

ELEMENTARY ACADEMY NEWS

March 2026

A NOTE FROM ELEMENTARY ACADEMY

As we continue through the semester, we want to remind families how important daily habits are to student success. Please make sure your child is getting a great night of sleep each evening so they are well rested and prepared to learn. It is also imperative that students are at school each day unless they are sick, with a doctor's note already provided to the front desk. Consistent attendance plays a major role in academic growth and confidence. We are looking forward to celebrating our students' hard work and growth from the 3rd quarter STAR test as an academy! With MAP testing season quickly approaching, it is very important that we continue to stay diligent with homework and practice at home. Thank you for your continued partnership and support in helping our students succeed.

WHAT ARE WE LEARNING?

ELA:

In ELA, 3rd grade students will focus on drawing conclusions from texts while strengthening their understanding of identifying the main idea and supporting details. They will practice using text evidence to explain their thinking and deepen their comprehension skills. 4th grade students will be working on identifying the author's purpose and determining the main idea of both fiction and nonfiction texts. They will learn how to explain why an author writes a text and support their answers with evidence. 5th grade students will concentrate on understanding figurative language, including similes, idioms, hyperboles, and metaphors. They will explore how authors use these techniques to create vivid imagery and enhance meaning in their writing.

MATH:

Our 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders are continuing their work with fractions and decimals. This is an important focus area, as approximately 25% of the MAP Growth Math assessment includes fraction concepts. Students must develop a strong understanding of what a fraction represents, including visual models, placement on a number line, and written numerical expressions. A deep understanding of these concepts helps students build confidence and accuracy when solving more complex problems. In addition, multiplication and division fluency play a key role in mastering fractions and decimals. Students will continue practicing their multiplication facts at home to build speed, accuracy, and overall math confidence.

SOCIAL STUDIES:

Over the next several weeks, students will be focusing on strengthening their writing skills through social studies topics. They will practice organizing their ideas clearly while responding to historical events, important figures, and key concepts from our current unit. Students will learn how to support their writing with facts and details from texts and class discussions. Emphasis will be placed on writing complete paragraphs with strong topic sentences and clear supporting evidence. They will also work on using academic vocabulary connected to social studies content. Through these writing pieces, students will build both their content knowledge and their confidence as writers.

SCIENCE:

Science has been filled with many engaging activities across grade levels. Third grade created a flooding simulation using sand and representational objects and built weatherproof structures using toothpicks and marshmallows. Fourth grade took it a step further by creating landslide models and designing topographic maps with multicolored clay, and they will soon begin learning about soil conservation, weathering, and erosion. Fifth grade is preparing for the upcoming MAP test through targeted instruction and informed assessments to guide learning. Their recent focus has been on heat and thermal energy, and they will soon study the chemical and physical properties of elements and the reactions that occur when certain substances are combined.

IMPORTANT DATES

- 3rd Quarter Grade due – 3/6/26
- No School – 3/13/26
- Parent Teacher Conferences – 8:00am – 4:30pm – 3/13
- No School – 3/16/26 & 3/17/26
- Half Day – 3/27/26
- Spring Break – 3/30/26 – 4/10/26

OUR TEACHERS

Mr. Basel
Ms. Beaman
Ms. Davis
Mr. Hill
Ms. Keener
Ms. Turner