



# PANTHER PRESS



FAY GALLOWAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - February / March 2023

## PRINCIPALLY SPEAKING

Dear Galloway Families,

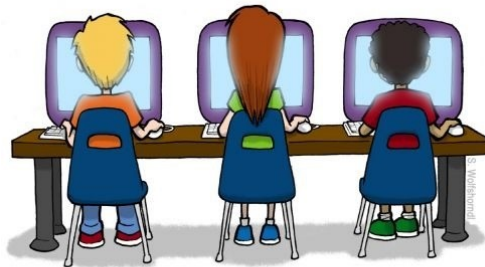
We have had quite a busy second semester. Thanks to all who attended our various school and PTA events. We appreciate any time we can get together as one big family at Galloway! Spring break is upon us! As a reminder, spring break is from Monday, March 13th - Friday, March 17th. Then there is no school Friday, April 7th - Monday, April 10th.

State and district assessments will take place after students return to school from the breaks. SBAC, our state assessment for 3rd through 5th grade will take place April 4th - April 13th. MAP, our district assessment for students in kindergarten through 5th grade will take place April 17th - April 21st. More details will follow as the dates get closer.

We hope to see you at our PTA meeting on March 7th at 6:30pm. On Tuesday, March 21st our PTA is hosting a dine out day at Johnny Macs, 11:00am - 10:00pm. If I don't see you at the Read-A-Thon Booknic, I hope you have a safe and enjoyable spring break!

Respectfully,

Mrs. Smith, Principal, Galloway Elementary



## FROM THE OFFICE

Yearbooks are still on sale for \$20 until March 10th. After March 10th, they will be \$25. If you wish to purchase a yearbook, put \$20, in cash or check, in an envelope along with your child's name and teacher and bring it to the school office! Also, there is still time to submit a "love line" for an additional \$5. There is a limit of 15 words or less for the love line, but the deadline for those end on February 24th. Hurry and order yours today!

## PTA

Our next PTA meeting will be Tuesday, March 7th at 6:30pm at Shastas Sweet Treats. Join us at Johnny Mac's for our dine-out fundraiser on Tuesday, March 21st. If you are interested in joining the PTA Board for next school year, please reach out to be included in the nominations announced at the next meeting. Nomination forms will be coming home with your students. Email [gallowaypta@gmail.com](mailto:gallowaypta@gmail.com) with questions or for more info.

## TO CONTACT THE OFFICE

School Phone (702) 799-8920

School Fax (702) 799-8927

[Schools.ccsd.net/galloway](http://Schools.ccsd.net/galloway)

Have Questions? Visit our school website.

We do our best to keep you up to date and informed through our website.

Need your child's teacher's email address? Want to know what the school is serving for lunch?

Need a prearranged absent form. This and more can be found on our school website. Visit our school website

## ART NEWS FROM MRS. HEFFNER

Students will be studying art from around the world for Reading Week. Kindergarten and first grade will be painting Canadian landscape pictures. Second grade will be learning how to draw an Indian elephant. Third grade will be making a Korean cutout dragon. Fourth grade will be painting Russian buildings. Fifth grade will be painting in the style of aboriginal paintings from Australia. Third and fifth grade are currently making projects out of clay that they will be able to take home soon. The fourth graders are working on a mask project that will be displayed in the hallways for a few weeks.



## P E

This month in physical education students will be starting their basketball unit. We will start with the basics and move on to playing games to coincide with March Madness. Please make sure students are wearing proper attire on their physical education days.

Upcoming PE Schedule:

- Fitness Testing
- Golf
- Soccer



## MUSIC

Aloha, just a reminder for grades 3-5: We will be having our Spring Concert on Wednesday, April 26th at 5:30pm in the Multi-Purpose Room. Students in Grades 3-5 were sent home with a scannable spring concert form during the week of February 13th - 17th. If you have any questions or concerns, or if your family did not receive a form, please do not hesitate to reach out to me via email.

Concert Date: April 26th @ 5:30pm

Student Report Time: 5:00pm

Concert Attire: House Shirt, Jeans / Pants, Shoes



## L i b r a r y

Thank you to all those that supported the Book Fair last month! It was a great success. We are excited for Reading Week that will run from February 27th - March 3rd. Fifth graders are starting their biography research project. Fourth graders just finished listening to American tall tales. Third graders did a research project on planets. Primary students are starting to listen to books nominated for the Nevada Young Readers' Award. After reading all eight books, students will vote for their favorite book. Please keep reading at least 15 minutes every night and filling out the Apple Core bookmarks. Thank you!



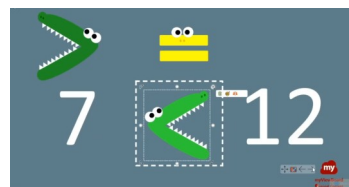
# KINDERGARTEN

We are working hard on finishing up the second half of kindergarten strong! In reading and language arts, we have been working on reading decodable books. We have learned close to 30 sight words! We are also almost done with learning all of our letters so we can read any CVC word we come across! Kindergarten has been practicing retelling stories with details and identifying characters, settings and events in our stories. In math, we have been working on becoming fluent in addition and subtraction up to 5. We can even add and subtract within 10 with help! In writing, we have finished learning about how to write opinions about topics and are starting to learn how to write personal narratives about our lives. In science, we are learning to become engineers. We are working on a unit where we get to build our very own pinball machine. Ask your child about forces and how things move. They are super excited to tell all about it!



# FIRST GRADE

The year is just flying by, and your children are working hard on getting ready for 2nd grade. We have seen such growth in their reading skills. Thank you for all the support that you give to your children at home reading with them. In Reach For Reading this month, we have exploring how animals are different from each other. We have been working hard teaching the students great decoding skills to better aid in reading. They have learned rules about how c and j can make a soft or hard sound, possessive pronouns, and different genres of writings. Always have your child read to you every night for 15 minutes, it will help them with their fluency. In math, we have been learning about place values and also comparing two numbers and deciding which one is greater than or less than. We did a fun craft by making alligator greater than and less than signs then comparing numbers. To reinforce comparing numbers at home, it would be helpful to just give them two random numbers and ask them to tell you which one is greater or less.



## SECOND GRADE

In reading, we have begun unit six of Reach For Reading. We are reading about how people work together and cooperate. Students are focusing on story elements including characters, setting, and plot. They are also learning how to summarize a story. In math, students are working on adding numbers up to 1,000 while using various strategies. Also, students are working on properties of materials in our Amplify science unit and enjoying the hands-on experiments. Students are also working on opinion writing. Their focus is on editing and revising their own writing to check for purpose, organization, details, and conventions like capitals, punctuation, and spelling.

Please remember to bring in those completed Apple Core bookmarks for nightly reading and encourage your child to read. There are many opportunities to earn house points, so we are looking for great attendance and wonderful work from all of our Positive Panthers in the coming months. We appreciate your continued support, and please reach out if you have any questions.



## THIRD GRADE

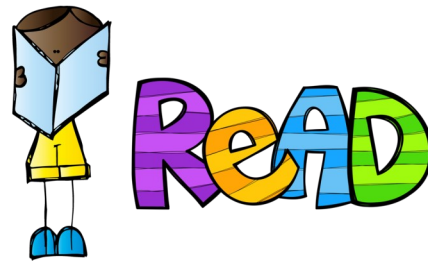
It is hard to believe that we have been in school for nearly seven months! Third graders have learned so many new reading and math skills. As we are in our second semester of school, third graders have been practicing for the upcoming SBAC test (state testing), which will be given this spring. If you have any questions regarding SBAC testing, please reach out to your child's teacher. In reading this month, students will be focusing on text structures in nonfiction writing. They will learn how authors use these text structures to organize the information they wish to present. We will also be focusing on using context clues to understand the meaning of unfamiliar words in a text. We will continue to practice how to answer both multiple choice and short response questions using test taking strategies such as "slash the trash" and "R.A.C.E.". Please continue to read for 20 minutes every day with your child at home. Practicing reading will help your child in other subject areas at school. In math, third graders will focus on using strategies to solve addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division word problems. The word problems are becoming more challenging. Third graders are working on identifying two-step word problems involving all four mathematical operations. After that, students will focus on solving time, capacity, and mass problems. Please take an extra 10 minutes nightly to practice multiplication and division math facts with your child. In order to be able to keep up with the rigor of fourth grade math skills, all students should have multiplication and division facts memorized by the end of third grade. Please ask your child where they are in their classroom with the math facts. In February, a good benchmark to know is that they should currently be completing the 9/10s multiplication facts and be getting ready to move into memorizing division facts. Thank you for your continued support!

## FOURTH GRADE

We are getting close to Spring Break the week of March 13. As we move forward, we encourage our 4th grade students to constantly read at least 20 - 30 minutes everyday. This will help them develop their reading stamina in preparation for the upcoming state assessment.

The students' learning targets in math are fractions and decimals, and area and perimeter. In reading they are comparing themes, plays, and sequencing.

Read-a-thon is going strong! Your child wins prizes for money brought in! Several have already brought in more than \$20 each!



## FIFTH GRADE

We want to thank all of the families who helped in our Starbase Henderson Program this year. We have completed 25 hours worth of STEM projects and learning through this program and have enjoyed a lot of activities! In writing, students have been working on informative writing. They have done research on different topics such as the Titanic, animal adaptations, and the Revolutionary War to inform readers of what they have learned. In math, students just completed topic 10 which focused on using data in line plots. We are now about to begin topic 11 which focuses on understanding and finding volume.



## SPECIALTY PROGRAMS

Mrs. Forbes and Mrs. Thompson's PreK classes have been spending a lot of time learning about how to be a good friend. We are also learning about dental hygiene and the community helpers who help us keep our teeth clean. We have many exciting events coming up in March so please check our calendar and let us know if you would like to volunteer. We appreciate all your support.

Thank you for all the love and support! In Ms. Calo's class, we have been working on adding numbers from 0 to 10 in Math. In reading, we are still working with our letters and phonics and we are on the letter V this week. We are also learning more about good manners. We are having fun doing art activities too and the kids are doing great in making friends! We are looking forward to learning more skills!

Mrs. Mason has given at least 5 ReadWell magazines to her students that they are able to read independently. Please work with them nightly to increase their fluency and build their sight word knowledge. We will continue to add more words to our sight word bank as well as add more phonics tools to our reading toolboxes. In math we have been learning more strategies to build our number knowledge as well as increase our math facts mastery. This month we look forward to adding math facts bingo to our Fun Fridays! We will continue to work on our letter formation and sentence building during writing. Some of our students will begin their journaling to increase their sentence writing skills.

In Ms. Carr's class we are learning all about winter animals and their habitats and adaptations. We have been working on our animal research project and writing complete sentences, facts and opinions and even paragraphs about our chosen animal. In math we are learning all about fractions and 3D shapes. We had so much fun creating our own 3D shapes and cylinder robots. February was full of all sorts of fun learning topics such as Black History Month, Presidents Day and of course a day for caring Valentines Day. Be sure to ask your student who they learned all about in class that day.

In Mrs. Holman's class we have been super busy learning all about winter animals and hibernation. Our class studied the difference between animals that hibernate, those that migrate and those that adapt in the winter. We also spent time studying Martin Luther King Jr and the impact that he made in our history. We look forward to learning about the background and history of Groundhog's Day and all about famous Americans and our President's during February.

In the Mrs. Vargas' Primary Resource classroom, students are showing progress with reading fluency and accuracy. Students are engaging in repeated reading strategies wherein an adult will read to them, read with adult, read to themselves, and read with a partner. To increase word recognition skills, students are also reviewing words with long vowel sounds and spelling patterns consistently using different modalities. We also have some social stories through interactive read-a-louds, short film animations, and emotion charts, and incorporate some comprehension skills by asking students questions about theme, lesson, compare and contrast, and main idea. Please feel free to contact Mrs. Vargas through Class Dojo, email or phone call if you have any concerns or questions.

In Mr. Vargas' Intermediate Resource class, we are focusing on writing skills related to opinion, descriptive/narrative, and informative writing. Students use graphic organizers and some use speech to text apps from their iPad. We are consistently working on decoding words and fluency practice to support comprehension in reading and math. Students are enjoying our interactive games and lessons and are encouraged to work cooperatively to reinforce social emotional skills.