

The Dolphin Digest

Oceanair Elementary School Monthly Newsletter

A Message From Principal Rountree-Price's Desk

Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities. The involvement includes ensuring that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning; that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school; and that parents are full partners in their child's education.

THANK YOU PARENTS FOR ALL THAT YOU DO FOR OUR SCHOLARS!

Koonce's Corner-News from OUR Assistant Principal

Reminder – Dogs (or any animals) are not allowed on school property. There has been increase in the number of dogs on school property over the past month during arrival and dismissal. The risk is just too high that something unpredictable might happen-the worst being a child getting bitten. But there are other reasons also. Some kids (and adults) are terrified of dogs. Dogs might become frightened and either break free from their owner or act erratically towards another person. A dog might very likely poop on the grounds somewhere after which a child is sure to step in it and smell up the whole classroom. So please, keep your dog(s) at home and away from our children.

Parents and Guardians – Please mark your calendars for March 23, 2024! Norfolk Public Schools will host Family University from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Norview High School. Join school division staff and community partners for family wellness information, guest speakers, celebrations of the arts and music, and engaging instructional activities to enrich learning at home. Division staff will also provide application assistance for families who wish to enroll their children in preschool. Transportation, childcare, and lunch will be provided. Follow Norfolk Public Schools on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), or [X](#), and at www.npsk12.com/familyuniversity for updates and registration information. See you there!

Arrival/Dismissal – Reminder: Spring is here! 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. This will help avoid the crowd (including traffic), the weather, and will still give your child plenty of time to get breakfast and walk to class.

Announcements



Congratulations to the following students for being selected in NPS Youth Art Month Art Show

Riley Rowe	Randy Henderson
Valerie Contreras	Journi Jackson
Alexander Barnhill	Cayden McGrath
Carter McKenna	Hadleigh Kerestman
Meryin Murillo	Diego Perez Hernandez
Jeremit Aguilar Flores	Yoshabelle Ramdeen

Brittany Recarte	Douglas Mancina
Brian Townes	Silas Bowen
Kristy Floris	Ka'Mora Crow
Ayleen Hernandez	Melany Ramos
Catherine Price	
Jeislyn Gerez	



600 Dudley Avenue
Norfolk, Virginia 23503

"Home of the Dolphins"

March 2024

Mrs. Rountree-Price,
Principal

Mr. Koonce, Asst. Principal

March Upcoming Events

Mar 13: Spring Outfit Day
(Wear your favorite spring outfit or spring colors)



Mar 15: Green Day! (Wear Something green with jeans for St. Patrick's Day)



Mar 19
Cowboy/Cowgirl Day. Dress in your favorite Western Attire



Mar 21: World Forestry Day
(Wear camo and jeans)



Mar 28 March Madness!
Wear your favorite college shirt



Mar 29: Teacher Workday/
Professional Development Day!

MATH NEWS

Additional Support

If your child has access to internet and a device, have them log into their clever and work on their Edmentum for grades K and 1. If your child is in 2-5 grade, they should work on their Zearn.



Learning Focus

PreK While driving in the car, practice counting to 10. Ask, what number comes next when given a number 0-10.

Kindergarten Given a collection of coins, identify a penny, nickel, dime and quarter. Ask your children how many pennies are in a nickel, dime, and quarter to focus on the value of each coin.

1st Have students use non-standard items like a pencil or paper clip to measure various items in the house.

2nd Have students read a clock and tell what time it is. They need to be able to



4th Review the place value of a decimal number. Students need to know the tenths, hundredths, and thousandths place.

5th Students can continue to practice with elapsed time. Give your child a start time and end time and have them find how much time it took. Give them a different problem with the time it took and the end time for them to find the start time.

PRE-K NEWS

Welcome to March PreK families. This month our topics will be our *Creative Curriculum Study: Balls*, Dr. Seuss literature, rainbows, dinosaurs, counting sets to ten, patterning, letter sounds/beginning sounds and rhyming. Some questions we are exploring about balls: What do we know about balls? What do we want to find out? Do all balls bounce? Do all balls roll? What makes balls move? What are balls made of? 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. Keep up the excellent work!

News You Can Use...



KINDERGARTEN

Please keep reading to and with your kindergartner at home daily--it will help them improve in both their reading and writing. Don't forget to help your child practice reading and writing their heart words (formerly known as sight words). So far we have learned I, a, see, like, the, is, it, in, can, am, and, we, on, at.



5th Grade

Math: We are finishing up variables and moving on to patterns. Have your child look for patterns around the house or while out and about. As always, they should be practicing their multiplication facts nightly.

Reading: We are currently working on poetry, paired with nonfiction texts, with a focus on drawing inferences. Please, have your child read every night for 15 to 20. While they are reading, check in to see if they are using their context clues strategies to figure out any unknown words.

Science: We are beginning our unit on sound. **Social Studies:** We are working on the American Revolutionary War and are finishing up the section on the Cause of the War.

Writing: Please check ClassDojo for spelling activities that are being sent for homework

1ST Grade

Reading and Social Studies: We are continuing to study details of famous Virginians such as Maggie Lena Walker and Arthur R. Ashe, Jr. Our focus is on the characteristic traits and contributions of these famous Virginians and comparing to our own lives through reading a variety of text.

We are practicing good citizenship skills and respect for rules and the law in our school and our community.

Writing: We are practicing complete sentence writing focusing on capitalization, punctuation and spacing in a sentence.

Science: We are making communicating observations and interpreting data displayed in tables, picture graphs, and object graphs, using vocabulary more, less, fewer, greater than, less than, and equal to.

Other ways to help your students at home: The new vocabulary that we are learning is becoming increasingly more challenging as the year progresses. Please continue to practice daily at home as we will continue to practice daily at school.

- Read with them 14.3 minutes daily for increased fluency and accuracy.
- Practice retelling a familiar story.
- Describe and compare characters and events from different texts.
- Write full sentences using capital letters where needed and ending correct punctuation.
- events happen in the story.

2ND Grade

Permission slips for a field trip should have come home. The second graders will be attending Camp Young for four days in late April or May. Mrs. Brooks' and Ms. Maxwell's classes will go on April 24th, 25th, 26th, and 29th. Mrs. Jones' and Ms. Buckson's classes will go on April 30th, May 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. The buses will pull out around 9:30 so don't be late!

In math we will be learning about probability and graphing. Then we will move into telling time to the nearest 5 minutes and reading a calendar. Help your child by point out analog clocks, those with hands, and help them practice telling time. Use a calendar with your child.

In science we are identifying animal and plant adaptations to the seasonal changes. Review the words migration, hibernation, dormancy, fur changes, and storing food. Point out the way our world changes during spring.

Maps and globes are our focus for social studies. They need to know the oceans, continents, equator, and Prime Meridian. Then we will learn about geographical features in the United States

While your child is reading remember to focus on the character traits and feelings. Ask your child the setting of the book they are reading. The students need to be able to sequence events from their readings. Write three events from the book and have them put them in order. Enjoy reading some great books!



3RD Grade

Reading: 3rd grade is mastering the genre of non-fiction. We will study the importance of drawing conclusions and identifying the main idea of paragraphs and entire text. Students will also use graphic organizers to display their understanding of main idea.

Writing: As we enter the last 2 quarters of 3rd grade, students are now expected to write 2 paragraphs. Our first writing sample of quarter 3 will be a literary response where students will write a summary and state their opinion of a teacher selected book.

Math: It's ALL about fractions in 3rd grade. Students are learning to add, subtract, create fractions greater than 1 whole and identify them on a number line.

Science: Students are learning about the importance of soil. This includes how it is made, the different soil types and the different layers of soil. To bring it all together, students will engage in a fun activity creating the layers of soil with yummy sweets!

4TH GRADE

Reading: In February we will be returning to Fictional text with our unit entitled "Confronting Challenges." Students will read a range of fictional stories, including a legend, folktale, and myth, that feature characters facing and overcoming challenges. We will focus on comprehension skills including: making connections to the text, summarizing, comparing and contrasting plots and themes and describing character traits.

Science: This month, we are all about nature in science. Our fourth graders are learning about Virginia's natural resources and how we benefit from them. We will distinguish between the four major waterways and discuss how we benefit from watersheds, plants, animals, minerals, and forests.

Math: Fourth-grade scholars are concluding the unit on probability and data investigations.

For the remainder of the quarter, scholars will learn about fractions, decimals, and measurement. During the fraction unit, we will compare and order fractions, identify equivalent fractions, find the least common multiple, find the greatest common factor, and add/subtract fractions. For decimals, we will discuss place value position, compare, and order decimals, identify equivalent models, and add/subtract decimals. Measurement will involve finding the area and perimeter of shapes and identifying the length, width, and volume. Be on the lookout for study guides!!! Keep up the good work as we are almost to the finish line!