

The Owl Oracle

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

October Events

- 10/12 End of Quarter One
- 10/15 Teacher Planning
No school for students
- 10/18 Grades 4 & 5 visit Wesley Chapel Performing Arts Center
- 10/19. All Pro Dads, 8:45 a.m. in the media center
- 10/22-10/26 Red Ribbon Week
See page 7 for theme days!
- 10/23 Report cards available on *MyStudent*
- 10/24 Kindergarten field trip
- 10/25 Eureka Math Parent Night, 6 p.m.
AND
PTA General Assembly and Member Appreciation Party, 6:45 p.m.
- 10/26 Citizen of the Month, 3:00 p.m.
- 10/29 Last day of Math Bootcamp (grade 4), 8:30 a.m.

See page 8 for next month's events!

From the desk of Mr. Mitchell

We had a very successful IRLA Parent Night session on Thursday, September 27. The focus was a general overview with breakout centers based on levels. For more information about IRLA and Eureka math, please visit the *Curriculum Resources* page in the *Parent* section of our school website. Our next parent information night will focus on Eureka Math on Thursday, October 25, at 6:00 in the media center.

This time of year always brings thoughts of dressing up and costumes. While we appreciate the fun that this can be, it can be quite a distraction at school, causing the loss of instructional time. Therefore, just as in years past, we will not be dressing in costumes for any activities during the month of October. Thank you for your understanding.

Our next School Advisory Council meeting will be on Monday, November 12., at 4:00 in our media center. Anyone is welcome to attend and hear about the work we are doing.

As always, if Mrs. Shauger or I can be of assistance please let us know.

September Citizens of the Month

Congratulations to last month's Citizen of the Month winners!

Burrowing Owls

Matthew B.

Pygmy Owls

Kate W. and
Aiden O.

Eagle Owls

Mikai S. and
Emma J.

Snowy Owls

Matthew M.

Spotted Owls

Payten S.

Great Gray Owls

Riley P.

Elf Owls

Eternity S.

Spectacled Owls

Phillip W. and
Brayden C.



WGES
PTA

We will be having a general session and member appreciation party on Thursday, October 25th in the media center following the Eureka Math night. We hope to see you there!

Please purchase our NEW WGES spirit wear. Ordering will be available until October 21st.

www.selectspiritwear.com



Like WGES PTA on Facebook for frequent updates!

BOX TOPS

Remember to send in your Box Tops!

We hope to send out a BIG BOX on October 31st! This box will be filled with our school's Box Top collection. Please send in your Box Tops the week of **October 25th**. You can place them in the mailbox in the media center OR give them to your child's teacher. THANKS so much for your participation in the box tops collection.



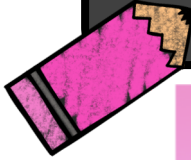
IT'S SUBMISSION TIME!





OWL EYES on Writing

Take a look at the work from a few of our first grade authors!



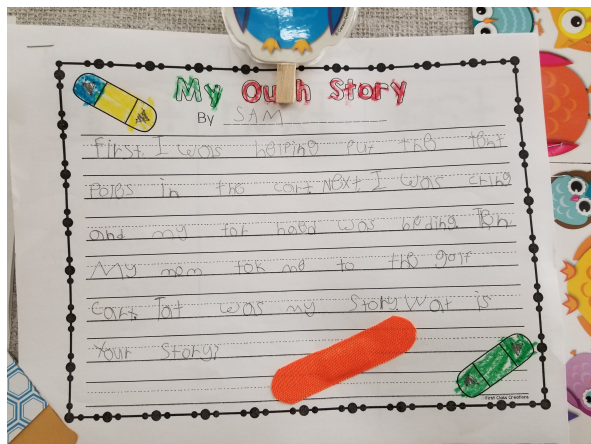
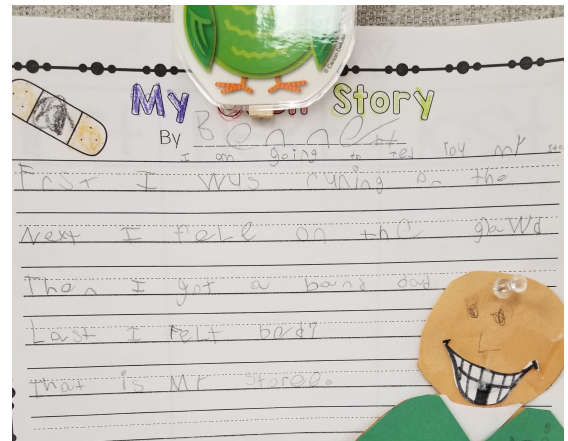
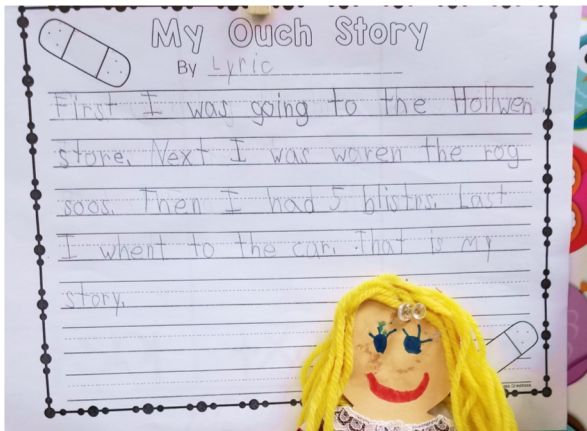
First Grade Writing Fundamentals

Everything from K, plus:

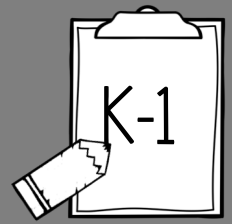
- Recount 2 or more sequenced events
- Provide some facts about the topic
- Use temporal words
- 5-8 sentences
- Spells unknown words phonetically
- Provides a sense of closure



Writing makes learning stick!



Team News



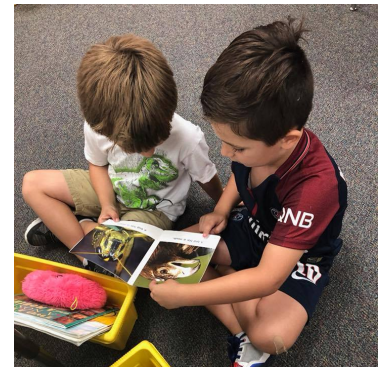
WATERGRASS ELEMENTARY

(813) 346-0600

Burrowing Owls- Kindergarten

Kindergarten will be going to Harvestmoon Farm on October 24th. Please wear comfortable clothes and shoes this day. If you would like to volunteer for any field trip or to be a volunteer this year, please fill out the application on the Pasco County Schools website.

Reminder: Please create a MyStudent account for your child to be able to pay for this field trip and access their upcoming report card. Thank you!



Kindergarten students practicing their reading skills.

1Y	Listen to and remember the pattern in Yellow books. Use the pattern and pictures to read the rest of the book.
2Y	Point to each word as I read. Use the spaces to separate words. Try again if what I say doesn't match the number of words.
3Y	Make the sound of the first letter of the new word on the page, check the picture, then say something that matches both.

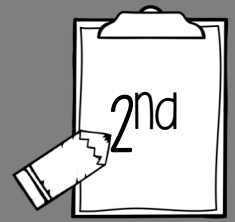
Pygmy Owls- 1st Grade

Can you believe it's almost time for Report Cards? Have you already made your account on MyStudent? That's how you will be able to view progress reports, reports, and pay for field trips when they come up.

Your child should be reading nightly to help grow them as readers. This can include many different types of media. Paper books, online books from RAZ-kids or the Bookshelf App, magazines, library books, etc. Be sure to record the minutes they read at home on their homework sheet. They get a reading step for every 15 minutes they read at home. Our goal is for every child to reach 100 steps. Last year we even had students make it to 200! Beginning in mid-Nov. the benchmark is for all students to be reading at a 1B level. Reading at home and practicing *Power Words* nightly can help your child get there.

In Math, we are finishing up our 1st Module and will begin Module 2 on Addition and Subtraction within 20 using Place Value. Many of the students now have Zearn accounts which help them practice their math skills on the computer. If they have an account it can be used at home as well as school. Practicing fact fluency at home is also important *i.e.*: $2+8=$, $5+5=$.

Team News



WATERGRASS ELEMENTARY

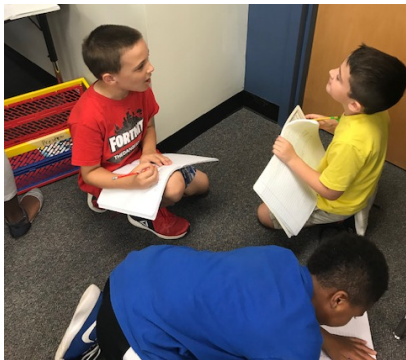
(813) 346-0600

Eagle Owls- 2nd Grade

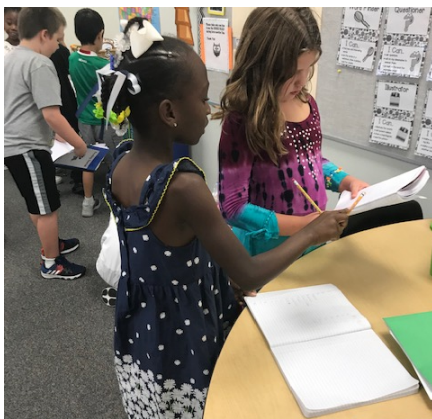
Things are *FALLING* into place on the Eagle Owls team! Routines have been established for independent reading in class. Reading every night with your child will be a great benefit to them.

We are participating in **READING STEPS** this year. For every 15 minutes your child reads at home, he/she will be awarded a Step on a chart in the room. Our goal is to have the children read 100 STEPS by the end of the school year. Please continue to record any reading at home in their planners. We appreciate your involvement. Looking back in the text to find answers to questions has been a focus during reading.

Our Eureka math lessons have been about understanding place value units of one, ten, and a hundred. We will move forward by counting within 1,000; skip counting by fives, tens, and 100s. During science class, lessons have been centered around the human body systems and their function and life cycles of plants and butterflies. Thank you for all you do to support us at school!



Ms. Preston's class is working on asking and answering questions about a text.



Here's Mrs. Reidy's class learning about body systems in science. They've got their HEARTS in the right place!



Team News



WATERGRASS ELEMENTARY

(813) 346-0600

Snowy Owls- 3rd Grade

Our Snowy Owls are soaring into second quarter!

In Math, our students are working on problem solving strategies that include time, measurement, and rounding to the nearest tens and hundreds. Our students are expected to read and understand word problems and then be able to solve them using addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division strategies. *Khan Academy* is a great place to practice these skills more online! Please continue to work on *FasttMath* for fact fluency!

In Language Arts, our students are starting a Folk Tale unit where they are studying the similarities and differences between fables, legends, fairy tales, tall tales, myths, porquoi and trickster tales. We are working to understand main idea and key details, comparing and contrasting, and asking and answering questions about a text. We are also beginning to write to writing prompts and reviewing editing marks and how to make our writing better. Please continue to support your child's reading growth by reading nightly at home and working on reading goals. *Book Taco*, *ReadTheory*, and *RazKids* include reading comprehension practice for your growing reader!

In Science and Social Studies, we are wrapping up our units on *Classifying Plants and Animals* and have even started planting some of our own flowering plants! We will be starting a new unit on matter and how matter changes. In Social Studies, we are continuing to build our map skills by looking at the cultural geography of our world, continent, and country.

Spotted Owls- 4th Grade

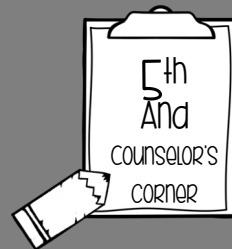
Happy Fall Y'all! In 4th grade, we have completed our first round of *Quarterly Assessments*. This is a great tool for teachers to use to guide instruction for the next quarter. Students take *Quarterly Assessments* in Reading, Writing, Math and Science at the end of every quarter.

There is a teacher planning day (no school for students) on October 15th. On October 18th there is a field trip to see the Florida Orchestra at Wesley Chapel High School. We have our Spotted Fall celebration on November 2nd please look for messages/flyers from teachers to donate some goodies!

In math we are in Module 3, focusing on multiplication, division, and multi-step word problems. *FasttMath* accounts have been made for every student. To access this program, go to the wges.pasco.k12.fl.us and find the link on *Kids Corner*. Students' username and password is their student number. Khan Academy is another great resource for students to have extra practice that aligns with Eureka.

In ELA, we are wrapping up informational texts for this quarter and will be ready for literary texts. In writing, students will start learning about opinion writing.

Team News



WATERGRASS ELEMENTARY

(813) 346-0600

Great Grays- 5th Grade

As Quarter 1 is quickly coming to end, we want to remind you of a few important things. Please make sure you are signing your child's planner nightly/checking *Class Dojo* Daily and checking their *Boomerang Folder* daily for important papers and work that goes home.

Good readers read every night for 30 minutes! Please make sure that your child is practicing their math facts, multiplication is key to being a successful 5th grader! Students do have math homework every night, unless they are studying for a test.

School Counselor's Corner

This year Red Ribbon Week will be celebrated **Oct 22-26**. During this week, our Owls celebrate making healthy choices and staying drug free.

Students will receive brag tags that say "Your Future is Key RRW 2018-19."

Our Student Leadership team came up with theme day ideas. We hope to see a lot of participation and school spirit!



Monday: wear Red

Tuesday: 70's Day

wednesday: college and career ready-dress like your future career or support your favorite college team

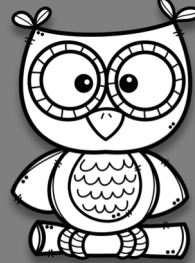
Thursday: Class spirit day- Pick a theme/color/ etc... by class and dress up. Prize awarded for top creative class!

Friday: pajama Day



SPECIALISTS NEWS

The SPECTACLED OWLS



WATERGRASS ELEMENTARY

(813) 346-0600

Music Notes

Our 4th & 5th grade students are busy getting ready for their musical, "Lights, Camera, Action!" This show will be presented Tuesday, November 6 at 7:00 PM at the Center for the Arts at Wesley Chapel.

They are also learning about the instruments of the orchestra before we go see the Florida Orchestra on October 18.

K – 3rd grades are busy learning many different elements of music.

2nd & 3rd grades will be starting their Winter Concert music soon. Don't forget to send in the parent release forms and \$2.00 to participate in the concert and go to the high school for our rehearsal the day of the show.

Our first movie night is Friday, November 2 at 7:00 PM in our cafeteria. This is a Family night where you can bring the family for a free movie! The music department will be selling concessions consisting of pizza, popcorn, candy, soda and water. Look for more information coming home soon about this event!

Art News

October 22-26 is Clay Week. Parents, please be sure to dress your child appropriately for clay during their Art Special day.

All students are finishing up their *Square 1* Art pictures and they should be mailed out soon. Be on the lookout for the order forms with the free stickers. Any questions, please email Mrs. Cerino-Knott.

A Look Ahead...

November Events

- 11/02 MOVIE NIGHT, 6-9 p.m.
- 11/06 Grades 4 & 5 Music Concert @ WCHS
- 11/09 Picture re-takes
Veteran's Day lunch, K & 4
- 11/12 November SAC meeting
- 11/13 Veteran's Day Lunch, 1 & 3
- 11/14 *Great American Teach-In*
- 11/15 Grade 2 field trip
- 11/16 Progress Reports available through
My Student
All Pro Dads, 8:45 a.m.
- 11/19 – 23 Thanksgiving Break-School Closed
- 11/30 Citizen of the Month-3:00 p.m