



The Dolphin Digest



Oceanair Elementary School Monthly Newsletter

A Message From Principal Rountree-Price's Desk

It is hard to believe we are already in April, the last quarter of the year. Report cards will go home on April 1, 2025. Standards of Learning Assessments will be during the month of April; more information will be forthcoming about those assessments. Other important dates for the month of April are in this newsletter for your reference.

Please have your child check lost and found; it is located in the cafeteria. *All items are donated to charity at the end of the school year.* Parents, please remind your child not to take items that do not belong to them, if by chance an item does come home that does not belong to your child, please return it to the school.



Five Tips Toward a More Positive Attitude

1. Kids model their parents' behavior. If they see you bouncing back from setbacks, they'll learn to do the same.
2. Help them see the way around obstacles. When something doesn't work out as planned, encourage them to brainstorm other ways to approach the problem or to reach their goal.
3. Let them know that negative reactions are okay when it's appropriate. Having a positive attitude doesn't mean burying legitimate feelings, but acknowledging them, and then finding a way to move on.
4. Teach constructive reframing. If a child declares she's lousy at something, suggest that he/she simply needs more practice.
5. Encourage positive self-talk. Words have power, so offer a few affirmations they can repeat until they become second nature

Koonce's Corner-News from OUR Assistant Principal

Pictures – **Spring Picture Day** will be Wednesday, April 2, 2025. We will do class pictures, individual make-ups, and club pictures.

Attendance – If your child is out of school or going to miss school, please remember to let the teacher know so that your child will be marked excused. We are seeing an increase in letters having to be sent home and the number of attendance plans being developed because of the increase in the number of unexcused absences. There are multiple ways to let the teacher know. You can send a note with your child, send a message via email or class dojo, call the teacher, and/or call the main office. If you have received a letter pertaining to unexcused absences, contact the school immediately so we can quickly resolve unexcused absences. ~Thanks

Arrival – Reminder: Spring is almost here and the weather is changing. If the weather is nasty outside, please avoid having your child stand outside waiting for the doors to open. Helps us maintain a safe and secure environment by arriving at 8:45 am. Doors do not open until 8:40 am. This will help avoid the crowd, the weather, and will still give your child plenty of time to get breakfast and walk to class.

600 Dudley Avenue
Norfolk, Virginia 23503

"Home of the Dolphins"

Mrs. Rountree-Price,
Principal

Mr. Koonce,
Asst. Principal

April 2025



Month of the
Military Child

Autism
Acceptance
Month



April 1

3rd Marking Period
Report Cards Go Home



April 2

Picture Day!
Class pictures, individual
make-ups, club pictures

April 4

Career Fair

April 8

Spring Concert!



April 14-18

Spring Break! School is
Closed



April 24

Field Day



April 28

SOL TESTING BEGINS



Follow us on social
media:

Facebook: Oceanair ES
X: @153_es

April

Math Highlights

Congratulations to the following students. They competed at NSU on March 20 in The Math 24 Challenge. All students did a great job! We are so proud of you.

Erick M, Dylan E., Sebastian M, Amelia M, Xavi C.

How to prepare for SOL:

- Zearn assignments
- Edmentum learning path
- Practice items on Test Nav

SOL testing for grades 3-5 is right around the corner. Be sure to follow the testing schedule. It will be out soon. *Students need a good night's sleep, great breakfast, and arrive to school on time each day.*

Kindergarten-Students should be able to read and write their numbers to 100. Practice counting by 1s and 10s to 100.

1st Grade-Students should be able to read and write their numbers to 120. Practice counting by 1s, 2s, 5s, and 10s to 120. They should also be able to tell how many 10s and 1s are in a given number.



Art News



Please join us for the Norfolk Public Schools Fine Arts Festival at the Chrysler Museum of Art at 1 Memorial Place, Norfolk Va. The NPS Art exhibition will be April 5 from 10 am until 2 pm. Free.

Chrysler Museum is hosting El Dia de los Ninos Festival, March 30 from 11 am-3 pm at the Glass Studio. As part of the Grand Opening Celebration of the Perry Glass Studio, the Chrysler Museum is hosting an early El Día de los Niños (Children's Day) Festival. This block party will feature live performances by and for children, glass-making demonstrations and workshops, an art carnival, and artmaking inspired by the Oaxaca Central: Contemporary Mexican Printmaking. Free, registration not required.

Oceanair Spring Testing Dates

April 7– Grade 5 Integrated Reading and Writing Assessment

April 28-May 16 Grades 3-5 Spring SOL Testing

For students in grades 3-5, a more specific testing schedule will be sent home with your child.

These are state mandated assessments and it is imperative that students are at school on time the day of testing.

Pre-K



Welcome to April, PreK families!

This month our topics will be on our Creative Curriculum Study: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: Living and Non-living things, Spring, space, counting sets to 10, patterning, letter sounds/ beginning sounds, rhyming and retelling stories using vocabulary.

Keep talking and reading with your children to expand vocabulary, letter knowledge and print awareness.

Keep observing, describing, counting, and patterning things in the home environment to expand early math knowledge.

We will begin end-of-the-year assessments after Spring Break.

Kindergarten

And just like that, we are in the last quarter of kindergarten. Where does the time go?

Please be on the lookout for information coming home this week for our last two field trips, both happening this month. Both are great opportunities for our students to learn.

Along with the end of school comes end of year testing. In kindergarten, we have two weeks to finish the VKRP --The Virginia Kindergarten Readiness Program Assessment. This assessment begins April 7th and covers our math skills for the year. Right after that finishes up on April 25, we begin VALLSS testing (Virginia Language and Literacy Screening System). It will begin Monday April 28 and go through May 8. Please be sure your child is getting lots of rest and is at school each day on time.



First Grade

Springtime Greetings from first grade!

In math, we will be counting, grouping and ordering numbers to 120.

In science we will be learning about motion.

In social studies, we will be studying Economics.

In reading we will be focusing on main idea, major events, and comparing & contrasting fiction and nonfiction.

Writing will be about our opinions.

We will be needing volunteers for our field trip to the zoo on April 11, and we are also looking for volunteers who can help us fill some easter eggs for our Easter Egg Hunt. *Details will be coming soon!*



Second Grade

Second grade had a great time swimming! We have one last field trip on May 7th to the Virginia Marine Science Center. We will leave the school at 9:30 and return around 1:30. We will eat lunch when we return from the trip.

We will be learning more famous Americans. We will learn scholars and inventors. Jonas Salk, Alexander Graham Bell, and Thomas Edison will be our focus. Then we will learn about reformers and champions. We will learn about Theodore Roosevelt, Barack Obama, and John F. Kennedy. Discussing these people with your children and reading biographies would be helpful.

In Science we will be learning about plants that grow in the various regions of Virginia. They will need to know products made from these crops. Students will learn how animals use plants to survive. They will focus on how animals need plants for oxygen, food, and shelter. Take a walk and point out how animals are using plants.

In math we will be returning to addition and subtraction. We will estimate and find the exact sum. The students will need to know how to balance equations. ($7 + 3 = \underline{\quad} + 4$) Practice solving addition and subtraction problems with your child. Towards the end of April we will begin fractions.

We will be reading fiction and nonfiction passages to learn about the buying and selling of products. The students will focus on the main idea and supporting details in the text. They will be making words plural. They will be adding prefixes and suffixes to root words. Play some word games with your child. We suggest Bananagrams, Scrabble, and Up Words.

Third Grade

It's that time of year...SOL TESTING!!!! 3rd grade students are in preparation for their 1st ever SOL Test. We are steadily reviewing all SOLs taught this school year for Reading and Math. Parents, please have daily conversations with your child on how we must show our thinking on paper to prove we understand what the Math problems are asking us and use our Reading passages to help with our comprehension skills.

In Social Studies, we are traveling back to Africa for our last civilization of Ancient Mali. We will learn about Timbuktu, gold, salt and so much more. Science is all about water. Ask your child about the Water Cycle or ways we can conserve water at home.

Fourth Grade

Science: We are headed to the finish line of scientific discovery in 4th grade! Our final unit will discuss ecosystems and how plants, animals, and humans interact in nature and in their communities. We will also review the solar system as we gear up for our final field trip to the ODU Planetarium on April 4th!

Math: Time has flown by, and we are now in the fourth quarter. Scholars will continue to focus on building their understanding of geometry concepts, solid figures. We will finish the quarter strong by focusing on 2-digit by 2-digit multiplication and division. When we return from Spring Break, we will be in full review mode for the Standards of Learning (SOLs) utilizing TestNav as it mirrors the format of questions on the SOLs.

Reading: In reading students will finish up Unit 8- Earth Changes for the Month of April. In writing they will conduct a research project on blizzards and volcanoes. We will also prepare for SOL Testing!



Fifth Grade

We have reached that time of the year again where we will be prepping for the SOLs. As we finish up the last units of the school year, students will begin to review what we have learned. It has been a great 8 months, but now it is time to review what we have learned.

We will also be taking a field trip to the ballet and participating in field day this month.







Please be on the lookout for information about the promotion ceremony.

In math, students will be working on Algebraic functions and reviewing what they have learned this year. Please work with them on their multiplication facts.

In reading and writing, students will be taking the Integrated Reading and Writing Assessment at the beginning of April. They will be finishing up unit 8 with stories related to water. Science will be completing the Matter unit and working on review. In Social Studies we will be learning about Modern Virginia and Government.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns please let us know.



APRIL IS MATH, MILITARY CHILD AND AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	1 Month of Military Child Wear Red, White, and Blue with jeans 	2	3	4 Dress to Impress! Career Day
7 "Puzzle Day" Wear Puzzle Pieces or Geometric Shapes 	8	9 National "Purple Up" Day- Wear Purple for Military Children 	10	11 Wear Blue for Autism Awareness 
14 Spring Break	15 Spring Break	16 Spring Break	17 Spring Break	18 Spring Break
21 TEAM UP to Bring Home the Win" Day Wear your favorite team shirt/jersey 	22 "Don't Sweat the Test" Wear your Comfy sweatpants, sweatshirt and/or sweatband 	23 "Be Super on the Test" Wear your favorite superhero attire 	24 FIELD DAY "Stretch Your Brain" Wear Workout Gear and sneakers 	25 PEP RALLY "Oceanair is Proud of You" Wear your Oceanair shirt or Oceanair colors 
28 "Celebrate the beauty in the diverse spectrum" Wear Tie Dye 	29	30 Camo Day 		

APRIL BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS



Felix A.
Xzavier A.
Aliyah A.
Brittany A.
Cesia B.
Yva B.
Israel B.
Grayson B.
Kyndell B.
Deion B.
Kamani B.

Christian C.
Emanuel C.
Xavi C.
Karder D.
Brandon D.
Acsa F.
Mikayla G.
Ariah H.
Keith J.
Paris M.
Michael M.

Willow P.
Windsor P.
Cason P.
Seven P.
Gerardo R.
Charles R.
Jackson R.
Monika S.
Mathias S.
Ty'Asia S.

Dylan V.
Zahara V.
Arsenio W.
Aikeem W.
Ms. Savage
Ms. Conwell
Mr. Veal
Ms. Dunn
Ms. Sasser
Mr. Koonce