

READ OWL ABOUT it!

Watergrass Elementary School
August 30, 2019



NOTES FROM OUR

PRINCIPAL

Welcome to the 2019-20 school year. We are off to a great start!

How can you be involved with Watergrass Elementary this year? Join our PTA and sign up to be a volunteer. Information is available on our website. We are always looking for PTA supporters. We are also happy to have volunteers in the pods and for field trips. Check our website for online registration.

Also, we have a School Advisory Council that meets monthly. Meetings are open to everyone, you do not have to be an official member. We will be meeting on the second Tuesday of each month at 4:00 PM in the media center. The focus of the meetings will be on our School Success Plan and strategies we are implementing. Join us when you can.

SAFETY REMINDER

Just a reminder if your child is a bike rider, they need to be wearing a helmet. Helmets are required for all children under the age of 16.

Our website will be your another source of information. Be sure to visit regularly for current dates and events. We also have a Facebook page, an Instagram account, and a Twitter feed. If you want information about WGES you will have no problem staying current.

Thank you for your support! If Mrs. Shauger or I can be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.



CAR RIDER REMINDER

Thank you for helping us with our arrival and dismissal routines. If you are in the car rider line, please do not get out of your vehicle. If you need to get out of your car for any reason, please park in order to do so. This is for the safety of everyone.

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YEARBOOKS

Yearbook sales are on the rise! Act quickly! You can pre-order a 2019-2020 yearbook for only \$15 until September 2nd, when the price will increase to \$20. Purchase opportunities are available online at yearbookforever.com and your own *Parent Portal in myStudent*. Come to school in-person and we can also process your transaction by cash or check.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

It's been a great start to the new school year getting to reconnect with our returning students and meeting many new students. For the month of August, our Owls are focusing on the monthly character trait of **Responsibility**. Each month we will focus on a different trait and selected students will be recognized with an ice cream party. I can't wait to see which students will be joining us at this school year's first Citizen of the Month celebration on September 6th!



PTA NEWS

School spirit wear is available for purchase between now and Sept 8 @ <https://www.selectspiritwear.com/shop4/pc/viewCategories.asp?idCategory=1025>

Please join the Watergrass PTA on the 10th of every month at Twistee Treat on BBD & 54 for a spirit night! Just mention Watergrass for our school to receive a 20% donation from each purchase. Remember to put your child's teacher on the receipt for a chance to win a class ice cream party!

To join the PTA please visit <https://watergrasselempta.memberhub/stor>
[e](#)

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

I have started getting into classrooms to deliver lessons. This year I will again be teaching Safer, Smarter Kids lessons to grades K-5. All School Counselors in Pasco County utilize this important program for personal safety and building self-advocacy skills. Be on the lookout for the parent letters that come home each time I visit. For more information on this important safety and abuse prevention program, visit:

<https://safersmarterkids.org/>

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Owl's Nest News
August 30, 2019



ART NEWS

Welcome back! I love seeing many of the students wearing their "Art" shirts around campus! All grade levels are busy working on their first project of the year. Parents, please remember to dress your child appropriately for Art days as things can get messy. I do provide aprons however, accidents can happen. All students are uploaded to Class Dojo, just look for Knott. You can see how your child is doing each week in Art. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions!

The Environmental Protection Agency has issued a final rule, 40 CFR Part 763, Asbestos Containing Material in schools, commonly referred to as AHERA. The rule requires all Local Education Agencies to identify asbestos containing materials in their school buildings & to take appropriate actions to control the release of asbestos fibers.

All inspections have been completed & a management plan to control any asbestos found during the inspection, where applicable, has been submitted to the governor for approval. A copy of this plan is located in the administrative office of this school & at the Pasco County Schools Maintenance & Facility Services Department and is available for review upon request.



UPCOMING DATES

- 09/02 Holiday for Staff / Students
- 09/03 Grade 3 to Crystal Springs
- 09/04 Grandparents Lunch –K & 4
- 09/05 Grandparents Lunch – Gr 1 & 3
- 09/06 Grandparents Lunch – Gr 2 & 5
- 09/06 Citizen of the Month – 3 p.m.
- 09/09 Picture Day
- 09/10 School Advisory Meeting at 4
- 09/10 Family Night at Twistee Treat @ 54 & Bruce B Downs
- 09/11 Early Release Day – 1:50 p.m.
- 09/13 Progress Reports available
- 09/20 All Pro Dads – 8:45 a.m.

MUSIC NOTES

Welcome back to Music Class! K, 1st and 2nd grades are busy learning about steady beat, while 3rd, 4th and 5th grades are learning about instruments of the orchestra.

Chorus and Orff ensemble auditions will take place during music class for 4th and 5th graders who are interested in those performing groups, the week of August 26th. Orff ensemble meets on Wednesday mornings from 8:30 - 9:30 and chorus meets on Thursday mornings from 8:30 - 9:30. Invitations will be sent home on August 30th with those students who passed their auditions. Rehearsals will start September 4th & 5th.

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Burrowing Owl's News:
August 30, 2019



Please remember to check your child's Dojo points every day, and also any messages that your child's teacher may send through Dojo. This app is our main way of communication, so if you have not yet signed up, please do so! Contact your child's teacher if you have any questions.

The Burrowing Owls have had a great start to our school year. We've had a lot of fun getting to know each other for the past 2 weeks.

Our students completed an at-home project about their favorite things, and they shared this with their class. We are looking forward to a wonderful school year in Kindergarten!!



Also, remember to keep a spare change of clothing in your child's backpack in case of bathroom accidents. Please make sure backpacks and lunchboxes are labeled with your child's name.

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Pygmy Owl's News
August 30, 2019



Welcome Back! We are off to a great start! Thank you to all who attended Open House. Pygmy Owls have been working hard on getting our routines established. We are full swing into our math and reading curriculum.

In math, we will be learning about all the ways to make 10. In reading, we will be learning words with the short vowel sounds, practicing 2G power words, and retelling stories; including the beginning, middle, and end. When reading with your child at night, you could have them retell the story to you.

Please watch DOJO, and your child's planner, for information coming home about reading steps, Raz-Kids, and more.

Thank you for all of your help and support getting things started. We are looking forward to a very productive and successful school year.



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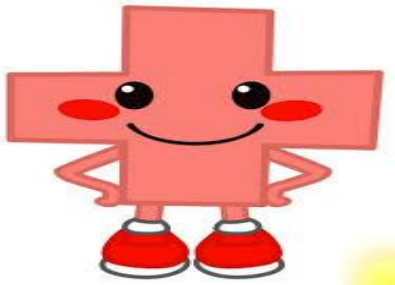
Eagle Owl's News
August 30, 2019



We are off to a great start in second-grade. Thank you for sending in supplies.



In math, we are focusing on sums and differences to 20 and reviewing foundations for fluency with sums and differences



In reading we are focusing on finding answers to questions in a text and learning what a community is. We are focusing on narrative writing.



We would like to encourage our children to read every evening.



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Snowy Owl's News August 30, 2019



It has been an exciting start to Third grade! We have our first field trip to Crystal Springs on Tuesday, September 3rd. Be sure your child has turned in their field trip permission slips.

Reading is an important skill for all children. Students in third grade should read independently at home to build reading stamina and vocabulary.

In Science we are studying plants and animals.

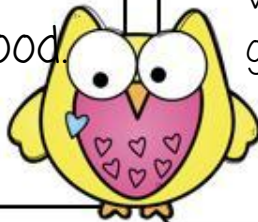
Encourage your child to observe the plants and animals that live around your home or neighborhood.

In Math we are beginning multiplication. This is an essential standard and will be taught throughout the school year.

Encourage your child to practice multiplication facts nightly at home.

Be sure to check class dojo and remind your child to be Ready, Responsible and Respectful daily so that we can all learn!

We are looking forward to a great year!



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Spotted Owl's News

August 30, 2019



Horray for 4th Grade!

We have had a great start to the year. Our students have been learning and practicing how to be ready, responsible, and respectful. Please make sure you are connected on Class Dojo with your child's teacher.

Reading and Language Arts:

We will continue using IRLA and power goals. 4th grade expectations are to finish one chapter book each week.

How you can help: Have your child read 30 minutes nightly. Help them search for books they are interested in, and books similar to those they have enjoyed in the past.

In our first unit, students will be finding the main idea and identifying key details, thinking about the author's point all while making connections with science.

We are getting students excited about writing through narrative writing.

How you can help: For writing, it would be helpful for you to talk to your child about taking their time, and following the writing process. Many students need help in planning their writing.



STEM:

In math, we are going over place value, rounding, adding and subtracting multi-digit numbers.

How you can help: There are many online tutorials, videos, examples, etc. online that can help you help your child. If you Google search "Eureka Math Grade 4 Module ____ Lesson ____" there are many resources!

*Please make sure your child is practicing their multiplication facts nightly.

In Science, students will be learning about what a scientist is, the scientific method, and more.

In Social Studies, students will be learning about the geography of Florida and mapping skills. Projects will be going home for both science and social studies this quarter.

Upcoming Events:

- Progress Reports release 9/13/19
- Orchestra Field Trip forms due: 10/1/19
- Orchestra Concert Field Trip 10/15/19

Thank you
for your
support!

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Great Grey Owl's News
August 30, 2019



Welcome to the 5th grade and to the Great Grey Owls! We are excited to start the year and look forward to working with you to make this year memorable for your child. We have a lot planned for Quarter 1 and need your help to make it a success. Please make sure you are signing your child's planner nightly and checking their Boomerang Folder daily for important papers and work that goes home.

Our Fifth graders are "Owl About Reading" this year! We are continuing to use IRLA this year. This means that your child will be assigned a current reading level. They will also be given a Power Goal that will target their biggest need in their level. The goal for 5th graders is to be at an Orange Level and reading one chapter book a week. Teachers will be conferencing with their students weekly to assess their Power Goals. Power Goals can be expected to change every two weeks. Good readers read every night for 30 minutes.

We are going to delve into organized Prompt Writing while using the RACE Strategy this year. RACE means Restate, Answer, Cite and Explain. Your child will certainly be able to show evidence in their writing.

Great Grey's are Mad About Science! We will be focusing Life Science including body systems, plants, and animals this quarter. Encourage your child to review their science journal nightly!

We are focusing on Geography in Social Studies. Your child will be able to name important land features of the United States and identify all continents at the end of our first unit.

In math we are working in Module 1 with place value concepts as well as adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing decimals! There is daily math homework which comes with a "Homework Helper" page to show students how to solve the problems.

We are going to be taking some exciting field trips to see the Florida Orchestra perform in October and then we'll visit St. Leo University later in the year. If you are interested in being a chaperone, speak with your child's teacher and make sure you are an approved volunteer for this school year. You have to fill out the application every school year!

We look forward to an exciting year!



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