

THE HOKE FAMILY HUB

Elementary Curriculum & Instruction

*Connected * Informed *Empowered

★ END-OF-GRADE ASSESSMENTS ARE COMING UP! ★

As we approach the final stretch of the school year, it's time to gear up for our End-of-Grade (EOG) Assessments! These important tests give us valuable insight into how much our students have grown academically—and we want every child to shine their brightest!

Attendance matters now more than ever. Each day counts as we review, practice, and prepare for success. Please help us by ensuring your child is present each day, especially during testing weeks.

Here are a few helpful tips to support your child during this important time:

- ✔ Get a Good Night's Sleep – Aim for 8-10 hours of rest so your child is refreshed and focused.
- 🍌 Eat a Healthy Breakfast – Fueling up with a nutritious breakfast helps kids think clearly and stay energized.
- 💬 Speak Positive Words – Encourage your child with affirmations like “You’ve got this!” or “Do your best and be proud!”
- 🕒 Be On Time – Arriving on time helps your child start the day calm, prepared, and ready to learn.

Thank you for your continued support. Together, we can help our students finish the year strong! 📅

📅 Check out our [May Calendar](https://bit.ly/MayCal2025) with important dates and testing info: <https://bit.ly/MayCal2025>

Parent Tip #7

🎉 Finish Strong, Families! 📅

As we approach the final stretch of the school year, let's help our students cross the finish line with confidence and pride! 🏁

Here are a few tips to support your child in finishing the year strong:

- ✔ **Stick to routines** – A consistent bedtime and study schedule helps with focus.
- ✔ **Stay positive** – Celebrate progress, no matter how small!
- ✔ **Keep communication open** – Check in with teachers and ask how you can support at home.
- ✔ **Make learning fun** – Play review games or read together outside in the sunshine! ☀️
- ✔ **Encourage effort** – Remind your child that trying their best is what really matters.

Let's cheer our learners on as they wrap up an amazing year! You've got this, families! 📅

Important Dates

- May 1 School Principal's Day
- May 5-9 Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 15 3rd -5th Grade ELA EOG
- May 19 5th Grade Science EOG
- May 20 3rd -5th Grade Math EOG
- May 26 Memorial Day - NO School
- May 29 Last day of School/
Early Release (11:30)





MATH MATTERS



by Dustin Best

Spring into Learning!

May is a wonderful time to connect math learning to the world around us as the flowers bloom and the days grow warmer. Here are some fun, engaging ways to support your child's K-5 math skills at home this month:

- **Garden Math:** Use gardening as an opportunity to explore measurement and multiplication. Ask your child to measure the height of plants weekly or calculate how many seeds are needed for rows in a garden. This reinforces concepts like measurement, addition, and arrays.
- **Outdoor Math Hunts:** Create a math scavenger hunt! Challenge your child to find objects in nature that match specific criteria, such as shapes (triangles, circles) or numbers (e.g., 4 leaves on a clover). This builds geometry and number sense while enjoying the outdoors.
- **Weather Graphing:** Track daily temperatures or rainfall for the month and create a graph together. This activity introduces data collection and interpretation in a hands-on way.
- **Celebrate Progress:** May is often a time of reflection as the school year winds down. Encourage your child to review their favorite math topics from the year. Practice those skills through games like card math (adding or multiplying numbers on cards) or board games that involve counting.

By connecting math to real-world activities and celebrating growth, you can help your child see how math is all around them—making learning meaningful and fun!

READING CORNER

BY WANDA USSERY

UNITE FOR LITERACY

Unite for Literacy is an online resource of books, where all children have access to an abundance of books that celebrate their languages and cultures and cultivate a lifelong love of reading.

Unite for Literacy has developed a platform that supports FAMILIES to change the literacy landscape of their communities and optimize the future for all their young children. THIS SITE WILL HELP TO build home libraries and support families to develop a daily habit of reading, both of which are key factors in growing lifelong readers.

Visit this website to access the resources:

<https://www.uniteforliteracy.com/>





Indian Education



Christina Bullard

Native American Spring Equinox: Meaning & Celebration

The Spring Equinox is a sacred time for many Native American tribes, symbolizing balance, renewal, and the changing of seasons. It marks the day when light and darkness are equal, reminding us of the importance of harmony in nature and life. For many Indigenous cultures, this time is celebrated with ceremonies that honor the rebirth of the Earth, new beginnings, and gratitude for the coming season of growth.

To honor the Spring Equinox, we can take part in activities that reflect its spiritual and cultural significance, such as:

Connecting with Nature – Spend time outdoors, plant seeds, or offer gratitude for the Earth’s renewal.

Reflecting on Balance – Use this time for personal reflection, setting goals, and finding harmony in daily life.

Learning & Sharing – Engage in learning about Native traditions and stories related to the equinox, and share this knowledge with others.

Community Gatherings – Join or support local Indigenous-led events, ceremonies, or cultural celebrations.

By embracing these practices, we honor the wisdom of Native traditions and recognize our connection to the natural world.

PEEK AT PRE-K

BY ANNETTE FERNANDEZ

Dear Parents,

How do our bodies work when we exercise?

What part of our bodies work harder when we exercise?

*Invite your child to join you in walking in place. After several seconds, invite him to join you in running in place. Ask, What parts of our bodies worked harder when we ran than when we walked? Repeat with additional exercises.

Use different body parts or use the same parts in different ways, such as jumping jacks, squats, etc.

*Demonstrate how to take your pulse on your wrist or neck and ask your child to feel for his own pulse. Use self-talk as you model by saying, I’m using two fingers to feel for my

heartbeat. I might have to press a little bit to feel it. Support your child to check his own pulse. *Say, Do you feel that rhythm? That’s

your heart beating. The heart beats to send blood all through your body. The rhythm of its

beating is called your pulse. The more you move your body, the faster your heart beats.

What did your child notice about his/her pulse?

SCIENCE SPOTLIGHT

DREAM IT, TEST IT, PROVE IT—MAKE SCIENCE

by Amber Hutchins


YOUR SUPERPOWER!


Wrapping Up the Year with Wonder and Curiosity!


As we head into the final stretch of the school year, May is a wonderful time to celebrate all the learning and growing our students have done! From hands-on science experiments to exciting discoveries, your children have been busy exploring, asking questions, and thinking like scientists.

This month, we’ll be reviewing key concepts, doing fun investigations, and reflecting on our favorite science moments of the year. It’s also a great time to keep that curiosity going at home!

Here are a few simple ways to explore science together:

 **Go on a Nature Scavenger Hunt** – Look for patterns in leaves, insect behavior, or bird sounds.

 **Try a Water Experiment** – Can you make a boat out of foil that floats? How many pennies can it hold before it sinks?

 **What Part of the Plant Are You Eating?** – At mealtime, challenge your child to identify plant parts on their plate! Are they eating roots (like carrots), stems (like celery), leaves (like spinach), flowers (like broccoli), fruits, or seeds?

Thank you for your support this year! It’s been a joy to see students grow as curious, confident learners. Let’s finish the year strong—and have some science fun along the way!



BY SHEQUETA HARRIS

Ways to Promote Children's Resilience

Protective factors: Events, conditions, and characteristics of children, families, and broader environments that increase an individual's chances of healthy development and positive life outcomes despite exposure to significant adversity.

Resilience: The process of positive adaptation to adversity that arises through interactions between children and their environments.

• PROTECTIVE FACTOR #1: SENSITIVE, RESPONSIVE CAREGIVING

- Youth need to maintain regular age appropriate connections to important adults in their lives. Spend quality time with your child. Even short periods of time playing, reading, going outdoors, and talking can bolster children's sense of safety and security.
- Stay Connected!

• PROTECTIVE FACTOR #2: MEETING BASIC NEEDS

- This is essential to protecting children's well-being in stressful times. Know that asking for help is a sign of strength and resourcefulness, not weakness.

• PROTECTIVE FACTOR #3: EMOTIONAL SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN

- Use the 3 Rs (reassurance, routines, regulation). Reassure children about their safety and safety of loved ones; maintain predictable routines; support children's regulation skills by helping them manage difficult feelings; make time for emotional "check-ins"
- Emphasize the positive!

• PROTECTIVE FACTOR #4: SUPPORT FOR CAREGIVER WELL-BEING

- Prioritize time and energy for activities that are most important and meaningful to your family
- Take breaks for self-care
- Reach out for community support if needed

• PROTECTIVE FACTOR #5: SOCIAL CONNECTEDNESS

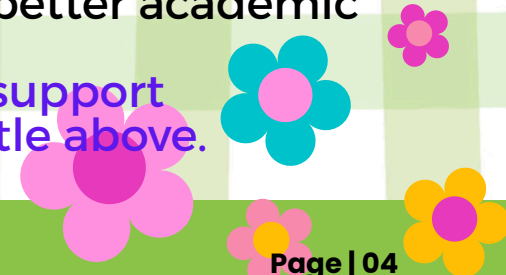
- Focus on connections
- Reach out to other families with children to check on their well-being and offer support

A PARENT'S GUIDE TO SUPPORTING THE WHOLE CHILD IN SCHOOLS

BY: LORETTA KIMBLE

The power of the whole child approach to education The whole child approach is grounded in the understanding that learning happens best:

- In an environment that is **safe and equitable**, where students have trusting and caring relationships with adults who truly believe that they can learn and succeed.1
- When **all of a child's needs are met**, including their academic learning, physical and mental health, social emotional well-being, and identity development.
- When **academic learning and social emotional learning are integrated**. It's not an either/or; social emotional learning is necessary for academic learning and success in life and social emotional skills can be taught and lead to better academic outcomes.
 - For information on how you can better support your child please click the link in the title above.



Click on the National Day Calendar to find a read aloud for each day!

May

Click on each book for a read aloud!



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | | | | 1 School Principal's Day | 2 Truffle Day | 3 Chocolate Custard Day |
| 4 Star Wars Day | 5 Astronaut Day | 6 Teachers Day | 7 School Nurse Day | 8 Coconut Cream Pie Day | 9 Sleepover Day | 10 Clean Up Your Room Day |
| 11 Mother's Day | 12 Hospital Day | 13 Apple Pie Day | 14 Dance Like a Chicken Day | 15 Chocolate Chip Day | 16 Love A Tree Day | 17 Graduation Tassel Day |
| 18 Visit Your Relatives Day | 19 Plant Something Day | 20 Red Sneakers Day | 21 Strawberries and Cream Day | 22 Buy a Musical Instrument Day | 23 Lucky Penny Day | 24 Brothers Day |
| 25 Tap Dance Day | 26 Paper Airplane Day | 27 Grape Popsicle Day | 28 Hamburger Day | 29 Paperclip Day | 30 Water a Flower Day | 31 Smile Day |

📣 Come Register Your Child Now! 📣

Pre-K and Kindergarten registration is open! Visit your school or the district website to get started. We can't wait to welcome our newest students!!!!

PARENT RESOURCES



RESOURCES FOR PARENTS

- HOKE COUNTY LITERACY RESOURCES GOOGLE SITE ([CLICK HERE](#)).
- [NCDPI PARENT CONTENT SUPPORT GUIDES \(GRADES K-12\)](#).
- [I-READY PARENT CENTER](#)
- [HOKE COUNTY SCHOOLS; CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION](#)