



# GATOR CHRONICLE

GREENWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

May/June 2018

## Principal's Message

### Important Numbers

Office: 886-7744, press 5  
Fax: 989-0231

Clinic: 886-7744, press 3

Cafeteria: 886-7744, press 4

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### AGENDA

Use of the GWES agenda is required and serves as the primary method of communication between home and school.

### CONNECT 5

Connect 5 is the system that makes computerized phone calls to families about important events.

### EMAIL

Email is an efficient way to communicate with your child's teacher. Please allow 24 hours for a return email.

### TELEPHONE CALLS

When you call to speak with your child's teacher, you will be transferred to their voicemail. Please allow 24-48 hours for a return call.

### PARENTVUE

Monitor your child's progress  
See calendar & class schedules  
View attendance, grades & more!

Dear Greenwood Families,

I can't believe how quickly this year is going by. Teachers and students are working hard every minute of every day. I am looking forward to a May and June full of lots of learning! I have included information concerning placement for next year, Virginia SOL Testing, updating student contact information, appropriate dress, and dismissal information.

Thank you for your continued support,  
Camisha Davis

### Placement for next year

Each year it is unclear how many teachers we will have at each grade level. Because of this uncertainty, it is unfeasible for parents to request specific teachers. However if you have a particular concern about your child and his or her needs for next year, please send a letter to me prior to May 31, 2018. I will personally read each letter and take the information into account when placing students into classrooms.

### Virginia SOL

We are quickly approaching our "SOL Season". This is the time of year when our 3rd-5th grade students are administered the **Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL)**. Our teachers have been working very hard all school year to prepare our students for success on these very important assessments. Students will have the opportunity to "show what they know" by demonstrating their proficiency in the content areas of reading, math, science and social studies. We know our students will do their very best, but we need your support in ensuring that your child is present each day of testing. Also, be sure your child gets a good night's sleep and a healthy breakfast!

### SOL Testing

May 17—Grade 3 Reading Part 1	May 16—Grade 4 Reading	May 15—Grade 5 Reading
May 18—Grade 3 Reading Part 2	May 23—Grade 4 VA Studies	May 22—Grade 5 Science
May 24—Grade 3 Math	May 30—Grade 4 Math	May 31—Grade 5 Math

### Contact Information

Parents and guardians are reminded to notify the school when numbers and email addresses change so that we are able to make contact with parents when necessary. This includes home, work and cell phone numbers.

### What's Appropriate to wear

Spring is here and the weather is warming. With these changes, we are beginning to see shorts and other warm weather clothing. Please help us remind your children that clothing must adhere to the dress code. Shorts and/or skirts should be long enough to reach past the fingertips when arms are straight by a student's sides. Spaghetti straps, one shoulder and cutaway/keyhole tops are not appropriate for classroom environments. Flip flops, swim footwear, and other beach sandals without straps on the back can cause accidents and injuries. Please continue to use care in clothing for school so that learning time is not lost sending students to the clinic to call home for a change of clothes.

### Dismissal

We need your child at school until the end of the instructional day. Please minimize early pick up so that your child can complete the full day. They often miss vital review and preparation for the next day if they leave early.

**\*\*\*For the safety of your child, all changes to dismissal procedures must be in writing.\*\*\***

## PTA NEWS

Greenwood PTA and NNPS Parks & Recreation  
Invite you to the

### 1st Annual Greenwood Carnival

Saturday, May 19, 2018

12:00pm—3:00pm

Please join us for an afternoon of games, face painting, crafts, bounce house, music, vendors, food trucks and much more!!

**Volunteers are needed. If interested, please email [ocgespta@gmail.com](mailto:ocgespta@gmail.com)**

## RESOURCE NEWS/PBIS TIPS

### Greenwood Gator PBIS

**BE KIND**

**BE SAFE**

**BE RESPECTFUL**

**BE PREPARED**

**April reward day will be held on May 3 or May 4**

**Please continue to remind students to follow the Greenwood Motto**

**Classrooms earn Tallies throughout the day for being**

***Kind, Safe, Respectful and Prepared.***

**May-June reward day will be a combined recognition to be held the last week of school- date to be announced**

**Students can help their classrooms earn extra rewards by coming to school every day.** Your classroom teacher has the ability to provide you up to two additional tallies a day for perfect attendance (two additional tallies each day of perfect attendance). We want you at school!

To continue with the Olympic theme, classrooms will continue to have the opportunity to earn additional points to gain a status of distinction:

The highest two classrooms earning 150 or more tallies earned in a month will earn a tangible reward, 15 extra minutes of recess and a Gold Medal.

The highest two Classrooms earning 125 to 149 tallies earn 15 extra minutes of recess and a Silver Medal

The highest two Classrooms earning 101 to 124 tallies earn 10 minutes of extra recess and a Bronze Medal

Classrooms earning 100 tallies will continue to earn 10 minutes of extra recess

**The PBIS team encourages all classrooms to strive for the Gold and end the school year strong!**



## *Counselor's Corner*

It's hard to believe that the end of the school year has arrived! We have presented many guidance lessons with the focus on character education to ensure that we are preparing our students to be "College, Career, and Citizen Ready."

During the months of May and June, students in grades third through fifth will participate in the state's Standards of Learning assessment. Please encourage your child to do his/her best each day. Below, are a few tips to help make this time easier for you and your child.

Make sure your child:

1. gets a good night's sleep.
2. eats breakfast each morning
3. comes to school on time.
4. gets encouragement to do their best.

I know that you feel anxious as summer approaches. Trying to figure out how to keep your child's mind active and sharp over the summer can be hard. Here are a few helpful tips:

Sign your child up for getting their own library card. Visit the library each week.

Set aside time to do things together outdoors.

Make a list of free things to do in our community.

Provide your child with some responsibilities each day.

Finally, we want to thank you for your support throughout the year. Best wishes for an enjoyable, safe and relaxing summer.

Gwen Pendergraft

Professional School Counselor

[gwen.pendergraft@nn.k12.va.us](mailto:gwen.pendergraft@nn.k12.va.us)

(757)886-7744

## **MILITARY SUPPORT COUNSELOR**

Dear Greenwood Parents/Guardians,

Our military families are an integral part of our school community.

I hope you felt supported and received assistance and resources when needed.

Thank you for another amazing year at Greenwood Elementary and please do something fun and enjoy your summer.

Good luck to you and your family!

Thank you for all the sacrifices you make daily!

Dana C. Madison, Ed.D

Military Support Counselor

[dana.madison@nn.k12.va.us](mailto:dana.madison@nn.k12.va.us)

(757) 886-7744

## KINDERGARTEN

Our wonderful year is winding down. Please be sure to refer to the ABC Countdown Calendar for special activities happening up until the very last day of school! While we've learned so much this year, we want to be sure that the learning continues throughout the summer. Here are a few ideas that can help you and your Kindergator do just that!

### Summer Writing Ideas:

It's very important to continue to practice writing skills over the summer just like reading and math. Here are some ways to help your child practice over the summer!

### Book ideas:

- Make a book about a trip you went on
- Make a book about something fun you did
- Make a book to tell about something funny, sad, scary, exciting that happened to you
- Make a book about something you know a lot about
- Make a book about whatever you want!

### Journal ideas:

- Write a note to your child before

you go to work or leave for the day. Have them write back while you are away.

- If they are asking to do something, or for you to buy them something have them tell why they should be able to go or get the thing they wanted.
- Make a list of things they want to do or places they'd like to go.

### Other writing ideas:

- Write letters to relatives
- Write a grocery list before heading to the store.

## FIRST GRADE

Read, Read, Read! Our first graders are reading every day. It is so important especially right before end of the year testing that all of our students are reading a book at home to someone every night. In reading fourth quarter, we will have author studies (Eric Carle, Mo Willems, Leo Lionni etc.) and review read-

ing strategies such as sequencing, character feelings and traits, as well as problem and solution in a story.

In math, we will review addition and subtraction by creating story problems as well as place value and skip counting by 2's.

In writing, our poetry unit con-

tinues and students will create anthologies with different kinds of poems as well as revisiting personal narratives.

Lastly, in content we will investigate matter and how to stay safe this summer.

## SECOND GRADE

**Math:** As the year winds down, so do the new topics taught in math. The remaining units include money and time. They are two big ones! There is no cumulative math assessment covering all of the topics that were taught this year. However, we will be reviewing everything taught throughout the year.

**Reading:** After we finish the fiction unit, we will be reviewing nonfiction and the comprehension strategies of

cause and effect, main idea, and fact/opinion. The remainder of the year will be spent reviewing and reinforcing strategies and skills that aid the students in comprehension. PALs testing will take place from May 14– May 25.

**Writing:** We are currently writing book reviews on fiction books. The students will get to make a presentation on the computer about their reviews. The remaining units after this include nonfiction reviews and poetry.

**Other:** With the upcoming testing in the upper grades, it is important that the children understand the need for quiet in the halls and classrooms. Please reinforce this necessity with your child/children as well as the importance of respecting others (adults and children).

- Notification of the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade picnic and awards ceremonies will be sent home at a later date.

## THIRD GRADE

Dear Parents,

The end of the year is quickly approaching and we are looking forward to each day spent with your child. This means that students need to be in school each day on time to ensure academic success. During the month of May, we will be gearing up for SOLs in Math on Thursday, May 24 and Reading on Thursday and Friday, May 17-18. These tests require students to focus and maintain attention for extended periods of time. Please continue to

read with your child each day to continue building reading stamina. Students are currently reviewing previously taught reading and math skills daily through reading intervention/enrichment and remediation times during the school day. We need your help to ensure they are reading daily at home, completing reading and math homework assignments, and getting the necessary rest to perform well in school. Another way to help is to encourage your child to make good behavior choices and focus during the school day.

During the month of June, your child will participate in end of year activities. Students will bring home a permission slip for participation in these exciting activities. Please complete and return the permission slips to school once they are sent home. Thank you for your support this school year! Please continue to work with your child in reading and math during the summer months to help them prepare for the upcoming year.

## FOURTH GRADE

Hello Fourth Grade Families,

For the months of May and June our focus in math is geometry and a cumulative review of all math concepts. Students will need to work diligently each night to master geometry vocabulary, as well as be able to identify and categorized different types of polygons. Please see notes in your child's math notebook for more information. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

In Social Studies, we will be studying the 20th century as well as reviewing previous units in preparation for the upcoming SOL.

Reading instruction will continue to concentrate on character analysis, making inferences and predictions, asking questions, summarizing and drawing conclusions.

In writing, we will revisit creating personal narratives. We will strive to be better story tellers by using our life experiences, as well as by

experimenting with a variety of language and more sophisticated sentences.

As always, we thank you for the support you give to your child at home and to us at school.

## FIFTH GRADE

We've made it to the last marking period of 5<sup>th</sup> grade! As we finish up this last marking period, we will be reviewing for the 5<sup>th</sup> grade SOLs.

Students have been getting homework each week. Please make sure that your child is

completing their homework and studying their science notes, as it is great preparation for the tests.

Information about the 5<sup>th</sup> grade promotion ceremony will be coming home this month. As of right now, the date is set for the evening of

June 13, 2018 at Woodside High School.

Fifth Grade Team



## DATES TO REMEMBER



- 5/15-6/8—SOL Testing(Grades 3-5)**
- 5/10—PTA Meeting—5:00-6:00pm**
- 5/19—1st Annual Greenwood Carnival—12:00-3:00**
- 5/28— Memorial Day (schools and offices closed)**
- 6/11—Field Day**
- 6/12-14—Early Dismissal 2:10pm**
- 6/14—Last Student Day**

### The READING CORNER

Looking ahead to summer, all children need to spend time reading books they enjoy. Reading like any other skill gets better with practice, and volume of reading matters.

**Before reading**, students need to preview the text to think about what they know. What do they know about those text structures? What should they expect as they read? Fiction has a narrative (story) text structure with the elements of setting, plot (conflict, events, resolution), characters (feelings, traits, motives), figurative language, and theme. Non-fiction can have any one, or a combination, of five different text structures: description, cause/effect, compare/contrast, sequence, or problem/solution and has elements including main idea, supporting details, vocabulary and text features. What questions or predictions do they have? What is their goal for reading?

**During reading**, students need to remember reading is an active THINKING process where students have to construct meaning as they read

**After reading**, students need to reflect on what they've read. If reading non-fiction, ask what surprised me about what I read? What vocabulary or concepts did the author assume I knew? Did what I read challenge or confirm what I thought about this topic before I read? If reading fiction, ask what was the conflict in the story? How did the characters resolve the conflict? Did the character's change over the course of the story? What theme or message did the au-

## STAY CONNECTED

- ⇒ Visit the Greenwood Webpage (<http://greenwood.nn.k12.va.us>)
- ⇒ Like us on Facebook (@olivercgreenwood)
- ⇒ Follow us on Twitter(@nnpsgreenwood)
- ⇒ Receive text updates by texting [@63hccb](https://www.facebook.com/olivercgreenwood) to 81010



### Clothing to Cash Recycling Program

Our goal is to fill our collection bin weekly with as many plastic bags of clothing, shoes and other textiles as possible to raise funds for our school. **EVERY BAG COUNTS!!** This is a great way to help save our environment and ensure the future of our planet.