of the Americas. Scholars are reminded to log in daily, participate in discussions, and complete their work. Congratulations to those who earn Live School points for attendance, participation, and iReady each week! Mr. Mark asks you to make sure that your child is logging into iReady and completing at least 20 minutes per day in Reading and Math. You can find their updated grades in the gradebook of their ELA and Science pages on Schoology as well as what assignments they are currently missing for this grading period. New assignments are added every week in Seesaw to complete in both subjects. Make sure your child is making the best use of their independent work time to work through these assignments as well as their independent time on Wednesdays.

Ms. Powell 5-8 class

Ms. Powell's class is looking forward learning about and researching women's month in March. Parents, please make sure our scholars are reading daily at home and completing homework assignments.

Mr. Lockard Middle School Science

Mr. Lockard's 6th Graders are learning about thermal energy and temperature. 7th Graders are studying electricity and circuitry. 8th Graders are focusing on Earth science. Students are expected to attend class on time and complete all assignments. All students should have completed a Science Fair project – a panel will be judging the finalists to determine the top exhibitions. We are looking into virtual field trips to the Science Center as well.

Ms. Kaulins Middle School Social Studies

Ms. Kaulins' Social Studies Class- The month of March is set aside to honor women's contributions in American history. The National Women's History Alliance selects and publishes the yearly theme. The theme for Women's History Month 2021 captures the spirit of these challenging times to "Valiant Women of the Vote: Refusing to Be Silenced." Scholars will research and create presentations that exemplify the greatness of women in history.



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Ms. Ivory Middle School Math

Ms. Ivory expects all students to complete their work online in their math book (Ed app in Clever). The assignments that students must complete are online and graded immediately so that the scholar may receive immediate feedback. They are also given quizzes and once a quarter they receive an opportunity for bonus points. All classes are expected to have their math book, notebook and pencil - grades 7 & 8 can use calculators during class.

Ms. Moran Gifted & Talented Classroom

In 7th and 8th grade GT please continue to check in with your child to ensure they are completing assignments, IReady minutes and reading daily. Students are given weekly NewsELA assignments that are required to be completed as well as an assignment in EdHMH. Many students are doing an amazing job keeping up to date on weekly math assignment. You can check your child's current grades and missing and completed assignments right in Schoology. We are working hard in both math and ELA to prepare for upcoming state testing!

Special Ed Department

Special Ed will be studying Women's History Month which is celebrated in March. In the United States, Women's History Month traces its beginning back to the first International Women's Day in 1911. Our country finally found it appropriate to acknowledge a group of citizens who have historically been silenced. As we celebrate Women's History Month, let us also lift up the voices, contributions and bravery of women. We will be devoting time for our celebrating and amplifying women's contributions to academia, art and popular culture.

Music & Art Department

Third quarter is already well underway as we have already hit the halfway point. Students worked hard to help us put together a great Black History Month presentation that was shared last month. As always please make sure to check your child's Schoology and Seesaw accounts for missing assignments. If you ever have any questions, please reach out to the encore teacher.

As a reminder all fourth and fifth graders may join Ms. Hutchinson for art club, during lunch on Tuesdays and Fridays. Zoom information is the same as logging into art class.

Mr. G's extracurricular music sessions have been updated. Please see the image below for sessions that you may be participating in.

