



Sea Castle Elementary Gazette

Determined Dolphins

"We at Sea Castle Elementary foster a Growth Mindset environment where all scholars achieve their BEST."

Dearest Dolphin Parents/Guardians,

Please find below information pertaining to all the great things happening at Sea Castle. Each grade level submitted great things happening in the classroom along with upcoming news and events. This information is useful for you to know as it will provide you with help as you work with your scholar at home.

Communication between the home and school is paramount for the success and academic achievement of all students. Working together we can provide for each and every scholar the opportunity to be the best they can be. Please feel free to contact your student's teacher with any questions, concerns or clarification needed. Let's continue our journey together as we strive for success.

Kindergarten Updates

Kindergarten began and ended the third quarter with a love for reading and a focus on all the places reading and books can take us. Superkids, our language arts unit, continued to be fully implemented by all classes, as we move to Journeys online instruction in the fourth quarter. In exploring our love for reading, we also continue to work on our writing skills and our areas of interest which includes cooking, animals, sports, inventors and much more. Each new story or topic is a path to widening educational growth.

Parents, please continue to read to your child every night, practice i-Ready on a regular basis, and run-through the Dolch primer and pre-premier sight words (memory words or high frequency words.)

Familiarize your child with these words as it will help them become more fluent in reading. As we continue our virtual instruction we know "Learning Never Ends," and we maintain that focus as we prepare our scholars for what's to come in first grade. In ELA our focus will be on decoding words with short vowel sounds as we practice comprehension skills and strategies through literature. Parents you can help by asking questions which include:

Dates to Remember

April 22

Anticipated Quarter 3 Report Cards Issued

May 1

Anticipated 4th Quarter Interim Reports to be Issued

May 25

Schools and District Offices Closed

June 2

Currently Scheduled Last Day of School for students

June 3

Employee Planning Day

June 10

Anticipated Date for School Year 2019-2020 Final Report Cards to be Issued

www.browardschools.instructure.com/courses/411

Reminder...

Scholars should average 45 minutes on i-Ready reading/math and achieve a 75% or higher passing rate on a weekly basis.

Details, Rhyming, Retelling, Predicting Outcomes, and Cause/Effect. Help your child by writing simple sentences, using periods, question marks, and exclamation marks. This will help prepare the scholars for returning to school in the first grade.

In math our Sea Castle family celebrated the 100th day of school at the end of January. Our youngest scholars continue to practice counting to greater numbers while making connections to addition sentences and place value. We encourage parents to continue having your child practice addition sentences and naming the place of each digit in a number.

In Science and Social Studies we continue to identify items in the daytime sky vs. the night time sky, as well as distinguishing between near and far. Please have scholars continue to identify holidays, and work on digital citizenship as we venture into this new style of learning and communicating.

First Grade Updates

First grade continues to practice all that we have learned in reading while still working to incorporate writing practice at home. We continue to target more difficult frequency words and sharpen decoding skills to help solve unfamiliar words. This effort will help deepen our scholar's reading fluency and overall comprehension.

In math, our scholars have recently completed chapters on, how to measure objects directly and indirectly, How to tell and write time, and how to represent and interpret data. Going forward for the next set of chapters, we will be learning about the concept of geometry, along with reasoning for shapes and their attributes.

In science, during the last quarter we reviewed space and the difference between living and non-living things and then completed the unit on patterns of movement. Building upon this, we are going to learn about the benefits and disadvantages of the Sun, materials on Earth's Surface, plant parts and changes to land, both fast and slow.

In Social Studies, the scholars are learning the concept of "value" as it relates to economics and the quality of life. We are including

Safety Reminders



All school employees and students are required to wear name badges at all times while in the building. This procedure will eliminate the possibility of unknown persons on campus. All substitutes and visitors will be subject to the same rule.

Reporting Apps

The SaferWatch app allows individuals to report incidents and receive real-time safety alerts directly from BCPS and local law enforcement



FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows you to instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials.



digital citizenship in our instruction. We will also be learning about farms and what farmers do, We will include how farmers grow food for us, the journey of food from the farm to our supermarket and finally to our kitchen table.

Please remember to sign into Clever and i-Ready daily and keep up the great work at home!

Second Grade Updates

Second grade continues to work hard towards their goals in all subject areas.

Time spent on i-Ready for reading and math should continue to equal 45 minutes per week. This will help reinforce what scholars have learned in the past quarters for both subjects. In ELA reading poetry (rhymes, alliteration, repetition, and onomatopoeia.), story structure, and text features continue to be a focus. Scholars will remain working on these attributes as well as building fluency and comprehension as we incorporate these skills into science and social studies. Digital citizenship, moving into the fourth and final quarter of school, will also be a focus of our social studies unit. In math, scholars have learned to fluently add and subtract within 100. Scholars should continue to exercise these skills through independent practice and use strategies through distance learning and Canvas to help prepare them for the next set of standards in third grade. This is a great time to get in some extra practice with addition and subtraction including regrouping (carrying over) and begin working on memorizing multiplication facts.

At home, please continue to have students practice their reading fluency and stamina by setting aside at least 20 minutes of sustained reading each night, completing i-Ready assignments, and practicing weekly spelling and/or vocabulary words. You can access books through Clever and the Scholastic App as all materials are now open.

Third Grade Updates

Our third grade scholars are adjusting nicely to distance learning. In reading our scholars continue working hard on expanding their comprehension skills, increasing

A Message from Special Programs

Our special program teachers have worked hard to best meet the needs of our scholars during this school closure, with our focus on making a smooth transition for our scholars and parents. April 2nd was National Autism Awareness Day!! Although we were not at the school, we still were able to unite virtually to support our scholars with Autism. Through the month of April, we encourage you to take a virtual walk with your family and post pictures on Sea Castle's Facebook page @seacastledolphins or the twitter page @seacastleES. Decorate a puzzle piece or make a sign with the theme #Kindness to carry as you walk. Continue to check your child's canvas course or your email for important information/activities. Thank you, parents, for your support and dedication during these uncharted waters.

*"The world needs **Different Kinds of Minds** to work together"* –Temple Grandin



their vocabulary, and developing fluency. We continue this focus with an increase on comparing and contrasting two texts on the same topic, also further expanding on what stories, plays and poems are made of. We continue to build upon reading skills through the infusion of science and social studies, helping our scholars practice their reading skills through a wide range of texts and genres. In math, students are continuing to use strategies to help them determine what operation and information is needed to solve word problems. We are reviewing and practicing time, measurement, geometry, place value, fractions, multiplication/division and addition/subtraction. In addition to any assigned work on Canvas, scholars should be completing 45 minutes a week on i-Ready reading and math, each scholar has a pathway designed for them through i-Ready as well as teacher assigned lessons. Please be sure you are checking your child's Canvas daily for current assignments, announcements, and due dates. Continue to stay safe and healthy. Remember, WE WILL GET THROUGH THIS TOGETHER!!!!

Fourth Grade Updates

Our fourth grade scholars have been working very hard! Over the past few weeks, we have been giving instruction through distance learning in ELA, social studies, math and science by using the learning management system Canvas. Our scholars are also using different apps to expand their learning, for example NewsEla, Brain Pop, STEMscopes, Nearpod, Kahoot and Think Central.

In ELA we have been reviewing skills previously taught in reading, language arts and social studies. There is an emphasis on integrating information from various texts on the same topic in order to write about the subject knowledgeably. We continue to focus on how to find context clues in literal and nonfiction text. The scholars are presenting this knowledge through writing in discussion posts on the class discussion board. The discussion post allows scholars to proudly present their knowledge in a cohesive argument with evidence to back it up as well as interact with their classmates using Accountable Talk. In math, we wrapped up instruction working on fractions and understanding parts of a whole as well as a fraction greater than one. Now is an even greater opportunity to have fun practicing this skill with your scholar by measuring while cooking or baking a special meal or treat at home! Our focus moving forward has been on the metric and custom units of measurement as we continue to review all past skills and concepts.

In science, we wrapped up changes to the land caused by weathering and erosion, and will further our focus of instruction on different kinds of energy and heat flow while we incorporate a review of previous concepts and standards taught. Continue to practice identifying scientific changes in your home environment for a greater understanding! In social studies we will also be learning about resources in Florida, reproduction in plants and life cycles. Please continue to encourage your child to work on i-Ready each night because it reinforces the skills taught in 4th grade.

Parents, the fourth grade team thank you for your patience and constant support during this extraordinary time!

Fifth Grade Updates

Our fifth-grade scholars continue making steady academic progress as we embark on this adventure into the land of online schooling together.

In ELA we continue to work on past standards as we strive for 100% mastery, incorporating a variety of texts in comprehension building activities to help prepare for 6th grade. In math, we are continuing to work on fractions with like and unlike denominators as well as fractions greater than one, as we spiral review through past standards and prepare for our transition into 6th grade. In science we are reviewing standards taught in all grades Kinder through 5th as we introduce extensions in learning for a greater understanding of these concepts.

For our families here are a few simple things to consider from the 5th grade team as we move forward. Maintain a Routine; set a schedule (including breaks) for when online tasks should be completed daily. Organize; yourself to participate in the learning with your scholar, create a space for learning using checklists or calendars as needed. Support; let your learner know it's not just the teacher that is there to help them. Patience; we are ALL figuring this out together and will work through all the obstacles we come across. Problem Solve; do NOT give up, if it doesn't work one way, try something else. And lastly, Question; ask if you are not sure. The fifth-grade team is here to assist you in any way we can. This experience is new and we WILL meet and face every challenge head on, TOGETHER we can make it happen for our scholars!

Guidance News

Sea Castle Scholars as we move through these final months of school, it is important to maintain your character and continue to focus on important traits that show what amazing scholars you are.

Our character trait for the month of April is TOLERANCE, and what better time to practice this skill then now as we move through these uncertain times. The SEL (Social Emotional Learning) standard related to this character trait is Relationship skills (developing sympathy and/or acceptance of others), we can continue to practice this by reading about autism during the month of April for Autism Awareness Month, and working to understand the difficult times many of us, and those around us, are experiencing. The information here outlines and defines our traits and standards.

What is **CHARACTER**?

The combination of traits, qualities, feelings and behaviors that distinguish an individual. It is based on universal principles, moral values and integrity.

TOLERANCE:

Recognizing and respecting differences, values, and beliefs of other people. The act of tolerating something. Willingness to, sympathy for, or acceptance of feelings, habits, or beliefs that are different from your own.

What is **SEL**?

Social-Emotional learning is the process of acquiring a set of skills to manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions. Mrs. Lopez is just a click away, please feel free to email her if you are in need of support to Leila.Lopez@browardschools.com or for immediate assistance call 211.

MEDIA AND SPECIALS NEWS

The specials team is being creative in their new style of learning as we work to upload innovating and fun filled activities to our Canvas pages and Modules. We are placing assignments in modules regularly that need to be completed for credit, please remember to check daily.

Thank you to everyone that participated in Reading Across Broward, and for all the scholars that logged their books into Beanstack. Media has started its first virtual book club and we are enjoying our virtual group discussions and student points of view on literature.

A special note to teachers and scholars, while we don't know when schools will be open, please be sure to bring ALL media books checked out back on the day of return. We still need to log the books for inventory and this will help to reduce any fines or obligations for the student or teacher record. Fifth grade students this is especially important for you. If you have media books at home please be sure to put them in a safe place where they can be returned to Sea Castle when it reopens, school fines can follow you! Mrs. Chandler is only a Canvas click away if you need anything. Please be sure to visit her Canvas media page and keep reading!

Title I News

Parents will continue to be updated with SAC news and information through our school webpage and an invite to our next SAC meeting (TBD) will be sent for input on the 2020-2021 School Improvement Plan with the Title I Plan (Addendum), 2020-2021 School level Parent and Family Engagement Plan, and 2020-2021 Parent-School Compact.

Any suggestions and input for the 2020-2021 School Improvement Plan with Title I Plan (Addendum) can be sent to our Title I Liaison Mrs. Hernandez at Madelyn.Hernandez@browardschools.com to be included in the forthcoming SAC meeting.

Cafeteria News

Please remember to update all contact information to ensure all messages, emails, and phone calls are received for student account information. Check browardschools.com for the nearest meal distribution site open for breakfast and lunch.

SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM ADMINISTRATION

It is hard to believe that we ended the third quarter and are in our last quarter of the school year of the 2019-2020 school year. Things have changed quickly since mid- March through these unprecedented global circumstances beyond our control. As we concluded the third quarter and entered into the fourth and final quarter of the school year we embraced and embarked on our distance learning adventure together. We are so proud of our scholars, along with the strong support of their parents and families, as we thrived and embraced our Virtual Learning Education. Thank you to our parents, students and families for your support and conviction in collaborating with teachers to ensure your child's learning never stops. We would like to express our sincere appreciation to all adults at home assisting the students with this new process.

Please remember to follow all directions and assignments on Canvas daily and sign into Clever daily through sso.browardschools.com (Active Directory). An adult in the family should check that all daily assignments have been completed. Students will receive grades for these assignments for the fourth quarter report card. Access to the Digital citizenship course through canvas is available and certificates will be issued electronically for this. We also have use of the FREE scholastic tool on Clever to access an endless library of books. Mrs. Chandler our media specialist has also uploaded and designed some content for each grade level in her Canvas.

Report Cards and interims will be accessible through Pinnacle and Virtual counselor please be on the lookout for upcoming dates. We believe in our students and parents.

Remember, we are in this together. If we keep working hard and communicate well, we can all get this done. Stay healthy, enjoy your family time, and be safe!

Calling all Interested Dolphin Volunteers



How can you become a volunteer?

- Complete and submit a volunteer application. <https://www.browardschools.com/volunteerapplication>
- Check application status. Wait one week and contact the school or department you selected to check your approval status.
- Get a volunteer badge at SCE.