



# Roadrunner Express

Shannon Haire

Principal

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*Reaching Every Student– All Day, Every Day, Every Way!*

*From Ms. Haire and Mrs. Sumner*

Dear Parents,

Here's hoping all of you enjoy a wonderful HOLIDAY SEASON filled with love, laughter, family and friends. Although our winter break is only a few weeks away, we plan to use every available moment to continue excellent, focused instruction for our kids. As always, we will continue to carefully monitor the academic progress of our children in order to keep them moving forward. You can help by talking to your child about the importance of hard work, determination, and concentration. During this exciting time of year, it is easy to become distracted. We want to work with you to ensure that learning continues.



## Important December Dates

|                |                                                       |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| NONE           | SAC (5:30) & PTO (6:00)                               |
| Dec.8- Dec. 12 | Holiday Shop                                          |
| Dec. 16        | K, 1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Health Screening |
| Dec. 19        | End of Second 9 Weeks                                 |
| Dec. 22-Jan. 5 | Winter Holidays                                       |
| Jan. 5– Jan. 6 | Teacher Planning Days                                 |
| Jan. 7         | Students Return                                       |

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[www.fb.com/ruedigerroadrunners](http://www.fb.com/ruedigerroadrunners)

## **Suspicious Activity Reporting**

<https://getfortifyfl.com/>

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



Please be sure you are able to  
log into **FOCUS**  
to check your child's grades.



*Sign up for Remind & make sure your email is up to date in FOCUS, so you can receive important information from your child's teacher as well as school news.*





### **Pre-K News**

As the days continue to fly by, we look back on all the wonderful things we have learned about the world around us. We continue to study the buildings in our environment! When using our five senses, we observe and investigate questions such as "What do we know about buildings?" "What do we want to know about buildings?" "What do the buildings in our neighborhood and around us look like?"

We're not sure who's enjoying this study more...children or teachers! We are so proud of them. Below are some activities to try at home:

**Cardboard castles:** Cut the top off a small cardboard box and glue paper towel tubes to the corners to create turrets. Decorate with cut-out or drawn windows and doors.

**Popsicle stick and toothpick structures:** Build houses and other structures using craft sticks and toothpicks.

**Paint with tools:** Provide various tools like nuts, bolts, and washers, have children dip them in paint, and use them to stamp or roll on paper to create unique artwork.

**Geometric buildings:** Have children glue geometric shapes like squares, rectangles, and arches onto a sheet of paper to build structures.



Thanks,  
The Pre-K Team

### **1st Grade**

It is so hard to believe that we have made it halfway through the school year!

First graders are showing significant reading growth according to their online STAR Early Literacy tests. We will also take the online STAR reading test soon, which can be more of a struggle for first graders when they take it the first time. There are short reading passages and fill in the blank questions that can be challenging. Make sure to read with your child, or listen to your child read, every night in addition to the regular weekly homework to help build their reading confidence.

Before winter break, we will be learning about Holidays around the world, such as Kwanzaa, Hanukkah, and Diwali. Many of our students come from diverse backgrounds, and it is important for students learn about different cultures and traditions.

In math, we are beginning chapter 2, which is understanding numbers as tens and ones. From there, we will move on to chapter 3 which is comparing numbers. Numbers are all around us, and these are great topics to talk about anytime the students see a two-digit number.

Since the weather is cooling down, please make sure your child has a jacket with them at school. On days that the temperatures are below 44 degrees, we will not be playing outside. If your child has asthma or any other conditions that are affected by the cooler weather, please let your teacher know.

Thank you for your support!  
The First Grade Team

### **Kindergarten**

Can you believe 2025 is coming to an end? The students have been in school for four months and have learned so much. We cannot wait to see the continued growth over the next few months. We are almost done learning all of our letters and are working on blending them to create words!

Please remember to practice number words, color words, and sight words weekly. We are also diving deeper into our comprehension skills. To help your child at home, after reading to them, ask them some questions. This will build their comprehension skills. Be sure to ask them who the characters are, where is the setting, what happens first, next, and last? These are all great questions to help them recall what they have learned.

We are hard at work learning about numbers 0-10. Please review these concepts at home: greater than/less than, having 1 or 2 more/less than a given number, counting backwards from 5, and ordinal numbers to 5.

If you have not done so already, please contact your child's teacher to schedule a parent/teacher conference to discuss your child's progress.

Thank you for all your hard work and support!

The Kindergarten Team



## **Second Grade**

The weather is starting to cool off! Please encourage your child to wear a jacket to school. Second grade students have been exploring different strategies while working with 2-digit addition in math. Keep reviewing those basic addition and subtraction facts at home! In reading, our scholars are working hard to identify the main topic and key details of a text. When reading with your child each night, ask them questions. Who are the main characters? What is the story mainly about? How are the actions of one character affecting the outcome of the story? Being able to analyze a text is a skill that is expected of all third grade students. So let's start working on it now!



## **3rd Grade**

**Happy Holidays, 3rd Grade Families!**

**December is here, and we've got lots of fun learning planned!**

**In social studies, we'll be taking a trip around the globe as we explore different holidays celebrated around the world.**

**In reading, we'll keep practicing how to find the author's purpose and the central idea in what we read.**

**In math, we're jumping into area and perimeter and learning how to use them in real-life situations.**

**We're excited for a great month filled with learning, fun, and holiday cheer!**

**The Third Grade Team**



## **ESE K-2nd**

Happy Holidays! I hope that everyone will have peaceful and happy holidays with family and friends. This time is a nice break from our normal routines, but it can still be a fun time for learning and practicing educational skills. There are opportunities for continued growth with time spent together doing some of the following: holiday baking (kids love to help measure and mix), writing cards and thank you cards for family and friends, reading daily, and learning new games. There are some fun winter ideas on this website:

<https://www.waterford.org/blog/winter-break-activities/> .

Mrs. Ruane



## **ESE 3rd-5th**

Students are working on comprehension with poems and continuing to work with vocabulary. In math we are working on fractions. Please continue to help your students work with multiplication I hope you have a great December. See you in the New Year!

Mrs. Harvell



#### 4th Grade

Wow, it's hard to believe this year is wrapping up and the school year is almost halfway over!

In math, we are in the midst of *Fraction World*. We are learning how to generate equivalent fractions as well as comparing and ordering them. Please continue quizzing your child on their multiplication facts. It is such an important skill that helps almost every 4<sup>th</sup> grade skill, including fractions!

In ELA, we recently participated in a mock writing test, and the students did well. We are continuing to practice our writing, focusing on the introduction and body paragraphs. Next up is also poetry, where we will be applying our reading skills to a variety of poems.

Please continue to check math homework daily as well as practicing math facts. Reading homework is another tool being used to review and practice important skills. Please continue to encourage students to complete all assignments. Keep up the hard work and dedication!

As a reminder, we have an upcoming field trip to St. Augustine. Please turn in signed permissions slips and money as soon as possible. If you are interested in chaperoning and have not reached out to your child's teacher, please do so as soon as possible.



The Fourth Grade Team

#### 5th Grade

Read! Read! Read! We need our 5th graders reading every night so they can come back to school and take AR tests. This helps increase vocabulary, background knowledge, and comprehension. The pay-off is much greater than the task. In reading, we will be working on text structure- problem and solution, informational text and synonyms.

In social studies, we will be reading about *Winter Celebrations* around the world. In science, we are working on the structure of living things and astronomy. Take time to strike up a conversation with your child about these topics. Math will be moving on to working with fractions.

As we are getting near the middle of the school year, ask your child if he/she needs to replenish any of their school supplies. Some of our students are running out of space in their journals and **HAVE YOU SEEN THEIR FOLDERS??**



The Fifth Grade Team





### **Special Area—Mrs. Colson—School Counselor**

Families, we see you. Your support, encouragement, and presence make a difference every day. As we wrap up the first semester and head into winter break and the holiday season, now is the perfect time to check in on assignments, connect with teachers, and make sure students finish strong. When we work together, students thrive.

Take a moment to notice how far your child has come. They've faced challenges, tried new things, discovered strengths, and grown in ways that may not always be visible. Growth isn't always smooth—or predictable—but it is always meaningful. Our guidance lessons continue helping students build resilience, confidence, and skills they can carry beyond the classroom.

Give grace—to your children and yourselves. Learning and growing can be messy. Celebrate effort, guide through struggles, and keep showing up. Your consistency and encouragement shape who they are becoming.

We also encourage families to review school policies and procedures and stay in touch with teachers and our school team. Clear communication keeps everyone on the same page and strengthens the environment where students can thrive.

Looking ahead, the Guidance Department has new initiatives brewing for the new year. These programs are designed to strengthen students' confidence, social skills, and transferable life skills—tools they can carry both academically and personally. We're excited to see students shine through these opportunities.

As the holiday season and winter break approach, take time to rest, reflect, and celebrate wins—big or small. And remember, resources are available for families in need:

- Find free groceries, hot meals, and pantry locations here: [fightinghunger.org/find-food/](https://fightinghunger.org/find-food/)
- Access school district support and community resources here: Leon County Schools Family & Community Resources <https://www.leonschools.net/Domain/7259>

From the RES Guidance Department: thank you for trusting us to guide, encourage, and care for your children. Together, we can finish the semester strong and set the stage for a new year of growth, resilience, and achievement.

"Growth may be quiet, but it leaves the loudest impact."





Let the  
**\$hopping**  
Begin!



## **Roadrunner Holiday Shoppe** **December 8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>**

*Shopping Hours*  
*10:00-2:30 each day*

The Roadrunner Holiday Shoppe is back for your shopping pleasure. This is a time for students to ***secretly*** make their Christmas gift purchases for family, teachers, and friends. Money should be placed inside of the attached envelope and sent back with your child for them to shop with. Please make sure to fill in the names of the people that the student is purchasing a gift for, as well as the amount to be spent on each person. (Even if one is for them!) We will have gifts for mom, dad, brother, sister, grandma, grandpa, aunts, uncles, cousins, teachers, friends and even pets. **Gifts will be priced between 25 cents up to \$17.50.** Types of items include watches, jewelry, toys, key chains, coffee mugs, pens, games, ornaments, hats, squish toys, flashlights, and much more.

***Don't want to send cash with your child, then purchase a Shopping Voucher online for them to use.*** Visit the website [www.funhgs.com](http://www.funhgs.com) or scan the QR code on the attached flyer and use your debit or credit card to put money on the voucher for them to use. Write the voucher number on the back of the envelope and fill in the gift list on the front then return to school. **If you would like to volunteer to help set up, work at the shop one or two days, wrap gifts, or pack it up, email Mrs. Dorband at [dorbandb@leonschools.net](mailto:dorbandb@leonschools.net).** Thanks for your support!



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