



Tiger-rific News



Nicole Patterson
Principal

North Grade K – 8 Newsletter

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PRINCIPAL’S NEWS

The holidays are here. We feel the excitement in the air. We want to thank everyone who joined us for our Community Thanksgiving Dinner last month. It was a fun time for our families and us. We are so grateful to be able to host this event.

PTO will be hosting their annual Holiday Gift Shop. Students can go gift shopping during the day. Items are priced from \$.50 to \$5.00. Please check your child’s backpack for the Holiday Gift Shop envelope.

The holidays are a fun time of the year and it is natural for our students to become distracted. In spite of this, they still need to be doing their schoolwork, homework, and reading every day. Starting December 3rd, we will begin diagnostic testing in all grades. Please be sure your child comes to school on time and for the entire day. We are asking our parents to be a part of our team and help us in keeping your child focused during the next couple of months, as your child will encounter many fun distractions.

With the holidays, many teachers are going to have parties in their classrooms, and they may ask for donations of food. Please remember only store-bought items are allowed; nothing homemade. As a reminder, if you go on a family vacation for the holidays before school is out for break, your child’s absence is not excused per school district policy.

We want to wish everyone a happy and safe holiday season. See you in the next year.

Nicole Patterson
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Assistant Principal



Calendar of Events ~ December

2	SAC Meeting ~ 8:15 am in Cafeteria
9	Astro Skate Night ~ 6 – 8 pm Grades 3 -8
12	Ice Cream Social ~ 5 – 6 Pm Grades K, 1, and 2 only
12-19	Holiday Gift Shop
19	End of 2 nd Nine Weeks (Middle School)
22-31	Winter Break – No School

Calendar Events ~ January

1-5	Winter Break ~ No School
12	SAC Meeting ~ 8:30 am in Cafeteria
TBD	PTO Meeting @ 8:30 am Cafeteria
19	MLK Day ~ No School





CLASSROOM NEWS

KINDERGARTEN NEWS

Kindergarten will be practicing our comprehension skills while reading stories. We will be describing characters, settings, and retelling important events. In English we are focused on short vowel words (examples: hat, sit, mop, rug, bed, etc). In Spanish Dual Language we are reading two syllable words (examples sala, casa, pone, para, etc) We are always practicing reading/writing our sight words. We will be starting a new genre of writing called opinion writing. We have to be able to state our opinion and give one reason why we feel that way. During math we will be practicing different ways to represent addition and subtraction. In our science and social studies time, we will be learning about holidays around the world and compare them to the holidays that we celebrate with our families.

FIRST GRADE NEWS

First Grade is looking forward to a holiday season of fun and learning! Our new Benchmark Unit is, "Stories Have a Narrator". We will enjoy reading a variety of stories and identifying who is telling each story. In Science, we are learning about the properties of matter. For Math, we will start the month learning how to represent data on charts and graphs and end the month extending counting sequences. Please help your child practice counting by 2s to 20 and 5s to 100.



SECOND GRADE NEWS

As we continue on in 2nd Grade, we are still learning every day and are excited about our units of study! In ELA, we just started Unit 4 where we are learning about How can a story change depending on who tells it? We have settled into our reading environments and we continue to work on building our reading stamina with just-right books! In Science, we are exploring and learning about Matter and It's Properties! In Math, we are working on Solving Problems Using Addition and Subtraction. Please always continue to monitor your child's backpack and stay in communication with your child's teacher through ClassDojo. We can't wait for even more excitement as we move further into 2nd Grade!

THIRD GRADE NEWS

We have just come back from Holiday Break but we will be having a Winter Break starting December 22 through January 5. We resume school January 6. But for now, we are conducting our second set of Progress Monitoring tests for reading and math. Please see that your child studies their reading skills and math journals for practice for upcoming exams.

FOURTH GRADE NEWS

It sounds like everyone in fourth grade enjoyed their time off for Thanksgiving break and we are all looking forward to the upcoming winter break. In the meantime we are busy working in all subject areas. We took our first writing test in November and will continue working on our writing skills in December with a focus on opinion essays. Students are expected to write a five paragraph essay, which includes evidence cited from the articles and student elaboration. In December we will be doing our second fiction unit in ELA which will focus on different points of view. In math we will be learning how to divide multi-digit numbers and factorization. We will be learning about different types of energy in science. Please remember that your student needs to read nightly and complete their homework.



FIFTH GRADE NEWS

Hello families! Fifth grade is currently working on a lot of new and exciting things — and there are only three more weeks until winter break! In ELA, we are beginning Unit 4, where students will be learning all about an author's point of view. In Science, we are exploring Matter and its properties. In Math, students are working with coordinate grids and learning how to plot and interpret points on a plane. We will also be completing 5th grade FAST testing and a Science Diagnostic during this time. Thank you for your continued support!

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

(See page 5)

SCHOOL INFORMATION

The Six Pillars of Character™



CHARACTER COUNTS CORNER

This is a program where we recognize our students for exhibiting one of the behaviors that makes up one's character – kindness, honesty, responsibility, integrity, trustworthiness, and respect. Each month we select a different quality and recognize students who have exhibited that quality.

The Character Counts Trait for November was "Citizenship". Citizenship is defined as: helping to make your home, school, and community better; cooperating with others and working together; making sure to vote; being a kind neighbor at home and at school; making choices that protect the safety and rights of others; protecting the environment and animals.



NEWS FROM THE ART ROOM

The Art Club is currently seeking new members who are in the 4th or 5th grade. Our participation in this year's Lake Worth Street Painting Festival is already on the horizon. Meetings will be held every Wednesday after school, beginning in January. The last meeting before the festival will take place at the end of February. An invitation to join the Art Club will be extended to interested parties come January.



Remember "We are all Safety" and if you "See Something, Say Something". You can notify us through the FortifyFL App.
<https://getfortifyfl.com/#home>

PARENT LIAISON

We want to wish everyone a happy holiday. We want to thank all of our friends and families who came out to our Annual Thanksgiving Dinner. Over 300 people attended this event. We hope everyone had enough to eat and enjoyed themselves. This event is only possible with the help of all of our business partners and their donations of food and money. This event is truly a community effort. Our sincere 'thanks' goes out to all of our volunteers who so selflessly donated their time and effort to make our event be so successful.

We are always looking for Business Partners. If you know a business that would like to be a Business Partner at North Grade, please have them contact Ms. Williams at 561-202-9357.

If you have not yet signed up as a volunteer, please come to the school and register.

MEDIA CENTER NEWS

We are excited to announce that Mrs. A. Rodriguez's class has had 100% returns two of the last four times they have come to the media center. We are very proud of her students for being responsible with their library books. We would also like to spotlight Asher and Isaabella in 2nd grade and Amir and Whitney in 1st grade for visiting the library most mornings to return library books and borrow new ones. The North Grade Media Center is open from 7:35am to 7:55am daily for students to exchange books before going to class.

We still have almost 200 overdue library books. Ms. Abrams has contacted families on Dojo and will be sending copies of late notices home prior to Winter Break. Please take a few minutes to speak to your son/daughter about how we care for books that belong to the library. The students received 2-gallon zipper bags earlier in the year to protect their books from water damage in their backpacks. Please make sure they are still being used.

Many thanks for all of your help at home. We love hearing that our students are having their library books read to them by an adult and that our older students are discussing their books with their families in the evenings.

SCHOOL INFORMATION



PTO NEWS

Happy Holidays!!

Our annual Holiday Gift Shop is right around the corner, running 12/12 through 12/19 during each student's assigned Media Center time. We would love some extra helping hands to make the week run smoothly. If you'd like to volunteer or get more details, please reach out to us at northgradepto@gmail.com.

We'll also be hosting our next PTO Meeting in January, with the date coming soon. It's a great opportunity to connect with other families, hear what's coming up, and share ideas for the new year.

Thank you to our teachers, administrators, and staff for all their hard work on the Thanksgiving Dinner. It was a beautiful event, and we appreciate the effort they make for the North Grade students and families.

Wishing all of our North Grade families a warm, happy, and festive holiday season.

North Grade PTO
northgradepto@gmail.com



LITERACY TIPS FOR PARENTS

It is hard to believe we are approaching the holiday season. While the holidays can be a stressful time for many families, spending time reading together is a great reason to turn off the television and relax.

To make reading a part of your holiday traditions, try some of these fun literacy activities.

- Encourage your child to create bookmarks to enclose in a gift book or to mark the place in your own book where you leave off during read-aloud time.
- Ask your child to help with holiday shopping. Have him or her write out the list and then read the items aloud as you peruse the aisles together.
- When it's time for holiday baking, ask your child to read the directions aloud to you. While the cookies are in the oven, read a short book together.
- Make your own books! Take scrap paper and staple together. Encourage your child to draw pictures and they can write the words to the story.
 - Act out a favorite story. Make props or scenery to go along with the story.
- Visit the library and pick out some holiday favorites for festive family reading all season long.
- Play a game of categories; Select a category (animals, vegetables, places, etc.) then take turns coming up with a word that fits. Start with A and make your way through the whole alphabet.
- Creating stories: Create a family story. Take turns adding sentences to create a story that has a beginning, middle, and end.



SCHOOL INFORMATION

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS (Continued from page 2)

Dear Tiger families,

It's December and although the weather has cooled down quite a bit, we are still moving along swiftly at NGK8! The holidays are quickly approaching, and although so much is different, the feeling and excitement of the season can still be felt through the children. As we approach the holiday season, I wanted to take a moment to extend my warmest wishes to you and your families. It's a time of joy and togetherness—a time to celebrate the achievements of our students and the supportive community that surrounds them. Throughout this year, we've seen incredible growth and dedication from our students. This holiday season let's take a pause to appreciate the beauty of family, the power of education, and the joy of making memories together. Whether you celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, or any other holiday, I hope this time brings you happiness, peace, and an abundance of cherished moments. As we look forward to the new year, let's continue our partnership in nurturing and guiding our students to reach their full potential. May your holidays be filled with laughter, love, and the warmth of family and friends. Wishing you all a wonderful holiday season and a fantastic start to the New Year!

We would like to encourage you to talk to your child about their performance and communicate any areas of need with their teachers. Additionally, please make sure that your child is reading throughout the week and reviewing math skills. We are excited about what the month of December will bring!

Happy Holidays to you all and may peace be with you during this holiday season and the New Year. Be safe during our winter break and we look forward to being together again January 6.

Important Dates

December 3: Hot Chocolate fundraiser starts (Wednesday & Thursday)

December 9: Astro Skate Night (LIA fundraiser)

December 16: Santa Elves Kindergarten & First grade craft event

December 15–19: Christmas Spirit Week

December 21 – January 5: Winter Break (No School)

January 6: Students Return

