



Nicole Patterson
Principal

Tiger-rific News

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 in December. Date is TBD. 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 3rd, 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

2	SAC Meeting ~ 8:15 am in Cafeteria
11-17	Holiday Gift Shop
TBD	PTO Meeting @ 8:30 am Cafeteria
20	End of 2 nd Nine Weeks (Middle School)
23-31	Winter Break – No School

Calendar Events ~ January

1-6	Winter Break ~ No School
13	SAC Meeting ~ 8:30 am in Cafeteria
20	MLK Day ~ No School





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

First Grade is looking forward to a holiday season of fun and learning! Our new Benchmark Unit is, "Stories Have a Narrator". We will enjoy reading a variety of stories and identifying who is telling each story. In Science, we are learning about the properties of matter. For Math, we will start the month learning how to represent data on charts and graphs and end the month extending counting sequences. Please help your child practice counting by 2s to 20 and 5s to 100. Please also continue to practice the "trick words" daily for our Word Work homework



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 7th! We can't wait for more learning and adventures in 2nd Grade!

THIRD GRADE NEWS

We are wrapping up our last units in Reading and Math before the holidays. Please have your children study their math facts and reading skills regarding summarizing nonfiction text and text features. When we return, we will be preparing for the second FAST assessment in reading and math. In addition, we will write our first essay. Please have your child practice writing with capital letters and punctuation. 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 working hard and it shows! We just wrapped up a unit on Decimals. We are getting ready to start our new ELA unit on Author's perspective, we will be focusing on poetry during that unit. We are looking forward to this fun festive time of year!! There is a lot of fun stuff happening this month so please watch for class dojo announcements. We are also taking the iready diagnostics in both reading and math before winter break. When the time comes, we hope everybody has a happy, healthy, and restful winter break.

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.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Mrs. Howard is very happy to announce the results from the 2024 Special Olympics Fall Classic. Mateus competed in the Softball Skills event at ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex in Orlando on November 8th and 9th. During the final competition on Saturday, Mateus showed his five competitors how good he was in the following 4 Events (Batting, Fielding, Throwing and Running the Bases). At the end of the competition, Mateus lined up to receive his award. He had no idea what award he was getting and was very surprised to find out he WON the GOLD MEDAL. Awesome Job Mateus!!

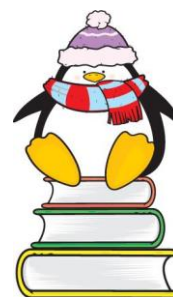


PARENT LIAISON

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 450 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

Winter Break, a great time for reading, is approaching quickly. Please consider a public library card if your family doesn't have one. The Lake Worth Beach Library on M St. offers library cards in person. The Mandel Public Library in West Palm Beach offers library cards through an online application and provides a large catalog of eBooks and audiobooks without ever having to leave home:

[Get a Mandel Public Library Card](#)

NEWS FROM THE ART ROOM

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.

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 cents and \$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 11-17, 2024. Don't forget to help your child make a shopping list!

We will also have our LAST PTO meeting of 2024 in December. The date is TBD. Please join us as we plan for 2025 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!

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.

North Grade PTO
northgradpto@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)

Hello Tiger Parents!

What a great time of the year, December has arrived! It is exciting to see the joy in the faces of middle school students during the holiday season. Due to the busy nature of the season, sometimes schedules and added responsibilities can cause stress. As the holiday season approaches, please give your child the gift of extra time. Put an I.O.U. for a special event or activity in his/her stocking. When students are asked to write about a memorable event in their lives, it isn't a special gift they usually choose to write about, but a particular experience they have had with someone special.

- Don't miss out on our middle school band playing at the Holiday Extravaganza on December 6th at Lake Worth High School auditorium. What better way to end the year than bringing families together to celebrate the community we share? And my, what an amazing community it is.
- Middle School end-of-the-year field trip has been approved, December 2nd is the due date for the deposit.

As we look forward to the rest of this month, we know it will be busy, and maybe stressful, for most families. It is our hope that December can be a month of learning; and that the preparations leading up to Christmas can be filled with joy for everyone in the NGK-8 family.

Thank you!



