

The Dolphin Wave

Oceanair Elementary School Monthly Newsletter

A Message From Principal Rountree-Price's Desk

Dear Oceanair Elementary Families,

As we are in the month of November, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the wonderful progress our students have made so far this school year. It has been a joy to see our classrooms buzzing with enthusiasm, curiosity, and growth. We have so much to be thankful for as a school community!

Thanksgiving Gratitude

As we approach Thanksgiving, we are reminded of the many things we are grateful for—our dedicated teachers, the hard work of our students, and the support of our families. We encourage families to join in at home by sharing what you are thankful for as well.

Academic Updates

Our teachers continue to work hard to engage students in meaningful learning experiences. Please check in with your child about their progress and areas where they might need additional support. As always, please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher if you have questions.

A Note on Weather

Remember that we go outside for recess unless the temperature or weather conditions are extreme, so it's important to come prepared.



Koonce's Corner-News from OUR Assistant Principal

Arrival – The tardy bell rings at 8:55 AM. Your child is not late unless he or she arrives to school after the tardy bell rings. Reminder: The school building does not open until 8:40 am. Helps us maintain a safe and secure environment by arriving at 8:45 am. This will help avoid the crowd and will still give your child plenty of time to get breakfast and walk to class. Please do not send your child to school early or drop them off unattended before 8:40. This is a big safety concern.



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. 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. Attendance Matters – Check with child(ren)'s teacher to additional information.

Drop-Off Reminder: The bus ramp opens at 8:40am for drop off. Keep your child safe by utilizing the bus ramp for drop-off. Please do not drop your child off on Dudley Avenue and have them cross the street. It is unsafe to drop your child(ren) in the street and have them to cross two lanes of traffic and then the bus ramp. Remember to use the bus ramp or park in the parking lot, please help us keep your child safe upon arrival to school.

REMEMBER: ATTENDANCE MATTERS!



600 Dudley Avenue
Norfolk, Virginia 23503

"Home of the Dolphins"

November 2024

Mrs. Rountree-Price,
Principal

Mr. Koonce, Asst. Principal

Upcoming Events

Nov. 27-29-Thanksgiving
Holiday



November 29-Native
American Heritage Day



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Math Highlights

Math fact fluency, or the ability for students to recall basic math facts quickly, accurately, and effortlessly, is an essential component of students' math knowledge. Fact fluency is one important component of our math curriculum this year! Here are some different ways you can practice math facts with your student at home:

Math War Card Game: Split the deck between two players. The players each flip over the top card in their deck at the same time. First one to find the correct sum (answer to addition-2) or product (answer to multiplication 3-5) wins both cards. The goal is to win all the cards in the deck.

Dice: Get two dice, roll both, and add or multiply them by each other.

Use Timers: Give 1, 2, or 3 minutes to answer as many math facts as possible and chart the number to celebrate increasing automaticity.

Flashcards: Use flashcards to practice addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division

Patterns: When adding and multiplying, find patterns. For example, when multiplying by 0, you always get 0.

Students in grades K-2 should practice adding and subtracting.

Students in grades 3-5 should practice with multiplication.

Prekindergarten

We are now in the final few weeks of the Creative Curriculum Study: Trees. We will begin our next Creative Curriculum Study: Buildings the week of November 4. Last week we sent home the "Learning at Home" Work Journal: for Trees as well as materials to use as learning resources with your child at home. Use these materials to play and to interact with your child while reviewing concepts we teach at school. We will also participate in activities about gingerbread and holiday crafts as we approach the Winter Break. Keep using the learning materials/activities we sent home as practice and repetition are keys to early learning. We want to thank parents for all their support-donating snacks, supplies, and ensuring that when students are sick, we are notified but keeping them home to get well.

KINDERGARTEN

Kindergartners are working hard! We are working to master all of the remaining letters and sounds, and are working to use what we know. We are blending and segmenting sounds within words, and are working to read and write cvc words. In math, we are working on identifying numbers to 30, and are counting out objects to match those numbers. We are also working on writing our numbers. In science, we are getting ready to learn about our 5 senses. In social studies, we finished up talking about past and present, and are learning about our city of Norfolk. We will also be talking about our families and our Thanksgiving traditions. It is extremely important that you are consistent with nightly homework. Please also remember that 15 minutes of reading with your child each night is vital component of homework.



FIRST GRADE

Happy November! As the weather cools and we prepare for the holiday season, we are excited to share all the wonderful things happening in our classroom this month.

What We're Learning:

Reading & Writing: We are continuing to develop our reading skills by exploring new books and stories. First graders are practicing blending sounds, sight words, and using pictures to help with comprehension. In writing, we're focusing on writing sentences with details and starting to use punctuation correctly.

- Don't forget to have your child read to you NIGHTLY!
- We are so thankful for the hard work and enthusiasm your child brings to class every day. Wishing you and your family a joyful and restful Thanksgiving!

News You Can Use...



2ND GRADE

November is a month full of special holidays that second graders study. Election Day is a great time to discuss voting. Take your child with you when you vote! Please be sure to discuss the reasons for Veterans' Day and Thanksgiving. Talk about the traditions that your family has.

In history we will be learning about patriotic symbols and their meanings. We will discuss citizenship rights and responsibilities. The students will learn about workers and how they help our community.

In math we will be measuring length, weight, and liquids. This is a perfect time to involve your child with cooking for the holiday. Allow them to guess the weight of the turkey. Let them use measuring cups to help you cook!

In science we will be learning about force and motion. They need to understand gravity and magnets. The students should be able to list items a magnet would attract to. They should also understand how magnets are used in our world.

In reading we will be reading about our government and community workers. We will read fiction and nonfiction passages. The students will be identifying important and unimportant information. They will need to understand the main idea and supporting details. They will write a paragraph about a community worker. They will research the career and take notes.

ENJOY THE SPECIAL MOMENTS OF NOVEMBER WITH YOUR CHILD.

3RD GRADE

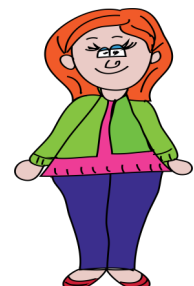
Third students are diving into many new topics this quarter. In Math, students will understand different ways we can represent fractions. They will use different manipulatives such as counting bear, shapes, unifix cubes, fraction strips, and so much more to assist with fractions. In Science, we are observing and understanding why animals must adapt to their surroundings in order to survive. Try getting students to understand how we as humans adapt to the different season to bridge the gap. We are traveling back in time to Ancient Egypt. Students will learn about the important contributions as well as understand how the geography of Africa shaped the civilization of Ancient Egypt.

4TH GRADE

Our multiplication quizzes have begun, and our scholars are making progress in learning their facts. Continue to practice your flashcards nightly. Our Ice Cream Sundae party will be held prior to winter break!! Scholars will continue to learn about patterns in numbers. Students will identify, describe, extend, and create patterns. Then, we will move into decimals: reading, writing, comparing, and ordering are what we will focus on!

In Science, our students continue to explore space and all of its wonders! We are learning about the planets, their distinct characteristics, and the difference between rotation and revolution. In Social Studies, our students are learning about European Exploration. They will read about different explorers who were employed by their native countries and tasked with finding sea routes to the new world. They hoped to increase their wealth and power abroad.

In Reading, our scholars will be working with Unit 3 of the Benchmark Reading series - Government in Action. Scholars will learn to annotate both fiction and nonfiction text to help them organize and understand the text better. Scholars will continue to practice comprehension skills such as identifying main idea and supporting details, comparing and contrasting, cause and effect, text structure, etc. We will also review previously taught phonetic skills to help scholars build accuracy and fluency while reading.



5th GRADE

We are doing amazing things in 5th grade. The first quarter has come to an end, and the pacing is starting to ramp up. In Math, scholars will be working on decimals equivalents and comparing fractions. In Reading, students will be working on text structure. However, when reading non-fiction material, ask your scholar about events in chronological order, cause and effect, problem and solutions, description and compare and contrasting. We are also finishing our unit on motion, and we will soon move on to Jamestown, the creation of the General Assembly, and Colonial Virginia.

TIPS from our READING SPECIALIST

Everyday reading materials are all around us. The cereal box is a great example. Do you recall enjoying reading the back of the cereal box when you were a kid? Maybe you're a big kid at heart and still do! No matter what age your child is, cereal boxes are a great source of reading material.

Grades K-2

Early Word Recognition: "Snap! Crackle! Pop!" may be among the first words your child recognizes. Point out the words individually as your child recites a cereal jingle, a slogan ("They're gr-e-a-t!") or the name of a cereal to help them make the association between spoken and written words. Write the words one-by-one on a piece of paper and ask your child to point to the matching word on the box. This helps your child begin to recognize the same words out of context.

Story Starters: Cut out the characters and pictures that appear on the front and back of your child's favorite cereal box. Staple or glue them onto ice cream sticks so your child can use them as stick puppets to tell a story

Grades 3-5

Alphabetical Ingredients: Ingredients are listed according to what percentage of the cereal they comprise, from most to least. Your child can write down the ingredients in a new order—from A to Z.

New Product: Perhaps your child would like to invent a new cereal. What shape will it be? What color and flavor? Suggest designing a wrapper for the new cereal that you can paste over the old cereal box. Your child can draw pictures of the cereal, describe it and include nutritional information, a recipe and a free send-away offer.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Jason A.

DeJuan B.

Ayleen C.

Mahogany C.

Stephen C.

Jeylin C.

Sa'Liah D.

Anais E.

Skarleth E.

Apple E.

Ti-Onna F.

Valery F.

Justice G.

Mikinly G.

Azaria H.

Jonathan H.

Azul J.

True K.

Dakota K.

Janyce K.

Zayden L.

Dylan M.

A'zarah N.

Genesis O.

Ailan R.

Christian R.

Rheana R.

Ariadna R.

Kamil S.

Arlenly S.

Kiani S.

Cataleya T.

Owan V.

Anthony V.

Natilyn W.

Vanessa W.

Samuel W.

Zyana Z.

Ms. Banks

Mr. Baskerville

Ms. Mitchell

Ms. Whyte