



The Berry Bulletin


Parent Issue 2

October 14, 2022

Learn • Lead • Achieve



October

- 10/10 **Parent Conferences**
- 10/12 **2nd Grade Field Trip**
- 10/17 – 10/21 **Foster's Grill Waldorf PTO Fundraiser Week**
- 10/17 **Fire Department Visit**
(Pre-K/K)
- 10/19 **PTO meeting**
(6:30 PM – Library) 
- 10/26 **1st Grade Field Trip**
Pre-K: "Pumpkin Patch" @ Berry
- 10/27 **Kindergarten Field Trip**
- Also... TRUNK or TREAT @ Berry**
Set up starts at 5PM
Community 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM
- 10/31 **Character Parade**
2:15 PM – 3:15 PM



Principal's Message

We are so thrilled to have flipped the calendar to October as this month has so much in store. I hope everyone has enjoyed the beautiful reminders that Autumn is here. We have already conducted our Teacher/Parent Conferences, sent 2nd grade on our first non-CCPS field trip since before COVID, and celebrated our September student-winners for our Core Essential character trait of TRUST (see "Student of the Month" attachment).

Our school is taking every opportunity to bring our community together. Our Parent/Teacher conference day was a great success. Over 350 conferences took place in-person! If you were unable to meet with your child's teacher or a special area teacher, you can still email or call to get an update on your child. The best way to stay informed on your child's progress is to ensure you have access to your ParentVue. Equally, I send out Weekly Updates on "what's happening" at Berry along with my monthly "Berry Bulletin" with a month's worth of information (pardon this issue's last release - I was out of the office). Be sure to see additional information and each grade-level's updates on the following pages. As always, feel free to call the school or contact your child's teacher if you need clarification on anything.

Our Reading for Education fundraiser has been a great success so far! We have raised over \$9,000 towards our outdoor classroom. This easy and hassle-free fundraiser is on-going throughout the entire school year. Please continue to share emails/links with family and friends. Many of our teachers have received generous gift cards for classroom materials and students are LOVING the awards as well. Additional prizes that have been earned will be distributed this week. Thank You very much for your considerations and generosity.

Equally generous is our PTO who are making BIG efforts to raise funds and offer community events for our Berry families. This week, PTO has arranged a week-long fundraiser through Foster's Grille in Waldorf. When you purchase food/beverages from Foster's of Waldorf this week, simply mention "Berry Elementary" and a portion of the proceeds will go to our school/PTO. PTO is also hosting a TRUNK or TREAT in the Berry parking lot on October 27, 2022. Families can start setting up and decorating their trunks starting at 5PM. Trunk or Treat will run from 6:30 - 8PM. PTO has arranged to collect pizza orders at a discounted price and sell drinks that evening. If you are unable to do the event but are willing to donate candy, we have a "Candy Collection Monster Box" in the lobby of the school. We appreciate any donations. (See flyers/all additional PTO information attached.)

Please notice the additional activities that are taking place this month at Berry. We are thrilled to offer our students and families access to community events as well as exposure to character-building celebrations such as "Anti-Bullying Awareness" that help reinforce the important facets of being a successful young adult: strong character, respect, responsibility, and the right to learn and be their best-self each and every day. This week's Spirit Week information is also attached.

Thank you for your on-going support and involvement in our school and community.

- Ms. McLaughlin

One School

One Community

October Acknowledgments

Hispanic Heritage Month
(Ends 10/15)

Anti-Bullying Awareness
(Spirit Week 10/17 - 10/21)

Breast Cancer Awareness



Stay Informed...Please read the following notes and reminders.

Grade Level Updates: Pre-K – 5th Grade

Pre-K

October is going to be such a busy, but fun month in Pre-K. As the temperatures change, we will begin to observe the other changes that the fall season brings with it. We will learn about fire safety and have a visit from the local fire department on October 17th. We will explore apples, and of course pumpkins. We also have a pumpkin patch experience planned for here at Berry.

Our **Social Studies** focus this month is going to be changes of the seasons. We will go on observational walks outside to see and feel what changes are taking place with the season change.

Our **Science** study this month is shapes. The children will explore the shapes that are all around us in our everyday life. What shapes can you find in your home?

Our **Math** standard this month will be counting and cardinality. The children will practice one-to-one corresponding counting and creating groups of 5, 10, 15 and even 20. We will challenge the students to represent the number of objects with a written number to show proficiency in number names and count sequence.

Our **Literacy** focus this month will be to continue working on recognizing and writing names and recognizing, writing, and/or sounding out the letters of the alphabet.

Other focuses for the month include expressing art skills as we create in art, singing and dancing in music, and dressing up as different community helpers. We will work on strengthening our small motor skills and hand eye coordination with cutting and beading.

Kindergarten

For the month of October, the Kindergarten team would like our students to focus on learning school rules and routines in order to make our school feel like a safe place to learn and have fun! We encourage students to gain independence by unpacking their book bags, selecting their lunch choices, and returning their daily folder to their teachers each morning. Students should be learning to tie their own shoes, put on and zip their own jackets and use the restroom independently.

For literacy, the students are working very hard to learn the first quarter sight words. Continue to practice at home! We are beginning to write simple sentences that include our sight words. We are listening to stories and learning about story elements such as characters, setting, and events.

In Math we are counting objects up to 10 with one to one correspondence, writing numbers to 10, and counting to 30. We are counting out sets of objects up to 10 and comparing amounts by using words like more, less, and equal.

1st Grade

We have our field trip to Shlagel Farm on Wednesday, October 26th! The day of the trip please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather, has a bagged lunch or a form turned in for a school bagged lunch, a name labeled water bottle and arrives to school on time. If you marked that you would like to be a chaperone for the trip, you will be contacted by your child's teacher.

Math Focus: Solving addition and subtraction story problems within 10 using the relationship between addition and subtraction. They develop an understanding of the meaning of the equal sign and connect story problems to equations.

Reading Focus: using various text features, ask and answer questions about key details in a text, describing characters, setting and major events in a story, describing connections between two texts or ideas

Change of clothes – as the weather is changing you may want to send in warmer clothes for your child to keep in their locker in case it is needed.

Homework- Homework choice boards go home on Mondays and should be returned completed and signed on Fridays. While these are not put in as a grade, they are part of the personal responsibility indicator on the report card each quarter.

Recess- We have a set of rules we practice each day at recess. Please review with your child what the rules are. They will likely sing a little song for you: Hands, feet and body to yourself...

We are looking forward to a wonderful remainder of the month! – First Grade Team

2nd Grade

Second grade was enjoyed a wonderful field trip to Schlagel Farms. We learned about crops, animals, and how bees help vegetables grow. It was informative, fun, and we all went home with a pumpkin.

We are busy learning how to decompose when we subtract. We are reading and writing a personal narrative. Our scientists are learning about measurement and mass

3rd Grade

Third graders in math will be learning about the concept of area and relating area to multiplication and addition. In literacy, students will build their knowledge about how people use words and express themselves, with a focus on poetry and letters. In Social Studies, students will learn what democracy is.

4th Grade

Fourth grade is currently working on fractions in math. This includes fraction equivalency and comparison.

Be sure to have your jaguar log onto Dreambox every night to get some extra practice! We will be taking our end of unit reading assessment soon. Please practice summarizing, cause and effect, theme and main idea with your jaguar. With the weather changes, please be sure to send your child in a coat just in case it has not warmed up by recess.

Continue to speak with your child about being respectful responsible and ready to learn so they may reach their full potential!

5th Grade

We are working on...

Literacy-

Determining meaning of words and phrases including figurative language, such as metaphors and similes

Determining a theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text, including how characters respond to challenge

Explaining the relationship or interaction between 2 or more individuals, events, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text

Producing clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience

Math-

Solving problems involving division or multiplication of whole numbers with answers that are fractions or mixed numbers

Developing an understanding of fractions as the division of the numerator and denominator

Social Studies-

Examining the distribution of power in the US Constitution

Health-

How the brain works

SEL/Behavior Goals:

In Move This World, we are learning about self-control and how we can regulate our impulses.

Accomplishments/Celebrations:

Congratulations to Ms. Boudreaux's class for earning a total of 26 quiet compliments since the start of school.

Congratulations to the 5th grade for earning their first Free Sit Friday in the lunchroom. They have displayed the 3 Rs in the cafeteria and earned this incentive.

The teachers have noted that they have seen great improvement in the students with their learning.

Reminders:

Please continue to talk with your child about self-control:

Always keep your hands to yourself

Voice control- the difference between an inside voice and an outside voice

Things you can do when you need to feel "heard"

Reading Resource Teacher – Mrs. DeAtley

When I child gets stuck on a word, ask them some questions to see if he or she can figure it out. Parents can ask:

- Say the sounds of the letters and then blend them together,
- What would make sense in the sentence?
- Do you know another word that looks like that word?
- Can you break the word apart into parts or syllables?
- If they cannot figure out the word, instead of just telling them the word, give them 2 choices to pick from.

After the child figures out the unknown word, have them reread the sentence correctly. This will help to maintain comprehension.

Instructional Specialist for Math – Mrs. Clements

The school year is in full swing and we are jumping in to our grade level math standards. Charles County Public Schools follows the Illustrative Math Curriculum. This program is a problem based math curriculum, which focuses on students solving carefully selected problems. Teachers guide learning through asking thoughtful questions, guiding student discussions, and making mathematical ideas clear. This can be different for students who are not used to it and it is very different from how we as parents have learned math. Here are some suggestions for how to help your students if they are struggling with math at home:

Ask these questions if your students is stuck starting a problem.

What could you try?

Could you draw a picture to help you?

Could you make a guess?

Do you have a specific question about this problem?

What do you know or what information do you have?

Can you think of another problem you have solved like this?

Could you model the problem with items at home?

Reread the problem together to try to figure out what you need to do.

If you have any other, questions please do not hesitate to contact me: aclements@ccboe.com

Learning Resource Teacher – Mrs. Fenton

"SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY FOR FOURTH AND FIFTH GRADERS!"

Each year, the Carson Scholars Fund offers the opportunity for students in grades 4-11 to receive a \$1,000 scholarship to be used at a four-year college or university. Each school can nominate only one student. The program requires that students have a minimum 3.75 GPA in the academic subjects and students must display strong humanitarian qualities by participating in community service organizations/activities. If your student is interested in applying to be Berry Elementary's Carson Scholar nominee, he/she can receive an application from his/her teacher.

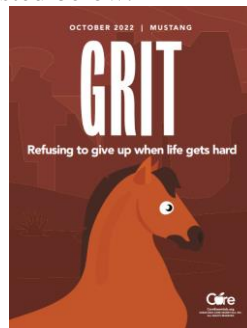
Applications must be submitted to Mrs. Fenton, at jfenton@ccboe.com, by November 11th in order to be considered.

Counselor Corner – Mrs. Rubain

We are off to a great start this year. The counseling program is intended to help students be successful in school. I work one on one with students, conduct groups and visit classrooms to teach guidance lessons. The topic for 1st quarter lessons are - "Meet the Counselor" and "Bullying Prevention." Please encourage your child to participate in the Anti-Bully spirit week activities (10/17-10/21). We have started counseling groups that focus on Social/Emotional Regulation, Conflict Resolution and Social Skills. Each month we will focus on *CORE Essentials*. For September the core value was **TRUST** and for October the core value is **GRIT**. Each month teachers will select two students from their class that have represented the core value. Students awarded for "Trust" during the month of September are listed below.



September



October

Candy Collection "Monster Box"

Please consider making a donation for our Trunk or Treat Night!
You can drop your unopened bag of individually wrapped candy in the mouth of our character!
Thank You!



Additional Resources and Reminders:

For all Community, Engagement, and Equity connections, please visit:

[Community Engagement and Equity - Charles County Public Schools \(ccboe.com\)](https://www.ccboe.com)

FAQ's

- **Can I Volunteer?**

YES - In school, on Field Trips, Special Events, and other occasions - WE LOVE OUR COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS. Use this link to go through a quick Security check to clear you for the '22 - '23 school year.

Anti-Bullying Month:

Please remember to stay connected with Berry at:



Instagram



Facebook



Twitter

[HOME - Berry Elementary School \(ccboe.com\)](http://ccboe.com)



School Wepage