



The Bulldog Bulletin



January/February 2019

<https://wzes.pasco.k12.fl.us>

Principal's Pen

Dear Families,

We sincerely hope that you and your families had a wonderful holiday and a Happy New Year! We excitedly welcomed back our students on Tuesday, January 8, 2019, and though we may have had to help some students through a few sleepy moments the first day or so, we are now back into the swing of things, ready to take on the second half of the school year! It has been great to see all their smiling faces and hear about what they did during their winter break!

Speaking of the second half of the school year, can you believe that the 100th Day of School is almost here?! January 24th is the day, which means that there will only be 80 days of school left before summer, and if the past has taught us anything, it will be upon us before we know it! This time of year brings many exciting events, including STEM Fair, Field Day, and Spring Break, but also means we are getting closer to the Florida Standards Assessments (FSA) and District Finals. If you have students in grades 3-5, please be on the lookout in the coming months for FSA schedules. Attendance on testing days is so important for students, as make-up testing often occurs with someone other than their classroom teacher, and we know how important relationships, consistency, and a comfortable environment are for our students to be able to show us all the amazing things they know!

The administrative team has recently set up a fundraiser with our local Jersey Mike's Subs, and we are looking forward to engaging in this community partnership! More specific details (including dates) will be coming soon, but ANY 7" sub sandwich of your choice in exchange for a \$2.00 donation (all of which comes directly back to our school) is an absolutely delicious steal!!

As always, if there is anything our school family can do to be of assistance to your family, please don't hesitate to reach out to us.

Sincerely,

Peggy Gilbert
Assistant Principal

Counselors' Corner

Happy New Year, and new semester!

I'm your new school counselor, Maria Perez! I'll be working with Kindergarten, 2nd grade and 4th grade students this semester. I have many years of teaching and guidance experience and cannot wait to share that experience with your child. I'm also bilingual (English-Spanish), feel free to ask for me if you need an interpreter.

This month, Mrs. Cruz-Rios and I will be talking about being responsible: making good choices.

As a parent, the best way to teach a child responsibility is little by little day by day. Here are some tips to help you teach your child responsibility.

Do not teach a child anything when they are tired or hungry.

Teaching your children responsibility starts out with small tasks and chores. When your children are old enough to understand simple commands, start giving them a job or two.

- Be patient, it takes time for anyone to change their ways.

- Start when a child is very young. Start with simple tasks. Ask them to give the book to Grandma or to pick up their toys.

Give them lots of praise — and, of course, hugs and kisses. Your children will beam when they realize that they've completed a task that made you happy.

WZES students will continue the Safer, Smarter Kids lessons which will teach them how to be safe, responsible, and respectful at home and at school. Lastly, our Small Group Counseling gives our students the opportunity to discuss and learn different strategies that will help them to be successful in and out of the classroom.

As always, Thank you for letting us work with your child!
Ms. Cruz-Rios (School Counselor for Grades 1, 3 and 5)
Mrs. Pérez (School Counselor for Grades K, 2, 4)

Important Dates

- 1/7 Teacher Planning Day- No School
- 1/15 Report Cards (Available on Parent Portal)
- 1/17 McDonald's Spirit Night 5:00-8:00 PM
- 1/21 Martin Luther King Day - No School
- 1/29-1/31 Jersey Mike's Fundraiser
- 2/7 Bulldog Connection Space Night 5:30-7:30 PM
- 2/8 Progress Reports (Available on Parent Portal)
- 2/18 President's Day - No School
- 2/21 Spring Pictures
- 2/21 McDonald's Spirit Night 5:00-8:00 PM



Reading/Writing News

Sunshine State Young Readers Award Program

We are excited about the Sunshine State Young Readers Program that students have the opportunity to engage in for the semester.

About the Program: The Sunshine State Young Readers Award (SSYRA) Program is a statewide reading program. We have book lists for grades K-2 and 3-5.

The purpose of the SSYRA Program is for students to read books for pleasure. The program is designed to encourage students to read challenging, contemporary literature from a variety of genres for their own personal enjoyment.

Incentives and Rewards: Throughout the semester, we will offer incentives and rewards for levels of reading achieved by students. Students will keep a record of their SSYRA progress by getting their Sunshine State Stamping card stamped in the media on designated stamping days. In order to receive a stamp for reading SSYRA books, students must pass the required quiz found on canvas with a score of 70% or higher.

Students receive the following rewards for reading SSYRA book(s) and passing the quiz:

1 book= special treat and certificate

3 books= treasure box prize and certificate

5 books= popsicle treat and certificate

10 books= popcorn/bingo party* and certificate

15 books= celebration lunch and movie in media* and certificate

*denotes student will receive invitation to activity that will take place towards the end of year.

We look forward to seeing many students participate in the SSYRA reading challenge!

STEM News

Thank you parents for all of your support during our STEM Fair process. This week I finished teaching and modeling for your students how to write their conclusions and abstract. Next week the students will get their full STEM lab time to complete their power point. All projects should be finished by February 7th and ready to present to their classes throughout the month of February. In March, the top 3 in each class will go to the school fair to be scored by a panel of judges. From there, the top 8 will go on to the district fair to be held in April. Only the top 8 are supposed to create the back board. All others should be doing their project on Power Point. In order to make a graph that can be uploaded on the Power Point, go to www.createagraph.com and the students have been instructed on how to create one. Most students should be making a bar graph. It is much easier if the data has been averaged so that they only have one data point for each item tested.

On February 7th, we are going to have an exciting science night at WZES called Under the Stars. Everyone is welcome to attend! In the Media, parents are invited to experience the STAR Lab, on the basketball courts MOSI will be bringing their telescopes to view the stars, and in the cafeteria, students will be presenting their projects to anyone who is interested. This is a great opportunity for you to see the work your students have been working hard on and the work of others. We hope to see everyone participate!

Deborah Torres, STEM Resource Teacher

Art News

The Art Department welcomes Ms. Collins, who joined the staff at WZES prior to Winter Break. She is filling the position previously held by Ms. White, who transferred to Pine View Elementary.

Students in Ms. Collins classes have been creating artwork with a focus on color. Kindergarten students are learning about primary and secondary colors. First graders are learning about intermediate colors by creating their very own sea creature color wheel. Second grade students are talking about warm and cool colors by creating their own Koi pond. Third graders are creating a value ice cream cone by creating tints! Fourth grade students are busy mixing colors, using primary colors to create a grid of unique colors all their own! Fifth graders are learning about color schemes by creating Pop Art cupcakes with oil pastels.

Kindergarten students in Mrs. Brown's classes are studying primary and secondary colors. First, Second and Third grade students are using a variety of techniques to create seascapes and landscapes. Fourth grade students are creating face plaques using earthenware clay. Fifth grade students are finishing their plaster gauze mask designs using characteristics of the Cubism style.

In February, artwork will be selected for exhibit at the Pasco County Fair which will take place February 18 – 24, 2019. Letters will be sent home with students who have artwork on display with more information on the exhibits.

Math News

When our students get frustrated with math, they always ask why they need to learn it. It is important for our students to understand that math is more than multiplication and division worksheets, quizzes and tests or a class for an hour or so a day. Math is an important part of our everyday lives when we are cooking, shopping, using computers, playing sports, most jobs and so on.

Here are some ways parents can help their kids connect and practice math in "real life."

- Have your child count down the time (weeks, days, and/or hours) to a special day or holiday.
- Have your child measure ingredients for a recipe you are making
- Encourage your child to track or graph scores or states for their favorite sports team or one they play in.
- Ask your child to count the change you have in your purse or wallet or when you make a purchase.
- Compare: Which is the tallest? Longest? Heaviest? Smallest? Most expensive?
- Have conversations about how you use math in your everyday lives and in your job.

P.E. News

We are excited to be starting 3rd quarter. In PE, the standards we are working on are: Throwing & Catching Skills; Bouncing and Dribbling skills needed to play basketball; and Chasing, Fleeing & Dodging. These skills are taught through various games played by each coach. Throughout all games we are encouraging students to show good sportsmanship towards their peers.

Please remember to dress for the weather. It has been a little colder so be sure to bring a jacket. If you are missing jackets, please have your students look at the PE area and the cafeteria. There are many that need to be claimed.

Students are encouraged to use their conscious discipline techniques to help them maintain their composure during play.

Music News

Hello, I am Mr. Faivre and I am the new music teacher here at WZES. I am a recent graduate from the University of South Florida and could not be more thrilled to be teaching music here! My principal instrument is percussion, so I am excited to spend the second half of this year really getting instruments in the students' hands and letting them experience music instead of just listening to it. For all grades this 9 weeks, we will be focusing on rhythm and melody which are really fun units to be able to get students to play and really learn to perform music.



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