

Tiger-rific News

We're an "A" School

North Grade K - 8 School Newsletter

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PRINCIPALS' NEWS

Welcome Back Tigers! We hope everyone had a wonderful summer and that our students are excited and prepared to learn.

Our theme this year is "Can't hide that Tiger Pride". Our teachers and staff are all prepared to make a difference in the lives of our students by building a safe, compassionate community of lifelong learners who are inspired to become respectful, responsible, innovative, independent thinkers, and problem solvers. You play a key role in the academic success of our students; therefore, school/parent communication is crucial. This year teachers are using the Dojo App to communicate with parents. If you have not yet downloaded the app, please do.

To further ensure a successful school year please:

- **Make your child's attendance to school a priority – instruction begins promptly at 8:00 am daily. Instructional time is bell to bell – from 8:00 a.m. until 2:05 p.m.**
- **Allot time for homework and reading with your child on a nightly basis.**
- **Please schedule appointments after the hours of school. We teach from bell-to-bell and want all of our students to receive the maximum amount of instruction time during a school day.**

Our instructional program will be far more effective if your child is in school every day for the whole day. We look forward to having a successful school year.

Please find the Parent's Right-to-Know Letter located on the North Grade website under "Parents & Students".

Nicole Patterson
Principal



Sarah Larralde
Assistant Principal



Calendar of Events ~ September

4	Labor Day ~ No School
8	Fall Ball Dance Grades 3 - 5~ 5:30 – 7:30 pm.
8	Let's Glow Crazy Dance 5:00 – 7:30 pm Middle School Dance ~ 6,7, & 8 grades
8	Middle School Mid-Term Progress Reports available on district portal
11	9/11 Anniversary/Patriotic Day
11	SAC Meeting ~ 8:30 am in Cafeteria
12	PTO Meeting ~ 8:15 am
13	Open House/Curriculum Night 5:30-6:15 ~ Grades K-2
	Open House/Curriculum Night 6:15 -7:00 ~ Grades 3-8
15	Hispanic Heritage Month begins and runs through October 15th
25	Fall Holiday ~ No School
26	Elementary Mid-Term Progress Reports available on district portal



Calendar of Events ~October

2	SAC Meeting ~ 8:30 am in Media Center
5	Title I Gearing Up for Kindergarten Meeting
12	End of 1 st 9-week marking period
13	Fall Holiday ~ No School
17	Fall Picture Day ~ Everyone participates
20	Middle School Report cards available in SIS



NEWS FROM THE CLASSROOMS



KINDERGARTEN NEWS

Our new Kindergarten Tigers will be starting our first Reading and Writing Unit: Plants and Animals Have Needs. We will practice foundational skills like rhyming, syllables, and letter identification as well as handwriting. In Writing, we will be learning how to express our ideas through drawing and speaking. Math begins with counting, representing, then eventually comparing numbers 0 to 5. We would like to thank our Kindergarten families for sending in all the necessary materials to help get the year off to a great start!

FIRST GRADE NEWS

This school year has been off to a great start. We're getting adjusted with classroom routines and really beginning to settle into learning. We started our first math unit which focuses on the concepts of addition and subtraction. Our reading unit focuses on how plants and animals grow and change. If you are not yet connected to ClassDojo, please do so as soon as possible. This is where we have important announcements and information. It is the easiest way to contact your child's teacher. We're looking forward to a fun year ahead filled with learning and growing!

SECOND GRADE NEWS

Welcome back to school! We are so excited that you are here! We just finished up our Foundations and Routines Unit and are in the process of Unit 1 in ELA where we are learning all about Plants and Animals in Their Habitats! We are also practicing choosing just right books and building our reading stamina! In Science, we already finished up our Social and Emotional Unit as well as our Human Growth and Development Unit. We are currently in Unit 1 where we are learning about Discovering Science and will soon be in Unit 2 where we will be learning about The Needs of Living Things! In Math, we have completed Unit 0 and are finishing up Unit 1 where we have learned how to Add and Subtract with Facts to 20. We will soon be in Unit 2 where we will be building our Foundations for Multiplication by Working with Equal Groups as well as Unit 3 where we will be learning how to Add with Sums to 100. Parents, please monitor your child's backpack and stay in constant communication with your child's teachers through Class Dojo. We can't wait to continue in 2nd Grade!

THIRD GRADE NEWS

We have begun the school year with smiles and academic rigor. Third grade is focusing on getting the students used to rules and routines in each class. They have started reading and math instruction. We ask for you to please look for homework and agendas nightly.

We also are pushing phonics instruction so please review the sounds of the alphabet with your child and always encourage them to read daily at home. We are looking forward to seeing your child or children soar in this new year. Thank you Your Third Grade Team

FOURTH GRADE NEWS

Welcome back to school! Fourth grade is already working hard on many things. We have already learned about classroom routines, procedures and expectations and have already begun working in all subjects. We have started our first ELA unit about observing nature. We are also learning place value to one million and have begun the nature of science unit.

Fourth grade students will have homework Monday through Thursday in both math and ELA. They are also expected to read each evening for twenty minutes. Please make sure that your student is doing their homework in order to help them have a successful year. We are excited to have your students in our classes this year and are looking forward to a fabulous year.

FIFTH GRADE NEWS

Fifth grade is working hard and already doing some great work! We have been busy going over and practicing our rules, routines, and procedures. We started our Benchmark unit in ELA, Cultivating Natural Resources. We will be learning about how our Natural Resources affect our lives. In Math, we are working on decimal place value, and how to read decimals and in Science, we are working on the Nature of Science.

Fifth grade students will have reading and math homework weekly. They should also be reading 30 minutes each. Please encourage your students to complete their homework as it sets them up for success this year. We are excited to have your students in our classes, and are looking forward to a great year!!

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

Welcome to middle school to our 6th graders and welcome back to our 7th and 8th graders. We have spent the first two weeks setting up our routines and expectations. We have now started working on grade level units and students have homework and independent reading work to complete. Please encourage your students to keep up with their due dates in their planners. We are teaching them to organize their work and set priorities. We are excited for a great new year!

SCHOOL INFORMATION



PARENT LIAISON

Welcome back North Grade Tigers, Volunteers, and Business Partners. We hope you all had a wonderful summer. We are back and ready for another great school year.

We are always looking for volunteers. If you signed up last year to be a volunteer, then you are ready to begin volunteering. You do not need to register again. If you are new to the school and would like to volunteer, you will need to go to the front office and have your license scanned. You will also need to sign up on the front computer to be a volunteer.



CAFETERIA NEWS

This year all students receive breakfast and lunch at no charge. We do ask that you complete the Income Survey. By completing this survey, it could entitle you to additional benefits. Please notify the Food Service Manager about any dietary restrictions your student may have. If the student has any allergies, we will need the doctor to complete a form with the information. In addition, you must first see the school nurse.



POPCORN FRIDAYS

In the previous years we would have Popcorn Fridays. Almost every Friday we would sell popcorn at the school. The cost of a bag is \$1.00. We use the money raised to defer the cost of our Safety Patrol Trip to Washington, D.C.

In order for Popcorn Fridays to return, we need parent volunteers to come in early on Friday mornings to pop the popcorn and bag it. If you are interested in volunteering for Popcorn Fridays, please contact the school at 561-202-9301.



MEDIA CENTER NEWS

Welcome back. I'm Ms. Abrams, the new Media Specialist here at North Grade. This year, the students will begin checking books the first week in September. Students are reminded to be responsible with their books, keep them safe, and free of food, writing, etc. Books are due each time the students visit the media center (every sixth school day).

Students in 3rd - 5th grades are encouraged to participate in the Battle of the Books. Please see the information linked regarding the competition and to access the list of books available in the media center, at all public libraries, and on MackinVIA found in the Portal. Links to letter of explanation and list of books:

[Battle of the Books](#)
[List of Books](#)



FUN FRIDAYS

Almost every Friday, we have Fun Fridays. Each Friday there will be a different theme, such as, crazy hat day, favorite team day, or pajama day. Students may come to school dressed representing the theme for the week. We send flyers home about the upcoming theme and send out Parent Link phone calls to remind parents of the theme.

September 1 – Favorite Animal Character

September 8 – Tiger Pride Day

September 15 – Dot Day

September 22 – Fall Color Day

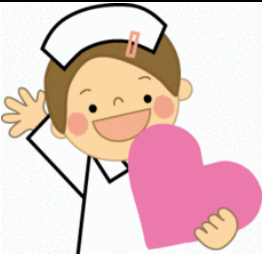
September 29 – Heart Day (Wear red or hearts)



SIS GATEWAY

The SIS Gateway provides parents and students with real-time access to student information including schedule, grades, attendance, assessment data, and much more.

We will be sending home the access codes at Open House. If you don't make it to open house, please check your student's backpack for the paper. 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.



FROM THE DESK OF YOUR HEALTH CARE DISTRICT SCHOOL NURSE:

It is important that up-to-date emergency contact information and working phone numbers are on file for each student. Please be sure to provide the school with any emergency contact changes as well as any new phone numbers, this way you will be able to be reached in the event of an emergency.

If your child has any medical conditions or requires medication in school, please make arrangements to speak to your School Nurse regarding a plan of care for this school year. School Nurses can assist in meeting the health care needs of your child while at school, helping them be better prepared to learn.

For more information visit:

www.hcdpbc.org/schoolhealth



SCHOOL WEBMASTER

The North Grade website can be a one-stop place for information about the school. You also can find the email address for any staff member here too. Click on the link below to visit the website.

[SCHOOL WEBMASTER LINK](#)

Check out this page for information about the school and information from the District.

NORTH GRADE'S SOCIAL MEDIA



If you don't already know, you can follow North Grade on Facebook and Twitter. Our handle for Twitter is:

North Grade@NorthGradeEL

Facebook: North Grade Elementary School



CAR LOOP PROCEDURES

Your child's safety is very important to us and we have developed guidelines for the Car Loop that ensures your child's safety and that the car loop moves smoothly. We understand parents need to get to work on time.

- Drive through the car loop at a slow speed.
- **There is no exit from the car loop prior to 7:30 am.** You are not allowed to turn around to go out. **The car loop is one way only.**
- Keep your vehicle in the right of the lane. We need the other lane open for staff members coming to work or emergency vehicles. Do not straddle the lane.
- **Parents are not to exit their vehicles** to help their student out. Hugs and kisses should be done in the car.
- The car loop is one way. You are not allowed to exit the car loop in the opposite direction. The gates open at 7:30 am in accordance to School District Policy. If you need to drop off your child prior to 7:30 am, it must be off campus
- The car loop is a single lane. The cones are there to restrict drivers from driving around and passing other vehicles. Do not pass the other cars in line, please.
- No cell phone use while you are in the car loop. There are signs posted.
- All students must be unloaded from the **right** passenger side of the vehicle.
- **All personal items should be inside the vehicle and not in the trunk.**
- If your child is in a child safety seat, please help them out of the seat before you are ready to drop them off.
- Pull all the way forward so you are directly behind the car in front of you. There should be no space.
- Do not unload where there is not a sidewalk.

By following these guidelines, we can keep our students safe and the car loop line moving smoothly.

SCHOOL INFORMATION



PTO NEWS

Welcome back North Grade Tigers! We hope everybody had a great summer and you are ready for a wonderful school year! The Parent Teacher Organization held its first meeting on Tuesday, September 12th at 8:15 am. Thank you for those that were able to attend.

The current members of the PTO are hoping to find parents that want to volunteer this year and in the coming years. Current members are eager to spend time with new volunteers, showing them the ropes, so that they can take over when it's time for the current members to "graduate." This year is the last year for our current board members so we need parents whose children will be at North grade for the next few years to take over so the PTO can survive. Signing up for PTO does not commit you to volunteering and help can be offered as much or as little as you like. We also appreciate monetary donations as our operating budget is strictly through parent and community donations. Volunteering can take on many different forms: making copies, sending emails, making social media posts, creating fliers, working events, purchasing items for events, encouraging community sponsors and participation, and coming up with great ideas that make school at North Grade fun and fulfilling for the kids.

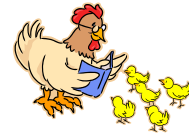
Coupon books are currently for sale. This is the biggest fundraising opportunity for PTO for the entire year. Books, sent home with the students, cost \$25 and offer hundreds of dollars in savings at local restaurants and stores. PLEASE support your child and child's teacher by purchasing a book! If you decide not to purchase the book it should be returned immediately to your students' teacher. If you choose to purchase additional books online, click on the link:

[Coupon Books](#)

and the portion of money earned from the purchase will be credited to North Grade. Please feel free to share this link with family and friends, even if they do not live in Palm Beach County, as books for other areas can be purchased as well and still be credited North Grade.

Please join PTOs Facebook page for event postings.

LITERACY TIPS FOR PARENTS



Dear Parents/Guardians:

Every month in the Newsletter we will be offering parents ideas and tips for how they can help their child improve his/her reading skills. One of the most beneficial ways to improve your child's reading skills is by either reading to your child daily or if your child already knows how to read, you can make sure your child reads every night for 20 to 30 minutes.



BAND AND CHOIR NEWS

We are gearing up for after-school clubs in music! Information has gone out regarding Choir (3rd-5th grade) and Orff Ensemble (3rd-5th grade) soon. These groups have a limited capacity and fill up quickly, so please don't hesitate to apply using the link on ClassDojo. We look forward to a great year of music-making!



Special Olympics
Florida



SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Hey Dudes and Dudettes!

Klohe Jagosits and Mateus Aragao – Mota competed in the Special Olympics State Surfing Championship on Saturday, August 26th in Cocoa Beach. Klohe and Mateus were both stoked to begin their competitions. The surf conditions were epic and they each had an awesome set of waves for their heats. Let's all Congratulate Klohe for winning a Gold Medal and Mateus for winning a Silver Medal in his first State Surfing Championship.



Klohe – Gold Medalist Mateus – Silver