April 2018 Edition

The Owl Oracle

Watergrass Elementary• 32750 Overpass Rd • Wesley Chapel • (813) 346-0600

April Events

- 4/9 & 10 FSA Testing (NO visitors/volunteers)
- 4/11 Chapman/Landgraf visits WCHS
- 4/13 Kindergarten visits WCHS
- 4/16 19 FSA Testing (NO visitors/volunteers)
- 4/20 All Pro Dads-8:45 Elf Musical-Café 10:30 a.m.
- 4/23-26 FSA Testing (NO visitors/volunteers)
- 4/25 PTA Family Night at Tijuana Flats
- 4/27 Elf Musical-Café-10:30 a.m.

Progress Reports go home

Citizen of the Month



From the desk of Mr. Mitchell

During the month of April, our third, fourth, and fifth graders will be taking state reading and math assessments. Fifth graders will also be taking a state science assessment. You will find specific dates for this testing later in this newsletter. Please keep the front office updated with a current address and phone number. Thank you for making sure we can reach you in case of an emergency. Please help your child develop the habit of checking for his/her backpack, planner, homework, and lunch box, if necessary, prior to leaving the house for school each morning. Thank you for helping them be prepared for the day when they arrive. If Mrs. Felice or I can be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us. March Citizens of the Month Burrowing Pygmy Owls **Eagle** Owls Owls Mia O. Amari D. Bennett L. Olivia W. Olivia E. **Spotted** Owls Snowy Owls Charlize G. Frankie S. Hayma B. Alyssa J. Michelle J. Elf Owls Zaymian H.





Team News



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Burrowing Owls-Kindergarten

The Burrowing Owls launched our afterschool Reading is Fun Club this month. Each week the children will enjoy fun crafts and activities surrounding excellent literacy selected by the teachers and students themselves. We hope the students will enjoy making fun memories with their friends and teachers while building a love of literacy.

We also look forward to attending the 4H Farm field trip at Wesley Chapel High School on Friday April 13th. The permission slips have already been sent home in the student folders.

On Friday April 27th, kindergarten will participate in our Community Helper dress up day. The students will research community helpers in their ELA classes and decide which community helper they would like to dress and present what they learned. Notes will come home soon with more information.

Pygmy Owls- First Grade

100 Step Reading Incentive

This year, first grade has begun counting reading steps. What are reading steps? One step equals 15 minutes of reading. First grade students are working towards reading 2 steps at school and 2 steps at home. Teachers provide incentives along the way like beads and brag tags. Children who read 100 steps have been awarded with a medal. Counting reading steps is invaluable to building reading stamina and the life long LOVE of reading.



Eagle Owls- 2nd Grade

4th Quarter Curriculum

We will be highlighting how immigrants influence our culture today, the earth surfaces, and finding evidence in the text to support our reasoning. Our field trip to Crystal Springs was a big hit with the kids. We learned about our natural Florida environment and what we can do to conserve it. The children participated in hands-on activities. Please continue to read every night with your child.



4th graders Ryan H., Josh G., Vincent P. and Teju K. are expert readers and model this with kindergarten students.

ElfOwls



The Elf Owl team wants everyone to know that April is Autism Awareness Month. Thank you to everyone who purchased this year's t-shirt created by our very own Kaden.

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leam News

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Snowy Owls- Third Grade

We are now in the home stretch of third grade! Just a few steps closer to the end of the year. First up is the Reading Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) on April 9th and 10th. Then we will take the Math FSA on April 30th and May 1st.

Testing Tips for Students:

- Arrive to school on time.
- Eat a good breakfast.
- Be well rested.
- Do not bring any electronic devices to school.
- Relax and do your best!

Remember to check over your work and use all the testing strategies we have been practicing. Your teachers have prepared you well. If you would like to see a practice test, visit <u>fsassessments.org</u>. Third graders take the reading test on paper and math test on the computer.

In ELA, we are starting a poetry unit, which will be a fun change from the literature and informational books we've been reading. This 4th quarter's reading Power Goal celebration will be a Popsicle Party. Continue to read on-level chapter books and complete your goals on time. In math, students have been learning all about graphs – pictographs, line plots, bar graphs, and vertical tape diagrams. Our last math module for the year is Geometry and Measurement. Keep up all your hard work!

Spotted Owls- 4^{th} Grade

Happy Spring!

We have come back from Spring Break relaxed and ready for hard work! This month we will have our FSA Reading (4/16-4/18) and Math (4/23-4/24) standardized tests. We are working on a lot of review and test taking strategies in class. If you are wondering how you can help your child at home here are some websites:

- FSA Practice Tests
- lumoslearning.com
- <u>Common Core Sheets</u>
- Khan Academy

In addition, it is always helpful to work on math facts (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division). For ELA, make sure your child is reading 30 minutes each night and working on their power goals. Ask your child some questions about their book and have them PROVE it with text evidence or explain how/why they know the answer.

Other updates:

We have a stay at school field trip on April 6th.

We also have The Tampa Bay Lightning coming April 6th.

We are in need of individually wrapped packages of chips and Capri Suns for celebrations and Fun Friday rewards.

Spring Testing Schedule

Please remember on testing days our school campus will be closed to all parents and visitors.

<u>Gr. 3</u>

Reading 4/9 & 4/10 (Monday and Tuesday)

Math 4/30 & 5/1 (Monday and Tuesday)

<u>Gr. 4</u>

Reading 4/16 & 4/17 (Monday and Tuesday)

Math 4/23 & 4/24 (Monday and Tuesday)

<u>Gr. 5</u>

Reading 4/18 & 4/19 (Wednesday and Thursday)

Math 4/25 & 4/26 (Wednesday and Thursday)

Science FCAT 4/30 & 5/1 (Monday and Tuesday)

Great Grey Owls-5th Grade

Be on the lookout for more information about end of year events for 5th grade students.

May 17: 5th Grade Field Trip May 22: Talent Show May 23: Kick-Ball

(Teachers -vs- 5th graders) May 25: 5th Grade Ceremony and Banquet

Specialists News

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Music Notes

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Our 4th & 5th grade students did an excellent job performing their musical, "Pirates" in March. Congratulations!

We will be having 2 Elf Owl Concerts in April! The PreK and ASD classes will have their concert on April 20^{th} at 10:30 AM in the cafeteria. The ESE Primary and Intermediate classes will perform their concert on April 27^{th} at 10:30 AM in the cafeteria.







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