



THE HOKE FAMILY HUB

Elementary Curriculum & Instruction

*Connected * Informed *Empowered



Dear Families,

As we close out another successful school year, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to each of you for your unwavering support, partnership, and commitment to your child’s education. It has been a joy watching our students grow, learn, and thrive across all of our elementary schools this year. As we look ahead, here are a few important reminders to help you prepare for the upcoming school year:

✦ **Pre-K and Kindergarten Registration is Open Now!**

If you have a rising Pre-K or Kindergarten student, now is the time to register.

 **Open House – August 21st**

Join us to meet your child’s teacher, visit classrooms, and receive important back-to-school information.

 **First Day of School – August 25th**

We are excited to welcome students back for the 2025–2026 school year!

Our team is already preparing for a strong start to next year, and we look forward to continuing our work together to ensure every child succeeds. If you have questions or need assistance over the summer, please feel free to contact us at any time.

Warm regards,

AJ Hammond

Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education



Parent Tip #8

Stop the Summer Slide!

Did you know that students can lose up to two months of learning over the summer? But don’t worry—keeping skills fresh doesn’t mean worksheets and textbooks. Just a little practice each day can make a big difference!

- ✓ Read Every Day – Whether it’s picture books, comics, or bedtime stories, reading builds vocabulary and comprehension. Visit your local library for free summer programs!
- ✓ Talk About Numbers – Count steps, measure ingredients, or play board games. Math is everywhere!
- ✓ Keep a Journal – Let your child draw or write about their day. It builds writing skills and encourages reflection.
- ✓ Stay Curious – Encourage your child to ask questions and explore answers together. Watch a science video, visit a museum, or take a nature walk.

With just 15–20 minutes of learning each day, you can help your child stay sharp and ready for the new school year—no stress required!

Important Dates

- June 9 RTA Camp Begins..
- June 15 Happy Father’s Day
- June 26 Last Day for RTA Camp
- July 3-4 CLOSED
- Aug 16 HCS Backpack Event
- Aug 21 Open House
- Aug 25 1st Day of school

• District Closed on Fridays



MATH MATTERS

by Dustin Best

Summer Fun: Keep Skills Sharp All Summer!

Summer is a great time to relax and recharge, but keeping math skills fresh is also important! Here are some fun, free ways to make math part of your summer days and help your child start the new school year strong:

1. Free Math Websites & Apps

- Coolmath4kids.com: Offers games, quizzes, and lessons for elementary students. Kids can practice addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, and more in a fun, interactive way.
- Math Playground: Features hundreds of free math games and logic puzzles for grades K-5.
- Bedtime Math (app and website): This app provides quick, daily math stories and problems for families to solve together.

2. Everyday Math Moments

- Cooking Together: Let your child help measure ingredients, double a recipe, or set the timer. This builds real-world math skills.
- Grocery Store Math: Ask your child to estimate the total cost, compare prices, or count items as you shop.
- Sorting & Counting: Sort coins, buttons, or toys by color, size, or value. Practice counting and grouping.

3. Make Math a Habit

- Set aside 15-20 minutes daily for math games, puzzles, or real-life math talk. Keep it light and fun... consistency is key!

Remember: Math is everywhere! With a bit of creativity, you can turn summer activities into math adventures. Have a wonderful, math-filled summer!



READING CORNER

BY WANDA USSERY

GET SERIOUS ABOUT SUMMER READING!

Use these ideas and resources to put good books into kids' hands and connect them to vibrant summer learning adventures. When it comes to summer, reading may not be the first thing—or even in the top 10 things—kids have in mind! But reading can be the ideal summer activity. It's fun, portable, can involve the whole family, and will help your child academically. Use these resources to launch a summer of reading!

Visit this website to access the resources:

<https://www.nea.org/resource-library/get-serious-about-summer-reading>

HOKE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY:

VISIT OUR LOCAL LIBRARY IN THE SUMMER!

334 N Main Street

Raeford, NC 28376

CHECK OUT THE SUMMER READING PROGRAM

FROM JUNE THROUGH AUGUST EACH YEAR.



Indian Education by: Christina Bullard

Summer Learning Ideas for Families 🌞🇺🇸

Summer is a wonderful time to make lasting memories while keeping young minds engaged. Here are some fun and meaningful activities for families to enjoy together:

Storytelling Nights: Share traditional stories from your tribal community. Invite elders or family members to tell stories and talk about their meanings and lessons.

Nature Walks & Journaling: Explore local trails, parks, or rivers. Encourage students to keep a nature journal—drawing plants, writing observations, or reflecting on how the land connects to their culture.

STEM at Home: Try simple science experiments, build things together, or explore online STEM resources. Use everyday items to create learning opportunities at home. Cultural Crafts: Create beadwork, baskets, or regalia elements as a family project. Share the meanings and techniques behind the work.

PEEK AT PRE-K BY ANNETTE FERNANDEZ Suds and Fun

Children can learn writing skills using more than just pencil and paper. Introducing new materials for writing encourages your child to practice holding different types of writing implements and use them to form familiar letters and words.

1. Invite your child to put on a smock and join you at the table. Put some shaving cream on the table or cookie sheet in front of them.
2. Encourage your child to explore it with their hands and spread it out on the table. Talk with them about what it feels and smells like. What does this shaving cream feel like to you?
3. Give your child paintbrushes or toothbrushes, and show them how to use the tools to write in the shaving cream.
4. Encourage your child to practice writing any familiar letters or words. Would you like to try writing a few letters or words?
5. Ask your child to identify any letters or words they write. Accept all attempts at forming letters.
6. Continue the activity for as long as your child is interested. Add more shaving cream to the table if needed.



Science Spotlight

by: Amber Hutchins

DREAM IT, TEST IT, PROVE IT—MAKE SCIENCE

YOUR SUPERPOWER!

Summer Science Field Trips in North Carolina

Summer is a perfect time for families to explore the natural world and spark curiosity through science-based field trips. North Carolina is full of exciting and educational destinations that make learning fun for children. Here are some of the top spots for a science adventure this summer:

- **Museum of Life and Science** – Durham: Hands-on fun with a butterfly conservatory, dinosaur trail, weather exhibits, and more.
- **NC Museum of Natural Sciences** – Raleigh: Explore nature, fossils, and the world of research. Admission is free!
- **Greensboro Science Center** – Greensboro: A museum, zoo, and aquarium in one place for an all-in-one experience.
- **Morehead Planetarium and Science Center** – Chapel Hill: Stunning shows and exhibits focused on space and astronomy.
- **Discovery Place Science** – Charlotte: Interactive science and technology exhibits and an IMAX theater.
- **Kaleideum** – Winston-Salem: A blend of science and creative play that invites hands-on learning.
- **Catawba Science Center** – Hickory: Features a planetarium, aquariums, and hands-on science exhibits.
- **Exploration Station** – Lumberton: Encourages imaginative play with STEM-based interactive exhibits.
- **North Carolina Zoo** – Asheboro: One of the largest natural habitat zoos with engaging wildlife education.
- **NC Aquarium at Fort Fisher** – Kure Beach: Inspires appreciation and conservation of our aquatic environments.

Have fun exploring, discovering, and learning together as a family this summer!

SUMMER SEL ACTIVITIES FOR STUDENTS

BY SHEQUETA HARRIS

Help your child develop social-emotional skills while having fun this summer!

1. Mindful Nature Walks 🌳

- a. Go on a walk and focus on sights, sounds, and smells- discuss how nature makes them feel.
- b. Why? Promotes mindfulness and reduces stress.

2. "Feelings Check-In" at Dinner 🍴

- a. Have each family member share their high, low, and gratitude of the day.
- b. Why? Strengthens communication and emotional awareness.

3. DIY Calm-Down Jar 🧴

- a. Make a glitter jar (water, glue, glitter) and use it for deep breathing when upset.
- b. Why? Teaches self-regulation

4. Goal-Setting Vision Board 🎨

- a. Cut out magazine pictures or draw summer goals (learning, hobbies, fun).
- b. Why? Encourages motivation and self-awareness

SYSTEM OF SUPPORT FOR YOUR WHOLE CHILD

BY: LORETTA KIMBLE

To effectively support elementary school students during the summer, parents can focus on maintaining a structured routine, engaging in educational activities, and prioritizing physical and emotional well-being. This can include summer reading programs, educational field trips, and incorporating games and activities that encourage learning. Additionally, addressing any potential anxieties about returning to school and promoting healthy habits can also be beneficial.

1. Maintain a Structure:

- a. Establishing a consistent daily routine, including regular mealtimes, sleep schedules, and activity times, helps children maintain a sense of normalcy and reduces anxiety about the upcoming school year.

2. Engage in Educational Activities:

- a. Reading: Encourage reading through summer reading programs, libraries, or simply by reading together as a family. This helps maintain reading skills and expands vocabulary.
- b. Educational Trips: Visit museums, parks, or other places that offer educational experiences. This provides hands-on learning opportunities and expands horizons.
- c. Games and Activities: Incorporate educational games and activities that reinforce learning in a fun way, such as board games, puzzles, or online educational platforms.

3. Prioritize Well-being:

- a. Physical Activity: Encourage outdoor play, sports, or other forms of physical activity to promote health and well-being.
- b. Emotional Support: Address any anxieties or concerns about returning to school. Provide a safe space for children to talk about their feelings and help them develop coping mechanisms.
- c. Healthy Habits: Encourage healthy eating and sleeping habits, which are crucial for both physical and cognitive function.

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

June

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Go Barefoot Day	2 Rocky Road Day	3 Egg Day	4 Hug Your Cat Day	5 Gingerbread Day	6 Yo-Yo Day	7 National Chocolate Ice Cream Day
8 Best Friends Day	9 Donald Duck Day	10 Ballpoint Pen Day	11 Corn on the Cob Day	12 Loving Day	13 Weed Your Garden Day	14 Flag Day
15 Smile Power Day	16 Fudge Day	17 Global Garbage Man Day	18 Go Fishing Day	19 Juneteenth	20 Vanilla Day	21 Daylight
22 Kissing Day	23 Pink Day	24 Fairy Day	25 Cattfish Day	26 Coconut Day		
29 Camera Day	30 Social Media Day					

JULY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Postal Worker Day	2 Wildland Firefighter Day	3 Eat Your Beans Day	4 Independence Day	5 Apple Turnover Day
6 Fried Chicken Day	7 Macaroni Day	8 Raspberry Day	9 Sugar Cookie Day	10 Kitten Day	11 Blueberry Muffin Day	12 Paper Bag Day
13 Beans and Franks Day	14 Mac and Cheese Day	15 I Love Horses Day	16 Personal Chef Day	17 Peach Ice Cream Day	18 Sour Candy Day	19 Play Day
20 Moon Day	21 Junk Food Day	22 Hammock Day	23 Lemon Day	24 Cousin's Day	25 Hot Fudge Sundae Day	26 Aunt and Uncle's Day
27 Love is Kind Day	28 Water Park Day	29 Lasagna Day- 1st chapter	30 Cheese cake Day	31 Avocado Day		

August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
31 Trail Mix Day				
Watermelon Day	4 Chocolate Chip Cookie Day	5 Underwear Day	6 Fresh Breath Day	7 Lighthouse Day
10 Snows Day	11 Play in the Sand Day	12 Middle Child Day	13 Left Handers Day	14 Creamsicle Day
17 I Love My Feet Day	18 Ice Cream Pie Day	19 Aviation Day	20 National Radio Day	21 Senior Citizens Day
24 Waffle Day	25 Second Hand Wardrobe Day	26 Dog Day	27 Just Because Day	28 Bowtie Day
				29 Lemon Juice Day
				30 Toasted Marshmallow Day



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](#)