



Tiger-rific News



We're an "A" School

North Grade K - 8 School Newsletter

**824 North "K" Street
Lake Worth, FL 33460**

Nicole Patterson
Principal

Sarah Larralde
Assistant Principal

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PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

We are heading into the final stretch of the school year. Elementary school is in the third and final trimester; middle school begins the fourth quarter next month. With that being said, teachers, parents, and students must remain vigilant with academics.

One of the most effective and easiest way to help your child succeed academically is to make sure they attend school every day and for the entire day. Our theme is "Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow". In addition, punctuality matters – lost minutes = lost learning. Standardized testing will begin in April for students in grades K, 1, and 2. FAST testing for grades 3 though 8 will begin in May.

March brings some seasonal and time changes for us all. One is daylight savings time begins on March 8th. You will need to move your clocks ahead one hour. Spring break begins March 16th for our students. Students will return to school on March 24, 2026.

March is also a time our Safety Patrols will be heading to Washington D.C. from March 24th through March 26th. This is an annual tradition that began in 1948. The patrols will be travelling by plane. For some patrols, this will be their first time going on an airplane. What an exciting opportunity!!!

North Grade will be celebrating Read Across America Week. The event is in conjunction with the birthday of Dr. Seuss. The event begins March 4 and runs through March 6. Flyers have gone home with a calendar of events of activities your student can participate in.

We wish you a great spring break.

Nicole Patterson
Principal

Sarah Larralde
Assistant Principal



Calendar of Events ~ March

2	SAC Meeting ~8:15 am in Cafeteria
8	Daylight Savings Time begins
11	4 th Grade Field Trip to Boomers
13	Middle School Field Trip to Latinos in Action
16-24	Spring Break – No School
20	First Day of Spring
23	Middle School ~ 3 rd quarter ends
24	Middle School 4 th Quarter begins
24-26	Safety Patrol Trip to Washington, D.C.
30	Middle School Report Cards available in Portal



Calendar of Events ~ April

1	April Fool's Day
3	No school ~ spring holiday
6	SAC Meeting ~8:15 am in Cafeteria
10	5 th Grade End- of-Year Trip to Seaworld
15	Bud's Spirit Night with PTO
22	Earth Day



NEWS FROM THE CLASSROOMS

KINDERGARTEN NEWS

Our Kindergarteners continue practicing reading and writing CVC words as well as reading high frequency words with fluency. We have been writing opinion or argumentative texts which means we state our opinion and tell one reason we feel that way. We are continuing to work on the writing process of planning, drafting, editing or revising, and publishing. Expectations are still growing! We are writing a complete sentence that starts with a capital letter and ends with a period. In English we stretch out our words and write down the sounds we hear. In Spanish we break words into their syllables and write the sounds we hear within each syllable. We are still working our way to 100 in Math by counting and representing numbers!

FIRST GRADE NEWS

First grade's upcoming units of study are perfect for incorporating learning experiences at home. In Math, we are learning how to identify and count coins. There are so many variations of coins that there is no better way to learn than real life experience. Please take every opportunity to allow your child to help you count money while shopping or to count the savings in a piggy bank. Our next unit in Benchmark will be Past, Present and Future. This is a great time to talk about heritage and share stories of ancestors. As always, please remember to read with your child every day.

SECOND GRADE NEWS

We Trimester 2 has flown by and the 2nd graders have already learned so much this year! In ELA, we are in Unit 6 learning all about what different cultures can teach us. We have put in great work so far this year in building up our reading stamina and we will continue that hard work through discovering more about our reading interests! In math, we are adding and subtracting numbers within 1,000. Please continue to monitor your child's backpack and stay in communication with your child's teacher!

THIRD GRADE NEWS

We have finished the trimester and report card grades have been submitted. Please be looking for these on your parent portal. If you have any questions, please contact the teachers. It is imperative these last few months of school, that each student be focused and complete classwork and or homework since third grade is mandatory retention. We are currently reviewing characters and points of view in fiction during reading class. We are reviewing past skills of using subtraction, addition and geometry. Also, we are having a free field trip on March 6. Please sign and submit forms ASAP.

FOURTH GRADE NEWS

Fourth grade is looking forward to our upcoming field trip and a much-earned Spring Break. However, before our break we still have a lot to do. In math we are learning how to compare, add and subtract decimals. We are finishing our mythology, legends and folktales ELA unit. We are also learning how to annotate properly and summarize our reading. Soon we will begin an informational unit where we will be learning about the transcontinental railroad while continuing to work on our annotation skills and ability to summarize our texts. In science we have been learning about the rotation of Earth and moon phases. Students must continue to complete their homework nightly and should also be reading every night. Students should also practice their math skills, including learning their multiplication facts.

FIFTH GRADE NEWS

5th grade is springing forward into an exciting new month of learning! 🙌 We are so proud of the growth our students continue to show each day.

In ELA, students are diving into an engaging unit on Survival, where they are reading informational and literary texts that explore resilience, problem-solving, and perseverance. Students will analyze how individuals respond to challenges and use evidence from the text to support their thinking. In Math, we are learning how to identify and classify 2D and 3D shapes, focusing on attributes such as edges, vertices, faces, and angles. Students will strengthen their understanding by comparing shapes and explaining their reasoning. In Science, we are exploring Earth in Space and Time, learning about Earth's rotation and revolution, patterns of the sun, moon, and stars, and how these movements impact our planet. In Social Studies, students are studying Growth and Westward Expansion, examining how and why the United States expanded and how this growth impacted different groups of people.

(5th Grade continues on page 2)

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS (On page 5)

SCHOOL INFORMATION



PTO NEWS

Hello North Grade families!

February was a great month at North Grade, and we were proud to support our school's STEAM Night. It was wonderful to see students and families exploring science, technology, engineering, art, and math together.

We're also looking ahead to our next Bud's Spirit Night, scheduled for April 15 at the Bud's Chicken & Seafood in West Palm Beach on Dixie Highway. It will run from open to close, so you can stop by at any time during the day to participate. We hope to see many North Grade families there supporting our school while enjoying a great meal.

And don't forget, Penny Wars is coming soon. More information will be shared shortly, so stay tuned for details on how classes can join the friendly competition.

As always, if you have questions or would like more information, you can reach us at NorthGradePTO@gmail.com.

Thank you, North Grade K-8 PTO



FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows you to instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials. Click on the link below.

<https://getfortifyfl.com/>

FIFTH GRADE NEWS

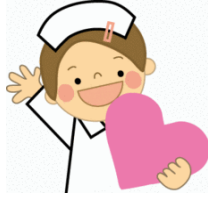
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Onto celebrations and important events! Throughout February 1st–28th, we proudly recognized Black History Month and Love the Bus Month, honoring influential leaders and celebrating the dedication of our incredible transportation staff who safely bring our students to and from school each day. On February 25th, we observed International Pink Shirt Day for anti-bullying with the theme "Lift Each Other Up." Students participated in meaningful conversations about kindness, inclusion, and standing up for one another.

ART NEWS

On February 21st and 22nd, the North Grade K – 8 Art Club participated in the annual Lake Worth Street Painting Festival. The North Grade Art Club did an exceptional job of recreating Henri Matisse's famous cutouts, "The Parakeet and the Mermaid," at this year's Street Painting Festival. You can take a look at the photo below. A huge thank you goes out to Ms. Stevenson and Ms. Abrams for supporting the art club at the festival. Below are photographs of their beautiful creation.





FROM THE DESK OF YOUR HEALTH CARE DISTRICT SCHOOL NURSE:

Your smile is one of the first things people notice about you. It is important to take care of it right from the start. The American Dental Association (ADA) recommends that children visit the dentist within six months of their first tooth and before their first birthday for a "Well Baby Check Up." February is Dental Health Month.

Recommendations for good dental health include:

- Brushing your teeth for two minutes, twice a day with fluoride toothpaste
- Flossing daily
- Avoiding sugary and starchy snacks
- Wearing a mouth guard when you're active
- Not smoking
- Not piercing your lips or any part of your mouth
- Getting dental sealants
- Considering a fluoride program if your water is not fluoridated
- Visiting your dentist regularly for check-ups and cleaning

Children with good oral health have better attendance and fewer problems in school.

For information about the School Health Program visit www.hcdpbc.org/schoolhealth



SIS GATEWAY

The SIS Gateway provides parents and students with real-time access to student information including schedule, grades, attendance, assessment data, and report cards. Now with **report cards being only available digitally**, it is necessary for parents to set up their own account.

To access your child's account, you will need an access code. If you did not receive it or have lost your Parent Letter for Gateway Access, please notify your child's teacher and we will print out a new one and send it home with your child.



MEDIA CENTER NEWS

We are so proud of Grace Wheatley, a fifth grader in Ms. Bailey's class, for having her Adobe Express submission chosen as the best submission by an elementary student in the district. The contest, sponsored by Library Media Services, in honor of 2026 Literacy Week, asked students to create a social media post that a historical figure may have posted. Congratulations, Grace!

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, March 14th for BiblioArte, a literacy festival sponsored by the City of Lake Worth Beach. Everyone is welcome to attend and each child who attends will receive an autographed book. The flyer has been shared on ClassDojo with all of the event details. Third and fourth graders at North Grade will have the opportunity to hear author and illustrator Duncan Tonatiuh speak on the Tuesday prior to the festival. Hope to see everyone there.

Over 50 students are reading weekly for our incentive program, Let's Talk About It. If your child isn't participating, it isn't too late. 3rd, 4th, & 5th grade students are invited to read books from the school library with over 100 pages, make mental or written notes about the characters, setting, problem, solution, and events, and then share with Ms. Abrams during their class time or before school starting at 7:35am daily. The students receive prizes purchased with grant funds provided by the Education Foundation of Palm Beach County.



YEARBOOK TIME

We are still continuing to sell yearbooks! We sent the students home with an order form and posted it on Dojo for online purchases. If you would like to order a yearbook, please complete the form and return it with your payment to Ms. Leach or Ms. Ritchie. **Only those students who pre-order a yearbook will be guaranteed one.** The cost of the book is \$30. Checks can be made payable to **North Grade K – 8.**

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

(Continued from Page 2)

As we move into March, we welcome the energy of spring and a renewed focus on growth academically, socially, and personally. Our students continue to demonstrate resilience, curiosity, and kindness as we head into the final stretch of the school year. We hope that you and your family are looking forward to an enjoyable Spring Break, and are able to enjoy some sunshine, along with getting some much-needed rest and relaxation.

March is an important month for maintaining strong study habits and staying engaged in learning. It is hard to believe that we are soon ending Q3 and beginning the last quarter of the 2025-2026 school year at North Grade K-8 School! This will begin an exciting time for our 8th graders, as they will start the transition process to attend the High School of their choice next year. Our current 7th graders will be preparing for 8th-grade classes, and some will have the opportunity to earn high school credits in math. Our current 6th graders will be moving up as 7th graders with the tools necessary to become successful. Our current 5th graders in our elementary level will start transitioning activities from elementary school to middle school within the next few weeks. If you have any questions about the transition process, please feel free to contact Ms. McGowan, and she will be happy to assist you.

We want your child to be happy and successful in school and in life, and we know that you feel the same. To help support that achievement, we want to ask for your commitment to your child's good school attendance. The evidence is clear: children with good attendance are more likely to be successful in school. High attendance rates are linked to high student achievement. Every minute in school counts. Missing school even 10% of the time has a significant negative impact on reading and math achievement.

On another note, to our 6th-grade parents, vaccines and physicals are requirements to enter 7th grade. The state of Florida requires students entering the 7th grade to have the meningococcal vaccine (also known as MCV4) in addition to one dose of Tdap (Tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis). Students who

do not provide documentation of these immunizations to the school this fall are subject to exclusion. If there are medical/religious or philosophical reasons your child cannot receive immunizations, please contact the school clinic for an Immunization Exemption Form.

Please keep in mind that the 2025-2026 school year is quickly moving into our final two months. Although it is amazing to see how much growth the students make during the course of one school year, we are now entering the time of year when the weather gets nice. Students have a tougher time than usual staying focused on their academic responsibilities. Please continue to stress to your child the importance of taking responsibility for their academic achievement. The staff at North Grade K-8 will continue to work hard to provide your students with challenging and enjoyable learning experiences through the final days of the school year.

**Thank you for your support!
Ms. McGowan (TOSA)**