



HUMPHRIES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

December 2018



Principal's Message

Greetings Parents/Guardians,

There is a lot packed into the schedule for the last two weeks of the semester. This week PK – 5th grade students are taking the district STAR assessments. The tests will measure how much students have grown since the first day of school. We will also be taking writing assessments to determine how well the students writing skills have improved.

Congratulations to all parents of students with perfect attendance so far. We are also celebrating students who have missed 1-2 days. All students missing 0-2 days have been given roadrunner bucks. They are shopping online for one item of their choice. Students will bring their incentives home next Friday. If they go to after care, make sure they don't lose it. There are no replacement items.

Parents will you check around the house for library books. It is time to return books for inventory. There are several library books missing. Many students also owe library fines. They can not check out books next semester until fines are paid. Also if your student has lost items, check the lost and found. It will be cleaned out at the end of the semester.

The end of the semester is December 21. We will celebrate students with great behavior on the last day. I hope your student will win a ticket to Fun Land.

I wish all families happy holidays. School will reopen on January 7, 2019.

Ms. Melanie Mitchell

Melanie Mitchell, Principal
Connie Todd-Johnson, Assistant Principal
Elizabeth Woods, Instructional Coach



December 2018

- 3 Roadrunner Rally
- 3 First Day of Hanukkah
- 7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- 9 Last Day of Hanukkah
- 11 GO Team Meeting 4:15 pm**
- 17 Wright Brothers Day
- 18 Humphries Holiday Program, 9:00 am**
- 21 December Solstice
- 21 End of First semester
- 24-Jan 4 Winter Break for students (Teachers report Jan 4)**
- 24 Christmas Eve
- 25 Christmas Day
- 26 First Day of Kwanzaa
- 31 New Years Eve

January 2019

- 1 New Years Day
- 1 Last Day of Kwanzaa
- 4 Teacher Planning Day—No Students**
- 6 Epiphany
- 7 Students return after break**
- 21 King Day—No School**
- 21 Tu B'shvat/Tu B'Shevat
- 29 Go Team Meeting 4:15 pm**

Pre-K News

Happy Holidays to everyone!!!! I can't believe we are in December all ready. This month we will continue our unit "Life on a Farm. We have been learning about farm animals and how they are taken care of by farmers, how crops are planted, and machines that help on the farm. We have a field trip to the the Pajama Reading Program on December 14th. In January, our Unit will be "From Jungle to Desert". Have a Happy New Year!!!!!!!

Kindergarten News

Hello, the Holidays are quickly approaching. Can you believe it is already December? That means we have been in school for four whole months already! Here in kindergarten we are continuing to learn about the letters of the alphabet, numbers in math, science and social studies. We have learned the letters t, b, f, m, n, o, c, a, g, w, v, y, and x. We are also learning to count numbers 1- 100 with a current focus on comparing numbers using $<$, $>$, and $=$ signs. In science, we are learning about day and night and their differences and similarities. Can you count to one hundred by tens?

Grade One News

The winter break is coming up and our students are excited. But it is not time for break yet and we have lots of activities and learning experiences planned between now and then. Please make sure that your students come to school each day ready to learn! Over the break, please have your child to read, read, and read each day. Reading is the foundation for learn, and we want our students to be successful.

Grade Two News

Our students have engaged in many challenging and rewarding learning experiences and there's more to come! In the month of December, 2nd graders will continue to look at characters in literature and how they respond to major events in the plot. We will also focus on describing and making connections in informational texts. In math, the students will continue to build on concepts learned last year in 1st grade and become more fluent in addition and subtraction. In science, we are learning about stars and in social studies we are learning about Georgia's first people the Native Americans. Please be involved in your child's education by checking their homework, attendance and academic progress often. Make attending school meetings, events, and parent-teacher conferences a priority. Ask teachers if you can help them find educational materials and

resources that they need and, if you have time, help the teacher in the classroom.

Grade Three News

Greetings parents, the third graders at Humphries Elementary are progressing daily. The team is working hard to ensure students' success. Over the next two months the students will be working on the skills listed below. We ask that you continue to reinforce skills at home by completing homework with your child, practice basic math multiplication facts, reading daily, and encouraging positive behavior. In reading we are working on point of view and informative and explanatory writing. In math we are learning to multiply and divide, and in science we are studying how humans affect the environment. Finally, in social studies we are learning how American Indians contributed to our overall American culture.



Grade Four News

Atlanta Public Schools is using a new program to encourage our students to read, read, read! Our school is trying to read 16,000 minutes so please ask your students to record their reading minutes. They can do this by clicking on the Race2Read button on their Mybackpack webpage. The password is "Race2Read". Thank you for making sure they read and record their minutes over the upcoming break!



Grade Five News

It is hard to believe that we have completed four months of school. Our students are working hard to meet and exceed content expectations. In math students will be working with decimal operations. This is a perfect time to have conversations around money. Students will also be studying the Great Depression and World War I, and exploring chemical and physical changes in Science. Reading a variety of texts are helping students to build vocabulary, enhance comprehension and reading stamina, and improve fluency. Please encourage your child to stay focused, follow school rules, and complete all assignments in a timely fashion. Looking forward to a great 2019!

Enrichment Team

In Art we will be working on a variety of art activities during the months of December and January. 5th graders will be working on drawing people and using those drawings to create different types of people art. 4th graders will be painting and learning about the primary, secondary, and intermediate colors so that they can colorful gardens, monochromatic seascapes, and other artworks of the natural environment. The 3rd graders will also be creating people art and learning about proportion. In addition they will create a sculpture of a person. 2nd graders will be learning about color groups and primary and secondary colors. They will be painting a colorful garden focusing on mixing primary colors to make secondary colors. They will also begin using lines and colors to show motion in their work. 1st grade will learn about free-forms and create a food collage using foods that they like to eat and things that they find in the kitchen. They will move on to learn about textures by creating crayon rubbings. Kindergarten will learn to use art materials in different ways. They will learn techniques for tearing paper to create art and the proper way to use scissors to make cut paper art as well as how to use a paintbrush and paint.

In Music the students will rehearse, evaluate and refine musical performances to present a successful performance for the upcoming Winter Program. During class, students will evaluate and refine personal and ensemble performances, individually or in collaboration with others.

In Physical Education, students will continue to focus on demonstrating understanding of movement concepts, principles, strategies, and tactics as they apply to the learning and performance of physical activities. Students will also have an opportunity to work on different object-control skills. Also, for the next few weeks will focus on skills related to basketball and jump roping!

News From the Counselor

This was certainly a busy and exciting fall at Humphries Elementary! Students celebrated having drug free futures during Red Ribbon Week in October and then learned all about jobs and careers during College and Career Motivation Week in November. Counseling classroom lessons covered career exposure and awareness for all students. We also took time to share and recognize all of our differences and the qualities that make us special. Rather than put each other down because of these differences, we celebrated what makes us unique through an art based activity. These will be displayed throughout the school as part of our No Place For Hate initiative. Looking ahead to 2019, when students return from the holiday break, lessons will begin focusing on bullying and safety. Stay tuned for more information!

From the Media Center

December and January are good times to read about winter and all the holidays that happen at this time of year. Here are some suggestions:

- Bunting, Eve December
- Burton, Virginia Lee Katy and the Big Snow
- Chocolate, Deborah A First Book of Kwanzaa
- De Paola, Tomie Night of Las Posadas
- Farmer, Jacqueline O Christmas Tree
- Gibbons, Gail Christmas Is
- Hader, Berta and Elmer Big Snow
- Hopkins, Lee Hanukkah Lights: Hanukkah

Poetry

- Hoyt-Goldsmith, Diane Three Kings Day
- Kline, Suzy Horrible Harry and the Holiday
- Krensky, Stephen Hanukkah at Valley Forge
- McCutcheon, John Christmas in the Trenches
- McKissack, Patricia The All-I'll-Ever-Want for Christmas Doll
- Medearis, Angelus Seven Spools of Thread: A Kwanzaa

Story

- O'Connell, Rebecca Penina Levine is a Potato Pancake
- Patrick, Dennis Longest Ride
- Paulsen, Gary Brian's Winter
- Pfeffer, Wendy The Shortest Day: Celebrating the Winter Solstice
- Polacco, Patricia Trees of the Dancing Goats
- Porter, Connie Addy's Surprise
- Roberts, Bethany Christmas Mice
- Seuss, Dr. How the Grinch Stole Christmas
- Simmonds, Posy F-freezing ABC
- Steig, William Brave Irene
- Stone, Lynn El Invierno
- Stringer, Lauren Winter is the Warmest Season
- Wilder, Laura Ingalls Long Winter
- Yolen, Jane Owl Moon

