



Tigre-rrific News

North Grade K - 8 Newsletter

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PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

Fall is in the air and this means the holidays are just around the corner. For our Elementary students, the first trimester ends on November 4th. As a reminder, report cards are available to parents on SIS Gateway. Be sure to check out our Calendar of Events for October and November.

The month of October is a busy month. This month, we have our Hispanic Heritage Night, Fall Pictures, Character Parade, and our PTO is hosting Literary-licious Trunk or Treat. In addition, the district is hosting the Showcase of Schools at the South Florida Fairgrounds. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn about the various choice programs the district has to offer.

October is Bullying Prevention Awareness month. One aspect of preventing bullying is online safety. We will be offering a virtual presentation on Online Safety for parents. You can find more information about this presentation in this newsletter.

We are currently in the middle of Hispanic Heritage Month. We will be hosting a Hispanic Heritage Night on October 10. Come join us and see the various displays of Hispanic culture presented by our students.

There are many items in our "lost-and-found". Most of these items are never picked up. We strongly encourage parents label all of their children's items (water bottles, lunch boxes, jackets, and sweaters). Also, we strongly suggest that parents of students in grades 3 -5 teach their children their home address and a contact phone number.

We encourage you to make sure your child is reading and doing their homework. Please make sure your child comes to school daily and on time. Thank you!

Nicole Patterson
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Assistant Principal



Calendar of Events ~ October

3	Fall Holiday ~ No School
7	SAC Meeting ~ 8:30 am in Cafeteria
	World Day of Bullying Prevention ~ Wear blue
10	Hispanic Heritage Celebration- 5:30-7 pm
11	Grades 6, 7 & 8 – end of 1 st Marking Period
14	Fall Holiday – No School
16	Wear Orange for Unity Day
17	Showcase of Schools 4 – 8 pm @ South Florida Fairgrounds
18	Trunk-or-Treat ~ 5:30 – 7:00 pm
21	Middle School Report Cards available in SIS
23	Fall Picture Day ~ All students
	Online Safety – Virtual Presentation @ 7 pm
31	Character Parade during school

Calendar of Events ~ November

3	Daylight Savings Time ends
4	End of the 1 st Trimester – Elementary
	SAC Meeting ~ 8:15 am in Cafeteria
5	No school – Teacher Work Day
6	Beginning of 2 nd Trimester- Elementary
8	Report Cards available on SIS – Grades K - 5
21	Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner
25-29	Thanksgiving Holiday – No School



CLASSROOM NEWS



KINDERGARTEN NEWS

Our Kindergarten Tigers will be moving on to our second Reading and Writing Unit: Every Story has Characters. We will be learning how to describe characters, settings, and important events to develop a deeper understanding of what we are reading. In Writing, we will respond to the stories we read and create narratives with events that happen in chronological order. Math continues with counting, representing, then eventually comparing numbers 0 all the way to 10.

FIRST GRADE NEWS

Our first graders had fun learning all about living things and their life cycles in Reading and Science. As our life cycle study concludes in Reading, we are beginning our study of fictional characters. Our character study comes at the perfect time for enjoying a Character Celebration at the end of the month. We are also excited to announce that we will be beginning a take home Word Work program for studying new phonic skills and sight words. More information about how you can help your child with these materials will be coming soon.

SECOND GRADE NEWS

2nd Grade is growing strong! We are learning every day and are excited about our units of study! In ELA, we just started Unit 2 where we are learning about Characters Facing Challenges! We are settling into our reading environments as we continue to work on building our reading stamina! In Science, we are exploring and learning about The Needs of Living Things and How Living Things Change! In Math, we are working on Fluently Adding and Subtracting with Sums and Differences within 100! Please continue to monitor your child's backpack and stay in communication with your child's teacher through ClassDojo. We can't wait for more continued excitement in 2nd Grade!

THIRD GRADE NEWS

Dear Parents of our Third Grade

We are wrapping up instruction on informational text. Next, we will dive into a fictional text paying attention to characters and themes. We are currently working on Multiplication and division two step problems. Please see the students study their basic facts of multiplication using flashcards that were provided. We have a few fun activities coming up in October. Please join us.

FOURTH GRADE NEWS

We have been very busy in fourth grade this month. Everyone had fun at our first dance. We just finished our first unit in ELA and have begun our second unit about character actions and reactions. We continue working on our expository essays during our writing block. In math we have completed the unit on place value and are working on multiplying multi digit numbers by 1-digit numbers. Everyone is looking forward to Hispanic Heritage Night on Thursday, October 10th, to Literary-Licious on Friday, October 18th and to the Character Day Parade on Thursday, October 31st. Please make sure your student is doing their homework and practicing their multiplication facts. Please remind them to complete their assignments in class and to always do their best work.

FIFTH GRADE NEWS

Fifth grade is working hard! We are getting ready to start our new unit in ELA which is our fiction unit. This unit is all about character relationships. We are working on multiplication in Math, please practice those math facts. In Science we are learning about animal adaptations and survival. The Safety Patrols are selling popcorn this month, please support them and buy popcorn on Fridays. We are going on our first Field Trip to the Kravis Center to see a musical performance next month. More information will be sent home about that. The students 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

The month of September has been very busy. Thank you to all of our families that attended the open house. Also, special thanks to all of our teachers and educational support personnel. First and foremost, we would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for your continued partnership and support in your child's education. Your involvement and dedication make a significant difference in their success. Thank you! The school year is now off and running as we are past the halfway point in the first quarter. At NGK-8, we believe that it is so important to build strong connections between home and school. We must all be talking to our students about the importance of education. (Continued on page 3)

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 trait for the month of September was Trustworthy. Being Trustworthy is defined as: Being honest: Keeping your word. Doing what you say you'll do. Offering to be helpful and follow thru with your help. Being loyal. Standing by your values & boundaries.

MEDIA CENTER NEWS

Thank you to the North Grade Families who have contributed books from our Amazon Wish List. The goal is to update the collection by 10 years and these donations assist so much with that task. If you are interested in donating a book, here is the link: [North Grade Media Center's Wish List FY25](#)

Our Battle of the Books participation rose from seven participants last year to 24 participants this year. It is exciting to see the students read for pleasure and to help their teams. If you would like to read more about the District's Battle of the Books, follow this link: [Palm Beach County School District's Battle of the Books](#)

A HUGE thank you to Ms. Ramirez's 4th grade class and Ms. Davis's 5th grade class for returning ALL of their library books this month!!

Students in 1st - 8th grades are able to borrow library books, at this time. It is the responsibility of the students to keep the books in their backpacks when they aren't being read and return them when their classes visit the media center. Students can also return and borrow books each morning from 7:35 to 7:55am, prior to going to class. Kindergarteners will begin borrowing books in mid-October. Modeling an interest in reading as well as reading with your child are the biggest predictors of reading success later in life.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Mateus Aragao-Mota participated in the Special Olympics County Softball Skills Event at John Prince Park on September 23rd. He competed in four events - batting, fielding, throwing and running the bases. This was the first time Mateus has participated in this event and he won the Blue Ribbon (1st Place). Great Job, Mateus!



FALL PICTURES

Picture day is Wednesday October 23, 2024. ALL STUDENTS will get their picture taken, even if you do not purchase them. Students must wear their school uniform for these photos. If you want to order pictures, you must pay for them first. Flyers will be sent home with students in the near future.

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS (Continued from Page 2)

October is National Bullying Prevention Month therefore let's make bullying prevention a movement in every community. Let's start by teaching our children techniques on how to help someone who is being bullied and the steps that they should take to report someone who is being cruel to others. Our NGK-8 teachers are building a positive classroom community where students are encouraged to share their feelings amongst each other and with the teacher. We strive to have a safe environment and an atmosphere where all students feel valued. Bullying hurts and it will not be tolerated!

All of our teachers are available via email on our school's website. You are also welcome to come in or call to schedule an appointment.

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Ø As you all know Hispanic Heritage Month began on September 15th and ends on October 15th, be sure to join us for the celebration on October 10th at 5:30 pm.

Ø The 1st Quarter ends October 14th, students must submit any missing work before this date.

Ø The annual Showcase of Schools will be on October 22nd at South Florida Fairgrounds.

Thank you for all of your support. As always, please contact us if you have any questions. Go Tigers!

Best,

Sonia McGowan (TOSA)

SCHOOL INFORMATION



PTO NEWS

The Parent Teacher Organization held our first meeting Thursday, August 29th. We reviewed what the PTO does during the year and elected our new PTO board.

Coupon books for sale

We are a month into the coupon book sale which is the PTO's main fundraiser for the entire school year. So far students have been great in purchasing or returning the book to their teacher if they cannot purchase. **Please remember to return the book if you will not be buying it!** The proceeds from the coupon book sale help to purchase books for the media center and classroom libraries, upgraded technology for the newsroom, sports equipment, iPads for the computer lab, team shirts, and so much more. Please try your best to buy or sell at least ONE book. The book pays for itself in just two or three uses.

Books can also be purchased online at: [Buy Coupon Books Online](#). Books purchased through the website online can be purchased for other counties and states as well and North Grade will get credit.

Trunk-or-Treat

North Grade is planning to host a Trunk-or-Treat in the school's front parking lot on Friday, October 18th at 5:30 pm. There is a \$1 per person entrance fee which gets you a cute bag to collect your candy and all proceeds will go towards helping the media center buy new books for the school library. This year the **Kona Ice** truck will be selling snow cones and 20% of the proceeds will be donated to the PTO for our media center. Please mark your calendars now and keep an eye out for flyers with more information as the date approaches. The event will be outdoors, and we need a lot of help to make it successful.

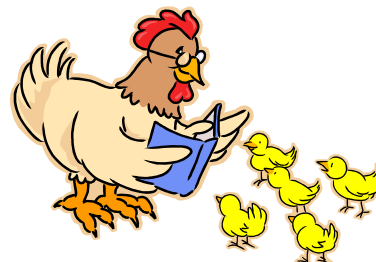
northgradepto@gmail.com.

If you are willing to decorate the trunk of your car and/or contact local businesses for donations, we would appreciate it.

In order to make this year's Trunk-or-treat successful we are running a candy collecting contest. From September 23rd until October 4th we will be collecting candy. The class that collects the most candy (in weight) will receive a Skip the Line pass for the night of Literary-Licious. This pass will allow the student and their family to skip the line to enter the event. You can also Zelle a

monetary donation for candy, every \$5 will count as one pound of candy. Please put "candy" and the teachers name in the subject.

If with you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help PTO activities, email nothgradepto@gmail.com.



READING TIPS FOR PARENTS:

From kindergarten through third grade, you may see tremendous growth in your child's literacy development. While your child may receive a lot of educational guidance from their teachers, remember that you play a major role in their success in reading and writing – at every stage of development.

To help build your child's literacy skills, here are a few things that you can do at home:

- Let your child gradually share some of the reading aloud. You read a sentence, paragraph, or page, then it's your child's turn.
- Take over if your beginner seems tired or discouraged to ensure that reading is always fun, not just hard work.
- If your child cannot sound out a word properly, suggest skipping it, reading the rest of the sentence, and then deciding what word would make the most sense.
- Leave notes on the refrigerator or in a lunch bag for your child to discover and read.
- Take your new reader to the library to sign up for his or her own library card.

Try introducing the following types of books to your child:

1. "Read-Aloud" books with plots to follow (and challenge) vocabulary.
2. Easy-to-read books your child can read alone.
3. Select a variety of books, including nonfiction, magazines, and poetry.

SCHOOL INFORMATION

October is bullying awareness month. This is a great time to talk with your children about bullying.

- **Take bullying seriously.** Make sure your kids understand that you will not tolerate bullying at home or anywhere else. Set rules about bullying and stick to them. If you punish your child by taking away privileges, be sure it's meaningful. For example, if your child bullies other kids via email, text messages, or a social networking site, stop phone or computer privileges for a period of time. If your child acts aggressively at home, with siblings or others, put a stop to it. Teach more appropriate (and nonviolent) ways to react, like walking away.
- **Teach kids to treat others with respect and kindness.** Teach your child that it is wrong to make fun of differences like race, religion, appearance, special needs, gender, etc. Try to instill a sense of empathy for those who are different. Consider getting involved together in a community group where your child can interact with kids who are different.
- **Learn about your child's social life.** Look for insight into what may be influencing your child's behavior at school or wherever the bullying happens. Talk to your kids about relationships with friends and peers and about the pressures to fit in. Get them involved in activities outside of school so that they meet and develop friendships with other kids.
- **Encourage good behavior.** Positive reinforcement can be more powerful than negative discipline. Catch your kids being good. When they handle situations in positive ways, take notice and praise them for it.

ONLINE SAFETY INFORMATION

Attention Parents! The Human Trafficking Coalition of the Palm Beaches would like to offer a virtual presentation on online safety for parents. This presentation will include:

- **Identifying online risks:** inappropriate content, and online predators.
- **Setting boundaries and expectations:** Creating healthy digital habits and guidelines for online behavior.
- **Utilizing parental controls and monitoring tools:** Effectively managing screen time and online activities.
- **Open communication and support:** Fostering conversations about online safety and addressing concerns.

The virtual presentation is on **Wednesday, October 23rd at 7 PM in English.** Please note that you need to register at: <https://forms.GLE/3NBSAKCRHCJB>

There will be a short post-presentation survey to complete after the presentation. A presentation in Spanish will also be offered at a later date! Don't miss this opportunity to learn how to keep your children safe online!



Remember “We are all Safety” and if you “See Something, Say Something”. You can notify us through the FortifyFL App.

<https://getfortifyfl.com/#home>