



Estates Elementary School

Panther Press

Issue 1 2011-2012

January 2012



- **Jan 23rd - 27th** – Literacy Week
- **Jan 26th** - Books-n-Bagels 7:30
WGPU Curious Kids 7:30
PTO meeting - 8:00
SAC Meeting - 3:15
- **Jan 27th** - 5th Grade Science Fair
- **Jan 31st** - Award Assembly
5th grade - 8:30 -4th grade -9:15
- **Feb 8th** - Early Dismissal-11:50
Panther Pair Share 12 – 2 pm
- **Feb 9th** -McDonald's Night
4-6pm - 4th grade team
- **Feb 15th** - WGPU Curious Kids @ 7:30
- **Feb 20th** - President's Day
NO SCHOOL
- **Feb 23rd** - Books-n-Bagels-
7:30 PTO Meeting - 8
- **Feb 28th** - FCAT/Collier Writes
- **Feb 29th** - Interims sent home
- **March 6th** - Early Release-
11:30
- **March 8th** - McDonald's Night
4-6 pm , 2nd grade Team
- **March 14th** - WGPU Curious Kids @ 7:30
- **March 20th** - Kindergarten &
1st grade Musicals - 6 pm
- **March 21st** -Class Picture Day
- **March 22nd** - Books-n-Bagels
7:30, PTO & SAC meetings -
8:00
- **March 23rd** – Teacher Work
Day – NO SCHOOL
- **April 2nd – 6th** - Spring Break
NO SCHOOL

Principal's Corner

Dear Parents,

Let me take this opportunity to wish each of you a very Happy New Year! As we begin a New Year, it is a custom with many people to make New Year's Resolutions. If it is not already taking place in your family, please resolve to spend quality time with your children reading. Research shows that children who read at home with members of their families have increased vocabulary and background knowledge. If possible, discuss books together after reading. This helps children with a number of reading skills such as summarizing, main idea, and character development, plus discussing books together makes for great family conversation!

Please join us for the **Panther Pair Share on Wednesday, February 8, 2012 from 12:00 – 2:00 PM**. This is an opportunity for second through fifth grade parents to attend make-n-take modules with their child. Teachers will present reading, math, and writing activities that you can do at home to help your child succeed! Pre K, Kindergarten and first grade parents and children will have the opportunity to attend WGPU Curious Kids workshop, and get a free book to take home!

The more parents are involved, the more their children benefit and the greater their success!

Help us help you. Let us know what you need. Come to PTO or SAC meetings and voice your concerns. The next PTO meeting is January 25, 2012 at 8:00 AM, and the next SAC meeting is January 25, 2012 at 3:15 PM. We look forward to seeing you!

Warmest regards,

Francine Eufemia
Proud Principal

**From the Desk of the Assistant Principal
Mrs. Sheryl Rogers**

Transportation Safety

As always, we are continually working toward safe arrival and dismissal of our students. The bus loop area is for buses only. Cars may not enter the bus loop in the morning after buses have begun arriving or in the afternoon while bus transportation is in operation. The approximate time that buses are in the bus loop in the mornings is from 7:45 – 8:25 am. The approximate time that buses are in the bus loop in the afternoons is from 2:30 – 3:15 pm. If a child needs to be picked up from Sports Club prior to 3:15 pm, please either come through the car rider line and your child will be brought to the front of the school, or park in the front lot and walk to Sports Club through the front office.

We thank you for your attention to these transportation safety issues. By working together, we can provide the safest environment for our students.

Counselors Corner

**Encourage Positive Character traits in
your child**

Character trait for January is **Self-Control**.

Parents want their children to be a good person and positive role model. But what does this really mean or look like? A good person can possess many qualities such as self-control, respectfulness, honesty and courage. Here are some ways to encourage these traits in your child:

Self-control: Life is full of temptations. Kids need to learn how to utilize self-control in many forums such as in the classroom, on the bus, at home, church, a restaurant and also with a wide variety of people, young and old. Kids benefit when they are patient and calm. If your child is angry or impatient about something, help them weigh the pros and cons of possible reactions or discuss with them after that have lost control how they can handle it in the future.

Respectfulness: Kids need to be concerned about themselves and others. Help your child consider feelings. For example, “How could that decision make your friend feel?” “How would it make you feel about yourself?”

Honesty: Although being truthful is sometimes hard, it feels worse to deceive. Talk with your child about how honesty leads to trust. Set a good example by admitting mistakes. Make it a family habit to apologize, learn from things, and move on.

Courage: Standing up for beliefs can be scary. Prepare your child by role playing tough situations. Explain that it’s normal to be intimidated. Encourage them to make good decisions despite their fear. That’s a real sign of bravery.

Source: “Helping your child learn responsible behaviors,”
Parenthood.com

Natalie Hemmit
School Counselor



Literacy Week January 23-27 2012!!

This is Literacy Week in Florida and here at Estates Elementary we have some special events scheduled to highlight the importance of reading. We have some special guest readers visiting classes throughout the week and a local author whose book will inform us of the history of Collier County and Everglades City. On Thursday January 26th at 7:30 am there will be a special Books and Bagels event. Parents and students have a light breakfast and book time coupled with a Curious Kids presentation. An exciting way to start the day!!!

We hope to see you at Books and Bagels this week.

At Estates Elementary we place high importance on reading every day all year long. Parents realize the importance of reading to their child and foster a love of books and reading with their children on a daily basis.

Critical or informational reading is an area that needs focus for all children. When a child sees a parent using reading skills to learn new things or find information, she/he is more likely to gain an appreciation for reading and its usefulness.

Critical reading is the ability to draw useful information from a book, manual or article. At home parents can help their children (of all ages) by involving them in everyday activities and projects.

Children can read recipes used for cooking dinner, gather information on taking care of a pet, chart the weather from the daily newspaper, read a manual to help with a home project or read a map and help plan a trip. These are all activities that focus on informational text that parents can do together with their children.

From your NCH School Nurse

Conjunctivitis

Conjunctivitis (pink eye) accounts for more than 3 million school days lost in U.S. Public Schools.

What is it?

Conjunctivitis is the medical term used to describe swelling and irritation of the conjunctiva – which is the thin membrane that covers the inside of the eyelids and the white part of the eye. Conjunctivitis can be viral, bacterial, or allergic. “Pink eye” is the most common form of conjunctivitis.

How do you get pink eye?

It can be very contagious. Children are susceptible because they are often in close contact with each other. Some of the most common ways to get the contagious form of pink eye are:

- Re-use of towels or handkerchiefs when wiping your face or eyes
- Not washing your hands
- Touching your eyes frequently
- Using old cosmetics and/or sharing them with others
- Improper cleaning of your contact lens

How do you prevent it?

Practice good hygiene. If a child has been diagnosed with infectious conjunctivitis, make sure you do the following to prevent the spread:

- Encourage children to wash their hands often
- Advise them to avoid touching their eyes
- Use separate towels, washcloths, handkerchiefs, and tissues to wipe their eyes or face. Change daily.
- Change their pillowcase frequently

Treatment:

If symptoms persist please follow up with your physician as soon as possible. Antibiotic ointment or eye drops may be prescribed. Students may return to school 24 hours after beginning treatment for infectious conjunctivitis. We want your student back in school and ready to learn.



Pre-Kindergarten



Spring News

Welcome to the second half of the school year!! It is now time to start getting your child ready for next year. As a learning community it is very important that we work together to insure a successful school year for your child. As we embark on new educational concepts your child will need your extra help at home. Please look forward to projects and activities to do at home.

Thanks for your support, Ms. Jolie and Mrs. Angela

Kindergarten

It is amazing that your child has completed the first half of kindergarten. However, in order to successfully complete kindergarten, your child must achieve end-of-year expectations. Your child will continue to build on the knowledge and skills that have been acquired to date. With your help, we can expect your child to succeed. Please take the time to read daily with your child. This will increase vocabulary, listening skills, and the love of literature.

During the second part of the year, the most challenging subject will be language arts (writing). Your child must incorporate and apply what has been learned throughout the entire year. Some of the critical pieces of writing include capital letters, punctuation, subject-verb agreement, and word choice.

To improve writing skills, we suggest that you incorporate writing into your daily activities at home. Have your child write about the most exciting part of the day. At this time, don't worry about spelling. Spelling will improve over time. We simply want to encourage your child to write – often! With these suggestions, your child should be able to meet end of year expectations. Remember - practice makes perfect! Together we could make it happen.



* Kindergarten Team *

First Grade News

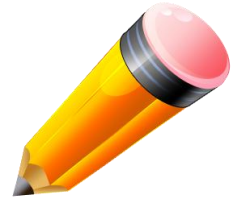
The First Grade team and students have begun the New Year with enthusiasm and new goals for 2012!

Before winter break we finished our FAIR testing in reading and the Quarterly Math test and our students have shown wonderful growth in both areas. We continue to work with our Media center on the Passport to Reading program where our students read books and take comprehension tests. They love competing with other first grade classrooms to win the trophy for the month! We are planning upcoming field trips so be on the lookout for info on those.

Please look for emails about Books and Bagels and the new program Curious Kids on Feb. 8th where you can be involved with your child in activities that promote reading and other academic areas. We always appreciate your continued support at home!



2nd Grade News



Captain Conservation

CAPTAIN CONSERVATION SAVES THE DAY! Captain conservation is coming to our school on February 3. It is sponsored by Florida Power and Light Company. Captain Conservation Saves the Day program is a school assembly program that teaches children to be heroes by conserving energy through fun, original and interactive songs. Captain Conservation is the world's only singing, guitar-playing, nature-conscious, costumed superhero. Students will learn plenty of interesting and fun and tips to help our planet.

Collier Writes

Soon we will be sending home our most recent writing assignments. We are working hard to get ready for the Collier Writes test on February 28, 2012. Please look over your child's work. Compare it to the writing rubric. This will be sent with the writing assignments. Students are expected to earn a 4 or more on Collier Writes. Two people will score the papers and the students will be given the average of the two grades. Please help your child prepare by going over the expectations. Look for, punctuation, capitals, spelling, and legibility. Students must have a topic sentence. Make sure that their stories have a beginning, middle, and an extended ending with a clear focus. Transition words (first, afterward, then, finally, etc.) are also very important. I really appreciate all of your help with this. If there are any questions, please let us know.

3rd Grade February Newsletter

Lots of excitement is brewing in Third grade! Students are working hard on improving their writing. Students have been learning how to integrate the Six Traits of Writing (Ideas, Organization, Voice, Word Choice, Sentence Fluency and Conventions) into their essays. They are constantly improving with each and every writing assignment. We are very proud of their hard work and determination to succeed!

READ! Students are expected to read for 30 minutes every night as part of their homework. Students will be assessed on their reading fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. The only way for your child to improve is for them to consistently read each and every night. Students are permitted to visit the school's library every day. Encourage your child to choose books on their reading level.

In order to succeed in math, students must know their multiplication facts. Please have your child practice their facts every night. It is imperative that students learn these facts. Please reinforce the importance of completing math homework.

All of the third grade teachers would like to thank you for your support and involvement in your child's education. It truly makes a difference not only for us, but more importantly, for your child.



4th Grade News



Fourth grade has continued to be very busy in the second quarter! We are gearing up for the FCAT writes on **February 28th**. We have been working on our expository writing and making sure that we are elaborating and adding details to our writing. As authors we want the reader of our paper to really feel like they're there with us! We are starting to work on fractions in math. It is very important to know our multiplication and division facts when learning fractions. Keep practicing! We continue to work towards our goals in reading. Good readers ask themselves questions before, during, and after reading to check for understanding and meaning from the text. All of the fourth graders are reading daily to travel around the seven continents and complete their passports. Congratulations to Mrs. Alonso and Ms. Lamorgese's classes for reading the most books for the second quarter. Keep on reading!! Parents, please join us on **February 8th** for the Panther Pair Share where you will be able to learn some strategies to help your child in reading, math and writing. Then come out and support fourth grade at McDonald's night on Thursday **February 9th**. McDonald's is located on the corner of Immokalee Rd. and 951.

We continue working hard towards meeting our learning goals every day. Remember to continue to study your times tables and read, read, read!

The Fourth Grade Team ☺

Important Dates

February 8th – Early Release Day/Panther Pair Share

February 9th – Fourth Grade McDonald's Night

February 20th – No School

February 28th – FCAT Writing

News from 5th Grade

Happy New Year—2012 is here!

Of course that means a lot of excitement for our 5th graders; all the “Moving On” activities & the start of middle school in the Fall. In the meantime—there’s a lot of academics going on between now & the end of the school year. Here are some highlights of what’s current:



Ms. Beard

Language Arts: Details, details, details! It’s all about adding the details in writing pieces to get ready for our upcoming Collier Writes test. They’re also focusing on proper grammar & spelling.

Math: Just prior to the Winter Break, we wrapped up our unit on Fractions. It’s still a (really!) good idea to keep practicing adding & subtracting fractions; both with common denominators & different denominators. Our next topic of study is 2D Geometry: Area & Perimeter.



Ms. Fulton

Science: Space. The Final Frontier—or at least it’s the current topic of study in Science class! Please also be advised that Science Fair projects are strictly DUE on January 27th. Presentation boards have been provided to your son or daughter.

Social Studies: Right now, we’re just about through with colonizing the East Coast & are gearing up to study the Revolutionary War.



Mrs. Pfrommer

Reading: Your child should be reading at minimum of 30 minutes per night. At school, they’re participating in a reading Passport Challenge—the more books they read where they pass a quick quiz (80%+), the more lines on their passport they fill. There are prizes involved!

POPCORN SALE DATES \$2/bag. (cash only)

Month	Grades K-2	Grades 3-5
January	Friday, 20 th	Friday, 27 th
February	Friday, 10 th	Friday, 24 th
March	Friday, 2 nd	Friday, 16 th
April	Friday, 13 th	Friday, 27 th
May	Friday, 11 th	Friday, 25 th



Mrs. Rodriguez

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS/CHAPERONES

If you would like to assist a teacher or a child by volunteering or be a chaperone on a field trip, please go to collierschools.com and complete a volunteer application and then call me to set up your orientation. Orientations are held on first Tuesday of the month at 8:15 a.m. in the media center.

Music Class

Third grade students are speeding through Recorder Karate and achieving more belts each day. The 3rd grade (and Chorus) concert will be on May 15. The spring chorus will start up again on Jan 24 at 7:20 AM practicing every Tuesday morning from 7:20-8:00. If you were in chorus this fall, just continue coming to practice. If you weren't previously a chorus member, want to join, and are in 4th or 5th grade, bring the sign-up form to chorus practice on Jan. 24. In addition to the concert on May 15th, the chorus will sing a patriotic song at the School Board meeting held at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Administrative Center, 5775 Osceola Trail in Naples on February 14th at 4PM. Students are requested to be there at 3:30 PM. As this is after school hours, students must have their own transportation to and from the Administration Center. ** In preparation for this important performance, there will be one extra practice only for those students who will be at the School Board performance in addition to the weekly Tuesday practices on Wednesday, February 8, 2012 from 7:20-8:00 AM.

On December 20, the 4th grade put on a fantastic Winter Concert featuring guitars, percussion, keyboard, xylophones, and group and solo singing. Great job!

2nd grade performed beautifully in their musical, Seussical Junior, this past November.

Kindergarten and 1st grade are now working hard to prepare for their musicals, which will both be held on March 20 at 6PM in the cafeteria.



5th grade is working on composing songs which will be performed at their annual concert. Stay tuned for more details!

Mrs. Hilary Shore
Music Teacher

Technology

Kinder - started using MS Word to write upper and lower case letters of the alphabet.

Grades 1-3 Utilizing brainpopjr.com to demonstrate the scientific principles of Force and Motion.

Grade 4 Writing and reflecting on the Food Chain and creating a PowerPoint containing scientific vocabulary definitions.

Grade 5 Demonstrating knowledge of adaptation and natural selection.

Also using Discovery Education articles and videos to answer essential questions regarding adaptation and the moon phases.



Marnie (Marilyn) Scullin, M.S
Instructional Resource

Department of English Language Learners

All parents of students in the ELL program are provided with free access to an on-line parent resource site called Parentsk12. You may access the site by going to <http://portal.parents12.com/collier>. Your child's student ID number is used as the login and password. This website has many parent resources to reinforce high-need academic standards at home.

If you have any questions regarding the parent resource please contact the ELL department.

Departamento de estudiantes del idioma inglés

Todos los padres de los estudiantes en el programa de ELL cuentan con libre acceso a un sitio de recursos de padres on-line llamado Parentsk12. Puede acceder al sitio a través de <http://portal.parents12.com/collier>. Número de identificación de estudiante de su hijo se utiliza como el inicio de sesión y la contraseña. Este sitio Web tiene muchos recursos para padres para reforzar la necesidad de alto nivel académico en casa.

Si tiene alguna pregunta relacionada con el recurso primario póngase en contacto con el departamento de ELL.

NOVEMBER'S PANTHER OF THE MONTH FOR RESPONSIBILITY

Elizabeth Blanco	Sarahi Azua	Jayline Chavez	Christian Campo	Jose Gallegoes
Dana Martinez	Jonas Miguels	Alejandro Canas	Michael Quintana	Even Rodriguez
Destiny Cole	Courtney Medros	Ethan Bradfield	Jerry Rodriguez	David Blandon
Breeze Miller	Jennifer Ramirez	Kevin Duque	Julia Alonso	Daniel Bee
Nathan Hutson	Karla Amaya	Rosamaria Calero	Dalton Kent	Emily Kurek
Felipe Miguel	Marissa Latimer	Courtney Mocco	Estefany Valerio	Jennifer Garcia
Monica Morales	Roina Simon	Angel Trevino	Kevin Beato	
Nadia Hernandez-Estevez				



DECEMBER'S PANTHER OF THE MONTH FOR PERSERVERANCE

Richard Bowerman	Leonardo Sebastian	Wyatt Tesar	Gianni Duque	Juliette Rodriguez
Daniela Rivas	Hector Rosario	Alisa Sanchez	Austin Dupree	Juan Garcia
Hugo Aviles	Colemen Raiger	Rylin Reidy	Rebecca Purpura	Pauline Carrau
Alianny Suarez	Julie Hernandez	Nathaniel Cypher	Marlon Miniet	Jaydin Payne
Devin Ryan Ross	Angelo Pellicane	Alessandro Rios	Jean Carlos Perez	Sebastian Perez
Damon Mansberger	Sean Doyle	Amanda Ramirez	Jonathan Bahamon	Jakob Kowal
Estefany Fernandez	Carlos Lopez	Adolfo Alvarez Castillo		
Christopher Devasconselos				

PTO NEWS



Box Tops – We are still collecting Box Tops throughout the year and we will be announcing quarterly the classes that are 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place winners. The classes per grade level, who collects the most per contest period, will win a Popsicle party.

If you have internet access...check out www.boxtops4education.com. This is a great place to read more about the program, find out how Estates Elementary is doing with the collection, get free coupons for everyday products and find recipes for quick and easy dinners, snacks, and breakfast! They also mention special local bonus Box Top programs such as Publix, Target, Sweet bay, Kmart, Sam's Club, etc. If you have questions about the Box Tops program, please ask your classroom teacher.

PTO Meetings – Held every month on the same Thursday as Book and Bagels @ 8:00 a.m. We encourage you to attend and give your input to help us make the best decisions for our students.

Reminder

Please take a minute and apply for the free and reduce lunch for this school year. Please see the link below.

<http://www.collierschools.com/foodservice/freereduced.htm>



Dear Parents,

I would like to update you on the status of our My Coke Rewards account. We currently have 6,378 points. Thank you for all who donate or send in your points. Please continue to donate or start donating to our Estates My Coke Rewards program. We can collect points all year long and this is how you can help our school.

There are two ways to donate points:

- 1) If you register or are registered with My Coke Rewards already, you can simply choose to donate points to a school (www.mycokerewards.com). You would select the school by zip code – **34120** and select **ESTATES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**.
- 2) If you aren't registered or simply don't want the hassle, then simply send in the soda caps from your coke products (anything from the 20 oz. bottles and/or larger, or the codes from the 12 pack and/or larger packages) to school with your child. We can add the points directly to our school from here.

Again thank you for your support. This year we can collect these points through June. We are hoping to add some equipment to the school for the students to use during recess!!!

Every cap is something Get codes from these great products



Panther Pair Share

Parents & Teachers Helping the Best Get Better

*** Save the Date ***



Estates Elementary Pre K - 5th

**Wednesday, February 8, 2012
12:00 - 2:00 PM**

Parent & Student Workshop

