



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,

As this year continues to fly by, it's hard to believe that March has already arrived. We have recently completed our winter progress monitoring for reading and math, which enables us to look at each student and determine how much growth he or she has made since the beginning of the year. As always, I am pleased to report that academic progress is still alive and well at Ruediger. From pre-k through fifth grade, our reading and math progress monitoring shows growth and improvement for many of our kids. If you are concerned about your child's progress, please don't hesitate to schedule a conference with the teacher to discuss progress and find out how you might be able to help at home.

With the final administration of the FAST (Florida Assessment for Student Thinking) coming up quickly for kids in grades 3-5, you probably know that we are 100% focused on academics. Please continue to monitor grades and encourage your kids to put forth their very best effort every single day. As always, thank you for your continued support!

- Check their agendas and grades daily.
- Make sure homework is completed correctly and turned in.
- Read for 20 minutes every night.
- Be at school every day - on time and for the entire day.
- Focus on academics, hard work, and effort.



Important March Dates

March 7	SAC (5:30) & PTO (6:00)
March 7	Report Card Night (by appt only)
March 8	End of Third Nine Weeks
March 11-15	SPRING BREAK - NO SCHOOL (Campus Closed This Week)
March 18	Teacher Planning Day
March 19	Students Return
March 20	All Pro Dads
March 27	Report Cards– in FOCUS
March 28	STEAM & College Night

Box Top News

It's almost spring and you can feel it in the air. Along with spring, comes Spring Break. As you prepare for a week of fun and excitement with your little ones, don't forget to scan those receipts. Be on the lookout for an update on our progress and also information regarding a friendly competition between the grade levels. Let's see who can earn the most during the month of March.

Why Milk?

There are few foods that match the overall nutrition benefits of milk, which is why it is often referred to as "nature's perfect food." From growing children, to athletes, to seniors, milk offers a healthy blend of nutrients to enhance health. Milk can be incorporated into a variety of fun snacks. For example, try blending up a smoothie using fruits you have on hand, ice, and an 8-oz. serving of milk. To further the fun, try freezing the mixture in a paper cup with a popsicle stick for smoothie popsicles. As an occasional treat, mixing ½ cup of instant pudding with reduced-fat milk is a quick and easy way to enjoy a delectable dessert. Dairy may not be an option for your little one, but not to worry! Lactose-free milk is available for those who suffer from lactose intolerance. Unsweetened soy milk is also an acceptable alternative. These substitutions offer similar levels of vitamin D, calcium, and other nutrients that milk provides. No matter the milk you choose, incorporating 2-3 servings of dairy into your family's daily nutrition will keep everyone's bones strong and healthy. For more information, visit: <https://thedairyalliance.com/dairy-nutrition/health-benefits-of-dairy/>.

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Pre-K News

We are wrapping up our Balls study. So far, we have investigated the following: Do all balls bounce? Do all balls roll? What makes balls move? This month, we will begin exploring the following: Who uses balls? What are balls made of? We have also been learning all about force, circumference and diameter.

In literacy, we are continuing to learn letter sounds and beginning to introduce print concepts and sight words! We are continuing to work on our counting skills. We will celebrate our learning with Cotton Ball Olympics!!!

Friendly reminder: End-of-the-Year Meetings will be held in Late April/May

The PreK Team



1st Grade

It is March already! This year is going by so fast! The end of the 3rd nine weeks is March 8th, followed by Spring Break.

Let's keep those first grade skills going strong and make sure they are reading during the spring vacation. Practice comprehension skills such as finding main idea and details in non-fiction texts, problem and solution and lessons to be learned in fiction and fantasy texts. If your child is struggling with a word when reading, encourage them to sound out the word before offering it to them. First grade teachers are helping as needed, but the students are responsible for reading the test stories on their own. This helps prepare the students for second grade, where the demands are even higher.

In math, we are working on addition and subtraction relationships. Please provide your child with basic facts practice when in the car or even in addition to the nightly homework.

As always, thank you for your support! We are looking forward to a great 4th nine weeks and last few months!

The First Grade Team

Kindergarten

Can you believe that it is already March? Our students have learned a lot of new skills during this 3rd nine weeks. Though Spring Break is near, let's continue to push our students to help get them ready for first grade. Please continue to practice and work with them at home on letter names, letter sounds, sight words, blending, and reading simple sentences.

We just completed a chapter in math on putting together and taking away to 5. Next, we will begin a new chapter on putting together and taking away to 10. Please review these concepts and the plus and minus symbols with your child at home. Once again, we appreciate your patience and involvement in your child's learning

The Kindergarten Team





Second Grade

Where has the time gone? It's hard to believe that in a few weeks we will be entering the 4th and final nine weeks of the school year. Our second-grade scholars have been working hard and gearing up for third grade. In Reading, they are sharpening their skills on analyzing texts, and responding to short answer questions. In math, they're learning all about 3-digit addition and subtraction with regrouping.

Parents, don't forget to strongly encourage your Road Runner to read, read, and read some more. We are striving to achieve at least 85% of student A.R. goals. Please review FOCUS weekly and be on the lookout for important notes from the teacher.

Thank you for your continued support at home.



The Second Grade Team

3RD GRADE

Hello third grade family! We are super excited for our very first field trip to the Jacksonville Zoo coming up on March 7th.

As we get ready to wrap up the third nine weeks, we are working hard to master our reading comprehension strategies and our math skills.

Please remember that students should be completing their homework nightly, reading for 30 minutes, and studying their multiplication facts. As Always, if you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to your scholar's homeroom teacher.

Third Grade Team



ESE

K-2nd

Happy March Roadrunners! In our small groups, we are continuing to work hard on grade level academics and our personal goals. It is important that our spelling words and sight words are being practiced at home, doing so will greatly benefit your little roadrunner!

As we approach Spring Break, it's important that your students continue to practice their academic skills at home. This can be done with flash cards, reading books, or free worksheets found online.

Mrs. Gargan

3rd-5th

We are hopping into March Roadrunners. In language arts we continue to work on reading goals and are focusing on poetry and writing. In math we continue to work on word problems and multiplication and are focusing on fractions. Please continue to work with your child at home nightly. Your support is essential and students are showing so much progress. Let's keep up the good work!

Mrs. Harvell



This month will have an emphasis on science, the five senses and exploring light and sound. We will be introducing new sports such as tee-ball and soccer as part of our curriculum!

Mrs. Whitley and Mrs. Gallegos



4th Grade

Our fourth graders had the wonderful opportunity to attend Blended Lives last month. This fit perfectly with our focus on Black History month. If you haven't, take some time to ask them about the history of Tallahassee, John G. Riley and the Goodwood Museum! We all had a wonderful time exploring these two sites.

Some students also attended our St. Augustine trip! While there, we continued to learn more about Florida's history. Our tours focused on the Spanish conquest, the British take over of St. Augustine and the many battles that occurred at the Fort Castillo de San Marcos.

In math, we are working on angles, line segments and triangles, next up is units of measurement. Anytime that you can, please allow your child to cook/bake with you in the kitchen to help prepare them for units of measurement.

In reading, we are about to complete our Unit 2. We have covered many reading skills thus far! This upcoming month we will tackle our next writing practice and prepare for the fourth grade writing test.

Fourth Grade Team

5th Grade

We continue to work on rigorous material in the classroom to help prepare our 5th graders for the different FAST and FCAT tests that they will participate in this year.

In Ms. Norman and Mrs. Atkins' classes, the students have been focused on expository writing. The skill for the reading unit is Poetry.

Science continues to make discoveries with Mr. Rwito and the STEM class. We are learning about our environment and its changes in Unit 10.

In math, we are still using fractions and mixed numbers to find area and perimeter of rectangles. Then we will dive into two- and three-dimensional figures.

Please look over your child's homework each night and give any extra support needed. We would also like to ask for our parents to please discuss the importance of BEHAVIOR. When behavior is on task, learning becomes better, and the more fun activities we can do.

5th Grade Team

Special Area: ART

This year in Art class we have been on an EPIC journey through the Elements of Art and Principles of Design. Artists in Kinder thru 5th grade have been learning the elements and incorporating them into projects. From the Brown Bear (K- texture) to the Shaking Dog inspired by Iris Scott (2nd- Movement), the Warm/Cool Landscapes (3rd- Color) to Japanese Pagodas (4th Contrast), the Biome Jars (5th- Emphasis, texture, value) and so much more, we have been using new materials and creating masterpieces while integrating art with other subjects and having lots of fun along the way!

Youth Art Month is upon us, the county wide YAM Art Show at the main Leroy Collins Library will be up for the entire month of March. Selected works from Ruediger Artists in K-5 will be on display and our Opening Night is Thursday March 7th from 5:30-7pm, all are invited to come!

Artistically Yours, Ms. Kidd
Art K-5 Ruediger Elementary

