



Tiger-rific News



Nicole Patterson
Principal

North Grade K – 8 Newsletter

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Sarah Larralde
Assistant Principal

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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. PTO is having a meeting on December 12th. All are welcome.

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 11th, 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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Calendar of Events ~ December

4	SAC Meeting ~ 8:15 am in Cafeteria
5	Honor Roll (Invitation Only) Grade 4 @ 8:15 am
	Honor Roll (Invitation Only) Grade 3 @ 9:15 am
6	Honor Roll (Invitation Only) Grade 2 @ 8:15 am
	Honor Roll (Invitation Only) Grade 5 @ 9:15 am
11-15	Holiday Gift Shop
12	PTO Meeting @ 8:30 am Cafeteria
22	End of 2 nd Nine Weeks (Middle School)
25-31	Winter Break – No School

Calendar Events ~ January

1-8	Winter Break ~ No School
15	MLK Day ~ No School
22	SAC Meeting ~ 8:15 am in Cafeteria





CLASSROOM NEWS

KINDERGARTEN NEWS

Kindergarten will be practicing our comprehension skills while reading stories. We will be describing characters, settings, and retelling important events. We are focused on short vowel words and 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

We are looking forward to a holiday season full of growing and learning in first grade! Our new Benchmark unit asks the essential question, "How do people create stories?" We will investigate this question by drawing inferences, determining the narrator, and analyzing the structure of different texts. In math, we are learning how to collect, represent, and interpret data in graphs and tables. We hope everyone has a happy, relaxing, and cozy holiday season.

SECOND GRADE NEWS

Trimester 1 has flown by and we are soaring along in 2nd Grade! In ELA we just started Unit 4 where we are learning all about how Many Characters Have Many Points of View! We are still building up our reading stamina by reading and researching about topics that interest us! In Science, we are in Unit 4 where we are exploring and learning all about Properties of Matter! In Math, we are in Unit 14 where we are learning how to Collect, Graph, and Interpret Data! Please continue to monitor your child's backpack and stay in constant communication with your child's teacher through ClassDojo! We hope that everyone has a wonderful Winter Break from December 23rd through January 8th! We can't wait for more learning and adventures in 2nd Grade!

THIRD GRADE NEWS

We have returned from a short break and we are ready to jump back into fiction and determining the character's perspective. We ask you to encourage your child to read fiction and pay

attention to the character's words, thoughts, and actions. In Math we are beginning Unit 7 in which we will be learning how to estimate sums. We will be shortly assessing what they have learned this year through Iready tests and the state's progress monitoring tool. Thank you for your cooperation.

FOURTH GRADE NEWS

It sounds like everyone in fourth grade enjoyed their time off for the Thanksgiving break and we are all looking forward to the winter break in just a few short weeks. 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

Fifth grade is continuing to work hard and are doing a great job! We have just started our 4th Benchmark Unit. This one is all about Author's Perspective, digging into poetry, and discussing why seeing the world through other's perspectives is valuable. In Math, we started Unit 7 which is ordered pairs, learning how to read grids, and plot them. Please continue to practice multiplication facts. In Science, we have been studying Matter. We are learning about the phases, how to classify, and the transformations. The students have reading and math homework weekly. They should be reading 30 minutes each night. Please encourage your students to complete their homework as it sets them up for success this year. November went by so fast; we had a great turnout for our annual Thanksgiving Dinner, thank you to all that came. Lots of fun stuff to look forward to as we end 2023. Looking forward to a Healthy and Happy New Year for all of our students and families.

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 "Responsibility". Responsibility is defined as: doing what you are supposed to do, keeping your word, trying your best, persevering, being self-disciplined, thinking before you act, and being accountable for your words, actions, and attitudes.

Below is a list of our November winners:

Sharon Molina - Ms. Aguilar
Briella Acevedo – Ms. Obranic
Jessica Jean Charles – Mr. Tapper
Jude Arencibia – Ms. Gonzalez
Yeny Pedro Lopez – Ms. Hoening
Dacheny Simola – Ms. McGinley
Jeremias Rodas – Ms. Galloway
Jay Herrera – Mr. Tapper
Sharon Molina - Ms. Aguilar



ART ROOM NEWS

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.

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

There is a lot going on in the Media Center. Our teams are diligently preparing for Battle of the Books. Joey K. (3rd grade) and Violet E. (5th grade) have FAR surpassed the requirement to read three Sunshine Young Reader books to participate. We are so proud of all of our team members and want to wish them well in the January competition.

The media center is open daily from 7:35am - 7:55am for students to return and borrow books.

Also, we are in the midst of our 1st Annual Yes, You're An Author Bookmaking Contest. Flyers came home and details were posted on ClassDojo on November 15th. Should you have any questions, please email Ms. Abrams: meredith.abrams@palmbeachschools.org

[English Bookmaking Competition FY24.pdf](#)
[Spanish Bookmaking Contest FY24.docx.pdf](#)
[Creole Bookmaking Contest FY24](#)

Mark your calendars: the next Scholastic Book Fair will be held from February 15th - February 23rd.

SCHOOL INFORMATION



PTO NEWS

Happy Holidays from the North Grade K-8 PTO. We have some exciting things going on in December, including our Holiday Gift Shop. This is an opportunity for our students to shop for their family and friends and purchase low-cost holiday gifts. We keep the prices between \$.50 - \$5.00 per item to allow our students to purchase for multiple family members. Please check ClassDojo for communication from your teachers for the time your child's class will be visiting the gift shop. The Holiday Gift Shop will run Dec 11-15, 2023. Don't forget to help your child make a shopping list!

We will also have our LAST PTO meeting of 2023 on December 12th @ 8:15am, please join us as we plan for 2024 and update you all on the activities happening at our school. We are always in need of volunteers and appreciate the input and contributions from all the parents and community members. Your attendance does not require you to do anything but is an opportunity to stay informed and connect with the school. We hope to see you there!

We have a few thanks yours we want to share with North Grade Parents: Thank you to Mango Groves Neighborhood Association for their donation and allowing us to present at their monthly meeting. 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.

Katie Wilson PTO President
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 North Grade K-8 Families,

The thankful month of November has come to an end. We hope you all had a great Thanksgiving with family and friends. This holiday season is a time to reflect on our families and on those families in our community who need support.

It's the most wonderful time of the year! We're concluding the exciting year of 2023 and welcoming a new year. There is no better way to end the year than bringing families together to celebrate the community we share. *And my, what an amazing community it is.* We've had a number of amazing family events throughout this school year that just makes us so honored to be part of North Grade K-8.

Over the past few newsletters we have been highlighting the end of the semester with students and parents. One of our biggest goals is to get ALL students to submit ALL assignments. We have made it a primary focus to inform students of the impact a ZERO on an assignment has on their overall grade. Thank you for assisting with your student these nine weeks. We have three weeks left of the second nine weeks. Winter Break will begin Friday December 22nd and continue through Tuesday Jan 9th in which students will return.

Vision and goals for the next three weeks

- Helping students finish strong
- Complete assignment given in class
- Setting Goals for 2024
- Tools to promote growth mindset over the winter break

Thank you,
Sonia McGowan, (TOSA)

A graphic with the word "happy" in a red cursive font above the word "HOLIDAYS!" in large, bold, block letters. The letters are colored in a repeating pattern of red, green, and white with a hatched texture. The exclamation point is also in red.