

MARCH 2018



A.G. Richardson Elementary School

Bulldog Express

From the Office Staff:

Parents, please write a note to your child's teacher when you need your child to change dismissal plans in the afternoon. We cannot take the child's word that he/she needs to ride the school bus or be a car rider. If last minute changes occur, notify the school before 2:15 p.m. Also, just a reminder, students are not allowed to be dropped off in the morning until 7:45 a.m. Thanks so much!

MARCH EVENTS

Friday, March 3

- 5th grade field trip to Luray Caverns
- PTO Bingo night, 5:30-7:30PM

Wednesday, March 7

- 6th grade play, "The Nightingale" presented to Kindergarten, 9:00AM

Thursday, March 8

- 6th grade play, "The Nightingale", presented to 1st grade, 9:00AM
- PTO general meeting, 6:00PM, Library

Friday, March 9

- Culpeper Tells Storyteller assembly for grades 3-5, 9:30AM
- Lunch with the Principals at Country Cookin 11:00 AM
- Family Fun Night, 6-8PM, gym (free event to AGR families)

Wednesday, March 14

- End of the nine weeks

Thursday, March 15

- Kindergarten registration, 9:00-2:00, Cafeteria
- AGR Spirit Night at Chick Fil A, 5-8PM
- CCPS Math 24 competition, 6:00PM, Floyd T. Binns

Friday, March 16

- Teacher Work Day, No school for students

Thursday, March 22

- Report cards go home in Thursday folders
- 1st grade field trip to Riverside Theater, 9:00AM

Friday, March 23

- 3rd grade Ancient Civilizations Day

Wednesday, March 28

- Spring pictures taken

Thursday, March 29

- 1st grade Reading is Fun day

Friday, March 30

- Kindergarten "Color" program for parents, 9:30AM
- Career Day presentations for grades 3-5, 9:00AM
- Spirit Day - wear AGR shirts or school colors, red and black
- Early dismissal, 1:00PM

April 2 - April 6 - Spring Break - no school for students

FIRST GRADE NEWS

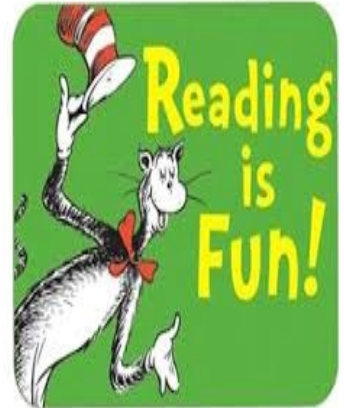
March will be an exciting month for 1st graders! We are looking forward to our field trip to Riverside Dinner Theater to see "Pocahontas" on March 22. Students will learn all about the true story of Pocahontas and her importance to the Jamestown settlement.

In reading, first graders will be increasing their fluency while reading. Different vowel patterns and special sounds will be taught. Students will practice writing contractions and compound words. Your child can increase their reading comprehension by re-telling you the story he/she has read to you. Setting aside a cozy spot in your house and a special time before bed will help establish a great reading routine in your

home.

In math, the children should continue to practice math facts with numbers up to 10. We will work on balancing equations, exploring fractions, and counting money. If you have any loose change lying around the house or in the car, gather it up and have your child practice counting the coins and telling you the value of each coin! This is a skill they will use for the rest of their lives!

Thank you for your daily support. Please remember to check your child's folder each evening. Encourage your child to tell you about the work in his/her folder.



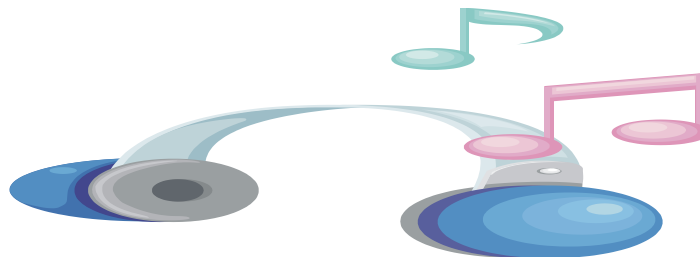
March, will it come in like a lion and go out like a lamb?



MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH

Greetings from the Music Department!

First graders are working on their program for the Spring, while Third and Fourth Graders will continue with Recorder Karate.



THIRD GRADE NEWS

The third graders will be enjoying an exciting March. "Read Across America" week begins on Monday, February 26th and runs through Friday, March 2nd. Be on the lookout for special themes each day of the week! Also, we have "Ancient Civilizations Day" coming up on March 23rd, where we will be exploring each of the five ancient civilizations. This is a great opportunity for parents to come help out and enjoy learning with us!

In reading classes, the students are continuing to improve their reading skills in comprehension, vocabulary, and oral reading fluency. We will also be looking ahead and gearing up for the Reading SOL test coming in April!

In math, we will continue to practice reading a thermometer, counting money and making change, as well as beginning our study of geometry. As we move on to

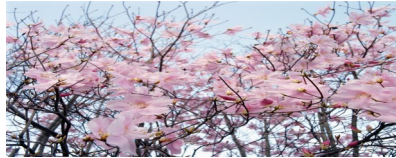
new material, please continue to review math facts with your child, such as addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. These facts are essential and will assist your child in 3rd grade and years to come! One easy way to review these facts is by using www.reflexmath.com.

Once again, we would like to thank our parents for all that they do to support our studies in the classroom. We really appreciate your help. Without it, we would not be able to do many of the things that we do to enrich the education of our students.



FIFTH GRADE NEWS

Currently in math we are working on Algebraic expressions! We are learning about variables, expressions, and how to model them. Feel free to ask your child about how to use shapes to model a linear equation and how to create a problem based on a given number sentence using a variable! Fifth graders are continuing to explore science topics including oceans, cells, animals, and plants. Thank you in advance for helping your child study each night for all of fifth grade's challenging topics. We appreciate all of your help and support!



SCA NEWS

The SCA will be having a St. Patrick's Day Coin Count beginning March 12th and ending March 14th during lunch times in the cafeteria. Two jars full of fake gold coins will be placed in the cafeteria, and for ten cents students can make a guess of how many coins are in the jar. One jar will be filled for students in grades PK—2nd and a separate jar will be filled for 3rd—5th graders. The students who guess the correct amount will be rewarded with an ice cream from the cafeteria. More information regarding the St. Patrick's Day Coin Count will be coming home on March 9th in Thursday Folders.

The SCA will be having a "SPUD" tacular Decorating contest beginning March 20th through March 23rd. Potatoes can be registered on Tuesday, March 20th and Wednesday, March 21st from 8:00-8:30 am. **Late entries will not be accepted.** Potatoes will be judged by the AGR SCA Officers and winners will be announced on Friday, March 23rd. More information regarding the "SPUD" tacular Decorating Contest will be sent home on March 15th in Thursday folders.

The SCA is having a school spirit week to coincide with this years Career Day on Friday, March 30th. Beginning March 26th and ending March 30th the SCA is asking all Bulldogs to participate in the following spirit days.

- Monday, March 26th: We Won't Sleep on Our Future *Wear your favorite pajamas. Remember the school dress code needs to be followed.
- Tuesday, March 27th: When I Grow Up *Dress as your future occupation. Remember the school dress code needs to be followed
- Wednesday, March 28th: Our Futures are Bright *Wear neon or bright colors.
- Thursday, March 29th: Our Future is Out of this World *Dress Mix Match. Remember the school dress code needs to be followed.
- Friday, March 30th: College Day (Career Day) *Wear your favorite college team apparel.

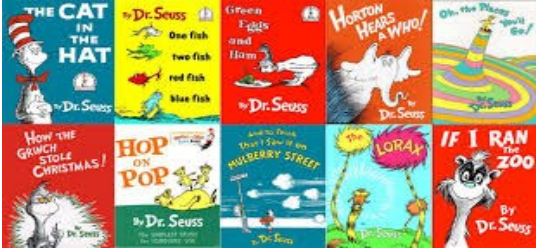
PE NEWS

JUMP & HOOPS FOR HEART: All fundraising envelopes for Jump Rope & Hoops for Heart are now due. Please turn in your collection envelope and money to Ms. Gregory as soon as possible. Please help us to reach our goal of \$5,000. All monies are to be converted to check or money order to the American Heart Association.

AGR FAMILY FUN NIGHT: Friday, March 9th, 2018 6:00-8:00pm. This is a FREE event for A.G.R. students. Join us for a night of fun playing some of our favorite P.E. games/activities. We will be doing Drums Alive, gymnastics, climbing, scooters, etc. This is not a drop off event. We encourage parents to join in the fun.

BOOSTERTHON SPONSORSHIP: We are looking for businesses to sponsor next year's event. Your logo and contact information will be on over 650 t-shirts in our community. Every student and staff member receive a t-shirt. We are asking that you commit by March 23th, 2018 with the payment due by April 27th, 2018.

KINDERGARTEN NEWS



Kindergarten will celebrate in the special Dr. Seuss activities. We will be working on our Production -
The Color Factory!
We will perform this for parents March 30th at 9:30.



FOURTH GRADE NEWS

Hello fourth grade families! We can not believe this year is flying by so fast! We are still learning new skills and have also started to review previously learned things. Your student will bring a folder home on March 19th with a parent letter in the folder and a calendar of homework assignments. Please make sure your student is completing each assignment to the best of their ability and bringing the folder to school each day. This review folder will replace the weekly math and spelling homework they have had all year, so it is our expectation that the work will be completed each night! There will be a sweet reward for doing his/her best on this folder! Thank you for all you do each day to help your child be successful at school. We truly appreciate you all!

Math to Think About...

By Candy Standley, Math Specialist

Did You Know...?

- that the real Dr. Seuss (Theodor "Ted" Geisel) was born on March 2, 1904. If he were still living, how old would he be on his birthday?
- that the book Green Eggs and Ham only has 50 words? Check out the book at the library and as you read, tally the number of words. Is it really 50?
- that over 40% of the United States Presidents had Irish ancestors? How many presidents have we had, and how many had Irish ancestors?
- that daylight saving time starts in Virginia on March 11, 2018 at 2am. It was first implemented on March 31, 1918. How many years have we been "springing forward" the clock in March?
- that it was Saint Patrick who made the shamrock so popular? How many leaves are on a shamrock? How many shamrocks are in a garden if the garden has 183 leaves?

SECOND GRADERS GO TO THE ZOO

In March, we will be starting the last quarter of the school year! In reading, we are continuing our routine of five instructional days with assessments on the fifth day. Please continue to study spelling words and encourage independent reading every evening. In math, we will be finishing up third quarter skills by learning more about fractions, calendar skills, and telling time to the nearest five minutes. Parents, please take a few minutes several times a week to ask your children questions pertaining to these concepts to reinforce these skills.

In Science, we will be studying Earth's resources and discuss various ways we use plants. We will also be studying habitats and fossils.

Our studies in Social Studies will include learning about many different famous Americans and their contributions to our country. Our field trip to Washington National Zoo is next month! Please make sure you have paid your balance.

As always, thank you for your continued support at home to help make your child's education a priority. We greatly appreciate it!

News from the AG Cafeteria

The week of March 5th is National School Breakfast week.

On Friday, March 2nd, we are celebrating Dr. Seuss with our Green Eggs and Ham Lunch.

NEWS FROM ACE/TAP



The county MATH 24 competition will be held on March 15th in the Floyd T. Binns gym. Team members should report by 5:20pm and announcements for the competition will begin at 5:45pm. The fifth grade ACE students will present independent study research at the county Symposium on April 18th in the CMS cafeteria. There will also be a question and answer session for students and parents with the middle school gifted specialist, Mrs. Bolum, prior to the Symposium. This is an evening event, exact time TBA. All events are open to the public!



Happy
Birthday
Dr. Seuss!



kids WHO READ
succeed

News from the Library

Fourth and Fifth grade students have been learning how to cite sources, other students have been listening to Virginia Reader's Choice books and will soon be voting for their favorite! It won't be long before we begin gearing up for our Buy One, Get One Scholastic Book fair! Look for more details to come home soon

News from Reading Resource

Dreaming of Summer?

Put your child in charge of planning your summer vacation. Ask him or her to check out the places that you are considering for vacation and report on their findings. Encourage them to look up the history of the area as well as fun activities that can be enjoyed by the family. If you are not planning to travel, he or she can research local day trip destinations. It is a great way to use those computer, reading, and research skills.

Counselor Corner

It is an exciting time of year for our 5th graders as they begin the transition process to Middle School.

* Parent Night for both middle schools will be March 7th!

* Online registration for Middle School electives opens March 7th, so be sure to set up your Parent Portal account PRIOR to that day! Contact Mrs. Bailey for your access code.

- Middle School tours will be April 10th. Permission slips will be sent home at later time.

All 6th graders need their Tdap vaccine for entry into middle school. Nurses will be at AGR to administer the Tdap in April. More information will be sent home.

Kindergarten Registration will be at AGR on March 15th!

Career Day is March 30th 9-10:30 for grades 3-5.

If you would like to come and share your job with us, please contact Mrs. Morrison!



ART NEWS

The Culpeper County Public Schools Art Show will be held on Saturday, March 17th, 12-4:00pm and Sunday, March 18th 1pm-4:00pm at the Daniel Technology Center, Germanna Community College, Culpeper Campus

Light refreshments will be served on Saturday while supplies last. Admission is free.

