Liberty Elementary School
Newsletter
November Edition

Mission

Liberty Elementary School will ignite a lifelong love of learning in ALL students through engagement, relevance, and authenticity, fostering personal and academic growth.

Vision

To ignite, engage, and educate,
every student,
every day.

Important Dates

November 3rd	Family Council Meeting (Virtual meeting) https://meet.google.com/obx-kzre-ohq
November 4th	Early Dismissal (1:15)
November 13th	World Kindness Day
November 17th	Picture Retakes
November 18th	Early Dismissal @ 1:15
November 24th	Progress Reports go home
November 25th-27th	Thanksgiving Break

From the Desk of Mrs. Gouard

Hello Sparkler Families,

As we continue through another exciting school year, we want to thank you for your ongoing partnership in your child's education. Parents and teachers working together form the foundation of student success, and there are a few key ways you can support your child's growth at home every day:

Reading with or alongside your child for just 15 to 20 minutes each night makes a remarkable difference in their academic development. Daily reading helps build vocabulary, improves reading comprehension, strengthens focus, and fosters a lifelong love of learning. Whether it is reading a bedtime story together, having your child read aloud to you, or discussing a chapter book, making reading a nightly habit sets your child up for long-term success.

Every student learns at their own unique pace. When your child brings home practice activities or specific skills to work on—whether in math, phonics, writing, or vocabulary—spending a few extra minutes reviewing those foundational skills can significantly boost their confidence and progress in the classroom. Continuous practice helps reinforce what is taught during the school day and prevents gaps in learning.

Open and active communication with your child's teacher is essential. Teachers can provide valuable updates on your child's progress, strengths, and areas that may need additional support at home. Please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher via email, notes, or scheduled conferences whenever you have questions or updates to share.

Together we're better,

Mrs. Amber Gouard, Principal

From the Desk of Mrs. Gouard

For the month of October

Amount of tardies by grade level:

Grade 1-29
Grade 2-98
Grade 3-48
Grade 4-81

There were 256 tardies in the month of September.
These tardies were accomplished by 68 students.
Tardiness is a disruption to the educational setting!

Please bring your students promptly to school at 7:35.

What's Your W.I.G.????

A W.I.G. is a "wildly important goal!"

We are focused on being our best selves and bettering our reading abilities. So, everyone in the building has a goal.
Liberty's goal is to have at least 25% of students in 1st-4th grades score at or above the 60th percentile on their reading Fastbridge Tests.
Your child's teacher has a more specific classroom goal to help us achieve our building goal.
AND your child has an individual goal that they set for themselves!
Ask your child what their goal is. Are they on track to reaching their W.I.G.???

First Grade News

Welcome to November!

Our first grade classes have been very busy learning.
In reading, we are blending sounds, memorizing our trick words, and writing sentences. We are also practicing our reading fluency as we read lots of books! We are continuing our Trick Words and Accelerated Reader competition. The kids have been extremely motivated and excited about our competitions!
In Math, we are working hard to memorize our addition math facts and soon we will be introducing subtraction. Please practice these skills with the flashcards that have been provided.
Check your child's AVID Folder & Dojo daily. This is an excellent way to keep in touch with your child's teacher!
We will be celebrating our Veterans by making cards to hand out each Veteran!
Please make sure to contact your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns!
November is shaping up to be a wonderful month! We are so very thankful for your children!

The First Grade Team,
Doggett, Lawhorn, Murphy, & Talbott



Second Grade News

Welcome to November!

In 2nd grade, we are having so much fun learning.
In math, we are just finishing up place value and are getting ready to dive into 2-digit addition and subtraction. We're also super excited to start exploring Greek Myths in reading—the kids are going to love these stories about gods and heroes! To help keep that great reading momentum going, please make sure your child is still reading their AR books every night.
Lastly, we've been working hard on our listening skills lately, so if you could chat with your child about how important it is to follow directions in class, it would really help us out.
Thank you so much for everything you do!

The Second Grade Team
Mrs. Carlton, Mrs. Boyer, Miss Dye, Mrs. Smiley



Third Grade News

Welcome to Mrs. Cash who is our new 3rd grade teacher. We are excited for her to be on our team!

We are having an issue with students bringing toys to school. If it is not school related, it needs to stay at home! Things get stolen, broken, or misplaced.

It was great to see so many of you at Parent-Teacher Conferences! If you were unable to attend your child's conference and have questions about their report card, please contact us.

We will finish Module 2 in math this month. This unit covers time, measurement, estimation, and 3-digit addition and subtraction with regrouping. Please practice skip counting by 6's, 7's, 8's and 9's to help your student begin to master the new multiplication facts they will learn in Module 3 which is Multiplication and Division with Units of 0, 1, 6-9, and Multiples of 10. Students should be fluent with 2's, 3's, 4's and 5's facts at this time. Please practice their fact cards with them daily. Also, review addition and subtraction facts with your students.

In reading, we will be completing a unit on The Human Body. Please make sure your child is reading every evening and is ready for an AR test the next day. We do not have very many students in the 10-point club. Almost everyone should have already reached this milestone. To become a better reader, students should be reading at home every day for at least 20 minutes.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving!

Mrs. Cash ~ Mrs. Omlor ~ Mr. Parker ~ Mrs. Swafford

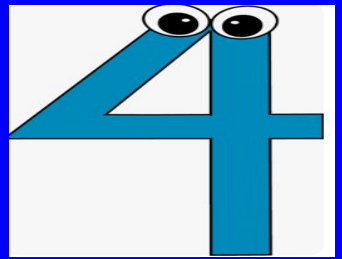


Fourth Grade News

Hello 4th grade parents! 4th grade has done well adjusting to the new changes after fall break and students are settling in to their new placements and new classmates. One thing the fourth grade team would like to address now that the "honeymoon period" has worn off and we are in the full swing of the school year is to remind your students to be kind and respectful in all circumstances. We are having some issues with "roasting" and play fighting and we would like to get that stopped before it creates any major issues.

This month we will continue to learn how to multiply big numbers while also moving into dividing big numbers. Students will learn how to divide 4 digit numbers by 1 digit using long division. We will continue multiplication by learning how to multiply 2 digit by 2 digit numbers. They will also learn about factors, multiples, and prime numbers to help prepare them for fractions. Students need to be practicing their flashcards every night as a part of their homework.

In ELA, we will be starting our poetry unit in CKLA. We will be reading a wide variety of poems from many backgrounds and time periods. We will explore symbolism and figurative language. Poetry can be very complex, so we will be creating a toolbox to help them interpret both formal and free verse poetry. They will also have the opportunity to create their own poetry in this unit. Please make sure they are reading their library books at home every night to meet their individual reading goals.



AVID News

We are continuing our focus on Relational Capacity.

Relational Capacity is the degree of trust and level of safety among members of the group.

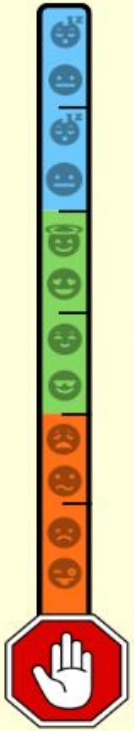
At Liberty, students learn the content by working in groups, working with partners, and individually. Students need certain behaviors/actions to be able to handle working with others.

These behaviors are active listening, emotional regulation, and conflict resolution. Students with self control can handle their emotions, learn more and feel happy when they work with others. Relational Capacity is very important. This also can be found at home when students are playing with their siblings or friends. Can they get along and handle conflicts in a healthy way?

Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS)

LIBERTY NOVEMBER PBIS CHALLENGE

$$$ MINDFUL MONEY $$$



Staff will be issuing "mindful money" tickets to students being mindful of their feelings and using their emotional regulation strategies throughout their school day.

Challenge Begins: November 2nd

Reward Date: November 30th

WHAT IS EMOTIONAL REGULATION?

Emotional regulation is noticing when you are upset and using tools like deep breathing to help yourself calm down.

Think of it like your own "thermomter." Practicing using our stratagies does not mean you are not allowed to feel sad, mad, or frustrated. It means you are the one in charge of your reactions Throughout the day, what temperature are you at? Find ways that help you find your "green temperature"



DON'T REACT

ACT



The grade with the most "Mindful Money" in their bank will receive a Cooldown Popsicle Party

Social Emotional Learning (SEL)



7 MINDSETS

Mindset 3 of 7

A FAMILY GUIDE TO THE *7 MINDSETS*

We are Connected

WHAT YOUR STUDENT IS LEARNING

The *We are Connected* mindset builds a sense of belonging. Life is happier and more meaningful when we build good relationships. It helps students be kind, work well with others, and see that they are never truly alone. Friends, family, teachers, and community are always there.

RESEARCH SHOWS

Healthier lives

for students with supportive relationships, now and later.

PRACTICAL TIPS FOR YOUR FAMILY

1. **Model and celebrate kindness**
   Show your child how to care for others and appreciate what makes each person unique. Encourage their kindness and celebrate their compassion.
2. **Build community connections**
   Do things together as a family, like volunteering or attending community events. Shared experiences show how to build strong relationships.
3. **Inspire with purpose**
   Help your child build friendships by helping others, whether including someone at school or helping a sibling at home. Small acts of kindness build pride and purpose.

MINDSET MATTERS

ways we support your child

- ***Embrace Everyone***
  Welcome others with acceptance and kindness.
- ***Maximize Positive Relationships***
  Build relationships that bring trust and happiness.
- ***Build Your Dream Team***
  Surround yourself with people who inspire and support you.
- ***Lead with Value***
  Help others and make a positive impact in your relationships.

Try this together this week

Reach out to someone who might feel left out, and share with each other how it went.

CONVERSATION STARTERS

What's one thing you admire about a friend, family member, or teacher? How could you let them know you appreciate them?

What are some ways you can support someone who feels left out?

Who is someone who has helped you recently? What did they do, and how did it make a difference?

What's one way you could make someone feel welcome or included this week?

A note from the Nurse's Office:

Hello Families,

As we move into the winter months, the weather is getting cooler, and our days are filled with exciting activities and holidays. It's a great time to focus on keeping everyone healthy and safe at school and at home.

Cold & Flu Season Tips:

· Handwashing is the best defense! Encourage your child to wash hands often, especially before eating and after coughing or sneezing.

· Cover coughs and sneezes with tissue or elbow.

· Keep sicks kids home. If your child has a fever, vomiting, or diarrhea, please keep them home until they are symptom-free for 24 hours without medication.

Cold Weather Reminders:

Please send your child with coats, hats, and gloves. We still go outside for recess when possible, and it's much more fun when everyone is warm and cozy! Labeling outerwear with your child's name helps us return lost items quickly.

November reminds us to pause and appreciate the smalls things including a warm classroom, a helping hand, and the laughter of our students Thank you for making our school a place filled with care, gratitude, and learning.



Home Program Intervention Coordinator

Hello and Happy Fall!

I hope everyone made it to conferences; it was great to meet so many parents and see the kids with their siblings!
The holiday season is upon us, and that brings the dreaded germs. If your child needs to be absent from school for any reason, please call the office at 217-444-3000 to excuse the absence.
We are looking for local businesses to participate in our High Five Fridays in the new year! If your workplace or company would like to join us, please call 217-444-3021 and talk with Mrs. Funk!
Enjoy the holidays!

Mrs. Funk

NOVEMBER 2026

K-8 Breakfast Menu

10.23.26

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
2 Pumpkin Bread Mozzarella String Cheese Plain Applesauce 100% Fruit Punch Juice 1% or Skim White Milk	3 Mini Pancake Sausage Bites w/Syrup Peach Cup 100% Orange Juice 1% or Skim White Milk	4 French Toast Sticks Fresh Apples 100% Apple Juice 1% or Skim White Milk	5 Powdered Mini Donut Banana 100% Very Berry Juice 1% or Skim White Milk	6 Egg Turkey Bagel Pizza Raisins 100% Grape Juice 1% or Skim White Milk
9 Honey Bun Strawberry Applesauce Colby Jack Cheese Stick 100% Fruit Punch Juice 1% or Skim White Milk	10 Sausage Biscuit Fresh Orange 100% Orange Juice 1% or Skim white Milk	11 Cherry Strudel Strawberry Go-gurt Fresh Apple 100% Apple Juice 1% or Skim White Milk	12 Banana Bread Banana 100% Very Berry Juice 1% or Skim White Milk	13 Breakfast Pizza Peach Cup 100% Grape Juice 1% or Skim White Milk
16 Mini Pancakes Cinnamon Applesauce 100% Fruit Punch Juice 1% or Skim White Milk	17 Egg and Cheese Bagel Fresh Orange 100% Orange Juice 1% or Skim White Milk	18 Donut Holes Fresh Apple 100% Apple Juice 1% or Skim White Milk	19 Pancake Sausage Sandwich w/Cheese Banana 100% Very Berry Juice 1% or Skim White Milk	20 Assorted Cereal Vanilla Yogurt Clementines 100% Grape Juice 1% or Skim White Milk
23 Egg, Cheese, Sausage Scrambler Fresh Apple 100% Fruit Punch Juice 1% or Skim White Milk	24 Variety Cereal Bars Graham Crackers Strawberry Banana Applesauce 100% Orange Juice 1% or Skim White Milk	25 NO SCHOOL	26 NO SCHOOL	27 NO SCHOOL
30 Pull Apart Donut Plain Applesauce 100% Apple Juice 1% or Skim White Milk				

News

Menu Subject to Change

The Interactive Menu linqconnect.com has Real Time Updates

Served Daily:
Cold 1% White Milk
Cold Skim White Milk
Lactose Free Milk

FOUNDED 1862

NOVEMBER 2026

K-8 Lunch Menu

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
2 Cheeseburger on WG Bun w/Pickles, Mustard & Ketchup Steamed Sweet Corn Grape Tomatoes w/Ranch Diced Peaches	3 Breaded Chicken Drumsticks 3 Cheese WG Cavatappi BBQ Baked Beans Fresh Celery w/Ranch Grapes	4 French Bread Pizza w/ WG Crust and Marinara Tossed Salad w/Dressing Steamed Carrots	5 Egg and Cheese Omelet Turkey Sausage Link WG Pancakes w/Butter, Syrup Hashbrown Patty Dragon Juice Fresh Orange Slices	6 Baked Potato w/ Butter, Chilli Topping, Sour Cream Shredded Cheese WG Dinner Roll Steamed Broccoli Mixed Fruit
9 Orange Chicken Brown Rice Steamed Edamame Fresh Broccoli w/Ranch Pineapple Tidbits Chocolate Chip Cookie	10 Corn Dog w/Mustard, Ketchup Green Beans Cole Slaw Fruit Cocktail	11 Chicken Tenders w/BBQ Sauce Sliced Bread Smiley Face Potatoes Baby Carrots w/Ranch Fresh Grapes	12 Homestyle Sloppy Joe On WG Bun Steamed Carrots Popeye Salad w/Dressing Strawberry Kiwi Fruit Slushy	13 Meatloaf WG Dinner Roll Mashed Potatoes Sliced Cucumbers w/Ranch Fresh Apple
16 BBQ Riblet on WG Hoagie Bun Crinkle Fries Fresh Broccoli w/Ranch Mandarin Oranges	17 Turkey Taco w/ Lettuce, Shredded Cheese, Salsa Sour Cream Spanish Rice Refried Beans Grape Tomatoes Diced Pears	18 Chicken Patty on Bun w/Mayonnaise Steamed Corn Fresh Cauliflower w/Ranch Fresh Grapes	19 Roasted Turkey w/Gravy Cornbread Stuffing Mashed Potatoes Sweet Potatoes Seasoned Green Beans Baked Cinnamon Apples Brownie	20 Cheese Pizza Tossed Salad w/Dressing Mixed Vegetables Fresh Apples
23 Beef Hot Dog on Bun Sweet Potato Tots Fresh Celery w/Ranch Sliced Peaches	24 WG Bosco Sticks w/Marinara Steamed Broccoli Sliced Cucumbers Variety Fresh Fruit	25 NO SCHOOL	26 NO SCHOOL	27 NO SCHOOL
30 Cheeseburger on WG Bun w/Pickles, Mustard & Ketchup Steamed Sweet Corn Grape Tomatoes w/Ranch Diced Peaches				

10.23.26

News

Menu Subject to Change

Interactive Menu linqconnect.com Provides Real Time updates

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Served Daily:

Cold 1% White Milk
Cold Skim White Milk
Cold 1% Chocolate Milk
Cold 1% Strawberry Milk

2nd Meal Option

Variety of Specialty Salad
Or Deli Sandwiches

Vegetarian Options:

Mixed Lettuce Salad
Sunflower Jelly Sandwich
Cheese Filled Bosco Stick
Popeye Salad w/Cheese Stick
Grilled Cheese Sandwich

Home Program Intervention Coordinator

