



# Dogwood Elementary

*Moving from Good to Great, Creating a Community of Thinkers and Learners*

## Principal's Message

Hello Dogwood Family,

This school year has gotten off to a great start! We had an awesome turn out at Sneak A Peek and Back to School Night. As shared at Back to School night we are placing more of a focus on literacy across all grade levels, and using restorative practices to build relationships with students and reduce the amount of time they spend out of class. In order for these initiatives to be successful we truly need an "all hands on deck" spirit of willingness, transparency, and reflection.

Parents, I know that we all lead very busy lives, but please try to attend the events that are focused on building better parent/school relationships. For example, VIP Days were created to purposely invite parents, grandparents, or various family members to join us in a fun filled day of learning. There will be four VIP Days scheduled throughout the school year. Come out and watch your children learn in the classroom, follow their schedules, eat with them in the cafeteria, and enjoy a day of learning. Also, we will continue to have our quarterly Parent Voice Meetings that are offered throughout the school year. These meetings are purposefully designed to cover topics that will help inform parents about important matters that impact your students learning. Some of the topics that will be covered will include the new report card format, new honor roll requirements, building literacy at home, making sense of the new math, MAP and PARCC testing, etc. As always, I am looking forward to your participation and input!

As always, thank you for your unwavering support!

Respectfully Submitted,

Ms. Johari Toe  
Principal  
Dogwood Elementary School



Back to School Night- Sept. 2017

### Important Dates:

#### VIP Day

Tues., Oct. 17, 2017

#### PTA Think Pink Day

Thurs., Oct. 19, 2017

#### PTA Game Night- 6:30pm

Thurs., Oct. 19, 2017

#### School Closed

Fri., Oct. 20, 2017

#### Claire's Gourmet Money Due

Mon. Oct. 23, 2017

#### Lifetouch Picture Day

Thurs., Oct. 26, 2017

#### 3 Hour Early Dismissal- 1st

#### Quarter Ends

Dismissal at 12:10pm

Fri., Nov. 3, 2017

#### PTA Harvest Fest- 6:00pm

Fri. Oct. 27, 2017

#### PTA Meeting at 6:00pm

Mon. Nov. 6, 2017

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Parent Voice

#### Meeting

Tues., Nov. 8, 2017

9am-10am, 12pm-1pm, or

5:30pm-6:30pm

#### Reading Night

Tues. Nov. 14, 2017

6pm-7:30pm

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Report Cards

#### Distributed

Thurs. Nov. 16, 2017

#### School Closed- Elementary Conference Day

Fri. Nov. 17, 2017

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### Health Corner— Nurse E. Edwards, RN

- ✓ Dogwood’s health theme for this year is “Healthy Body Under Construction”. I am reminding **all** of our Dogwood family to turn off the electronics and give your mind a rest. BCPS Parent University Online is a good resource for all kinds of information with regards to academics and health.
- ✓ Please remember to send in your student’s discretionary Medication form. This form provides information for me to contact you in case of illness and a section to indicate your consent of certain non-prescription medications to alleviate minor discomforts.
- ✓ Dogwood Elementary is a food-free birthday party school. We celebrate and recognize the children on their special day over the announcements and in the classroom. If you would like to send in goody bags be creative with non-food items such as pencils, stickers, erasers, or small notepads. Children just enjoy a surprise.

### Counselors Corner— Mrs. D. Bullock, Mr. R. Simmons, and Mr. A. Dukes

“Perseverance is not a long race; it is many short races one after the other!”

Walter Elliott

October Character Trait – Perseverance

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**Dogwood Elementary School**  
**October 2017 Newsletter**  
**Prekindergarten**

Ms. Susan Ruehr, Room 104 – [sruehr@bcps.org](mailto:sruehr@bcps.org)

**Phonological Awareness**

- The words “my” and “the” will be introduced.
- A new way to sing the “Alphabet Song,” will be learned.
- The letters/sounds for Aa, Dd, Mm, and Ss will be introduced.
- We will be listening for words in various types of forms such as songs, poems, and sentences.
- Read alouds will focus on friendship and school.

**ELA Overview**

- **RF2.b** Identify and isolate individual words in a spoken sentence.
- **RF1.d** Recognize and name some upper and lowercase letters of the alphabet.
- **RF2.e** Isolate and pronounce the initial sound in spoken words.
- **RL1** With modeling and prompting, answer questions about details in a text.

**ELA Home/School Connection**

- Recognize the words “my” and “the” in text.
- Find the letters Aa, Dd, Mm, and Ss around the house and in your community.
- Say words that begin with Aa, Dd, Mm, and Ss and ask your child to identify the first letter in the word.
- Have your child use play doh to form letters or write letters in shaving cream, sand, or rice.
- Check out this website: <http://more2.starfall.com/n/level-k/index/load.htm>

**Math Overview and Helpful Tips**

- Building sets from 1-5.
- Counting with 1:1 correspondence (one number for each item counted)
- Comparing numbers and sets using the terms more, less or fewer, and equal

**Math Home/School Connection**

- Count sets of 1-5 objects. Make sure your child touches items as they count.
- Have your child match numbers to sets.
- Use more, less or fewer, and equal to compare sets.
- Check out these websites: [http://www.abcya.com/kindergarten\\_counting.htm](http://www.abcya.com/kindergarten_counting.htm) and [http://www.abcya.com/counting\\_fish.htm](http://www.abcya.com/counting_fish.htm)

**Science or Social Studies Overview**

- Friendship
- Classroom Activities and Routines
- Taking Care of Ourselves
- Classroom Jobs

**Special Notes:**

- If you haven't had a chance to sign up for the Remind app, think about doing so. If you misplaced the information regarding sign up, I have plenty so just let me know!

Dogwood Elementary School  
October 2017 Newsletter  
Kindergarten

Mrs. G. Cumbo, Room 105 – [gcumbo@bcps.org](mailto:gcumbo@bcps.org)  
Mrs. A. Jackson, Room 187 - [ajackson9@bcps.org](mailto:ajackson9@bcps.org)

Mrs. S. Brunn, Room 107 – [sbrunn@bcps.org](mailto:sbrunn@bcps.org)  
Ms. R. Halperin, Room 108 – [rhalperin@bcps.org](mailto:rhalperin@bcps.org)

Phonics/Word Work Overview

In the month of October, Kindergarteners will:

- Identify the upper and lowercase letters “s, p, and t” as well as reviewing the letters from September (m, a, s)
- Forming letters using headline, midline, and baseline.
- Identify the sounds of the letters /s/, /p/, and /t/, as well as reviewing the sounds of /m/, short /a/, and /s/.
- Identifying initial, medial, and ending sounds in a word.
- Blending sounds to form a word.
- Identifying rhyming words.
- High frequency words: I, can, the, am, at, we, see, a, like, to, it, dear, love

ELA Overview - Our 5 Senses, Tools We Use, Shapes all Around Us, and Bugs.

- Students will:
  - continue to work on listening comprehension
  - reading from left to right, and top to bottom
  - use schema and making personal connections to the text
  - identifying key details in a story
  - ask and answer questions about a story
- ELA Content Standards
  - Proper Use and Book Handling**
    - **RF.K.1** Demonstrate understanding of organization and basic features of print.
  - Reading from top to bottom, left to right**
    - **RF.K.1a** Follow words from left to right, top to bottom, and page by page.
  - Identifying the main topic of a text**
    - **RI.K.2** With prompting and support, identify the main topic and retell key details of a text.
  - Comparing texts on same topic**
    - **RL.K.9** With prompting and support, compare and contrast the adventures and experiences of characters in familiar stories.
  - Participate in whole group reading experiences**
    - **RL.K.10** Actively engage in group reading activities with purpose and understanding.
  - Engage in small group conversations**
    - **SL.K.1** Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about kindergarten topics and texts with peers and adults in small and larger groups.
  - Listening Comprehension**

- **SL.K.2** Confirm understanding a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media by asking and answering questions about key details and requesting clarification if something is not understood.

#### ELA Home/School Connection

- Phonics websites to practice reading
- <https://www.abcya.com>
- <https://www.abcmouse.com/>
- <http://www.starfall.com/>
- <http://pbskids.org/>
- Making flashcards of sight words
- Reviewing the alphabet
- Handwriting practice
- Writing their names

#### Math Overview and Helpful Tips

- Students will:
  - explore with math manipulatives
  - practice one to one correspondence
  - identify numbers
  - form written numbers
  - represent and compose sets of numbers 1-10
  - sort and describe shapes
  - rote count
  - compare lengths
- Math Content Standards:
  - Practice 1:1 Correspondence**
    - **K.CC.B.4a** When counting objects, say the number names in the standard order, pairing each object with one and only one number name and each number name with one and only one object
  - Identify and Write Numbers**
    - **K.CC.A.3** Write numbers from 0-20. Represent a number of objects with a written numeral 0-20 (with 0 representing a count of no objects).
  - Rote Count**
    - ❖ **K.CC.A.02** Count forward beginning from a given number within the known sequence (instead of having to begin at 1).
  - Compare Sets of Objects**
    - ❖ **K.CC.C.6** Identify whether the number of objects in one group is greater than, less than or equal to the number of objects in another group by using matching and counting strategies.
    - ❖ **K.MD1.** Describe measurable attributes of objects.

## Math Home/School Connection

- <http://www.abcya.com/>
- <http://www.coolmath.com>
- Encourage your child to practice counting each day, using manipulatives found at home. For example, beans, toys, pencils, crayons, shoes, coins, cereal, buttons, cotton balls, etc. Have your child line the items up, and use one-to-one correspondence to accurately count the items.

## Science or Social Studies Overview - Monthly Weather Calendar

Teacher and students will record the daily weather for each month, and keep the information to look for weather patterns throughout the school year.

Science Content Standard:

- **SCI.00.M.K-ESS2-1** - Use and share observations of local weather conditions to describe patterns over time.

## Upcoming Content Projects

- Colors Week – Beginning 10/9/17 to 10/13/17
  - Please check your child's folder for information regarding Colors Week, and the colors to be worn for each corresponding day.
- Pumpkin Week-Beginning 10/23/17-10/27/17
  - Students will engage in pumpkin exploration activities, such as, investigating the inside of a pumpkin, counting the seeds inside of a pumpkin, reading pumpkin books, and creating pumpkin related crafts.

## Upcoming Field Trip

- The Three Billy Goats Gruff (play)- **January 24, 2018**
- The Cat in the Hat (play)-**March 15, 2018**

\*\*\*These are the trips that have been scheduled, thus far. There may be one additional trip planned for this school year. Information regarding these field trips will be issued 1 month prior to the trip. If you wish to attend any trips, please complete the volunteer training and send in your certificate of completion. Here is the link:

[http://www.bcps.org/community/volunteer\\_info](http://www.bcps.org/community/volunteer_info)

## Special Note From the Team:

- Please check your child's folder daily for important communications. Please remove any completed work samples from your child's folder.
- If you have not done so already, please send in an extra change of clothes for your child to keep in the classroom.
- Remember to wear Sneakers on Gym days.
- Snack is part of the Kindergarten curriculum, therefore students will need a snack every day.

Dogwood Elementary School  
October 2017 Newsletter  
First Grade

Mrs. L. Caplan, Room 111 – [lcaplan@bcps.org](mailto:lcaplan@bcps.org)  
Mrs. Lewis, Room 103 – [tlewis3@bcps.org](mailto:tlewis3@bcps.org)

Ms. R. Wolfe, Room 110 – [rwolfe@bcps.org](mailto:rwolfe@bcps.org)  
Mrs. K. Winings, Room 102- [kwinings@bcps.org](mailto:kwinings@bcps.org)

Phonics/Word Work Overview

In the month of October, first graders will:

- Identify l blends, short o words, and r blends
- Use phoneme segmentation to blend and read words
- Identify and generate rhymes
- High frequency words: be, come, good, pull, fun, make, they, jump, move, run, too
- Put words in alphabetical order
- Build and blend words

ELA Overview – What Makes A Good Story?

- **RL1.1** Ask and answer questions about key details in a text
- **RL1.2** Retell stories, including key details and demonstrate understanding of their central message or lesson
- **RL1.3** Describe characters, setting, and major events in a text using key details.
- **RL1.7** Use illustrations and details in a story to describe its setting, character and events
- **RI.1.4** Ask and answer questions to help determine or clarify the meaning of words and phrases in a text.
- **SL1.4** Describe people, places, things, and events with relevant details, expressing ideas and feelings clearly.
- **SL1.6** Produce complete sentences when appropriate to task and situation.
- **L.1.6** Use words and phrases acquired through conversations, reading and being read to, and responding to texts, including using frequently occurring conjunctions to signal simple relationships (e.g., because).

ELA Home/School Connection

Phonics websites to practice reading

- <http://www.abcya.com/animate.htm> - This is a great resource for sequencing and retelling a story!
- [www.abcya.com](http://www.abcya.com)
- [www.pbskids.org/games/rhyming.com](http://www.pbskids.org/games/rhyming.com)
- Make flashcards of sight words and play go fish or concentration.

## Math Overview and Helpful Tips - Identifying 2-D Geometric Shapes

In the month of October, first graders will learn:

- **01.G.A.01** - Distinguish between defining attributes (e.g., triangles are closed and three-sided) versus non-defining attributes (e.g., color, orientation, overall size); build and draw shapes to possess defining attributes.

## Math Home/School Connection

- <http://www.mathgametime.com/grade/1st-grade>
- [www.aaamath.com](http://www.aaamath.com)
- <http://www.mathplayground.com/games.html>
- Encourage your child to use counters to double check their work using everyday manipulatives found at home. For example, beans, cereal, or cotton balls

## Social Studies overview

- **SS.1.3** - Students will use geographic concepts and processes to understand location and its relationship to human activities
- **SS.1.3.A** - Using Geographic Tools
- **SS.1.3.A.1** - Use geographic tools to locate and describe places on Earth
- **SS.1.3.A.1.a** - Locate the continents and oceans using maps and a globe
- **SS.1.3.A.1.b** - Use photographs and pictures to describe a place
- **SS.1.3.A.1.e** - Describe where places are located on a map using relative distance and direction, such as near-far, above-below and cardinal directions (north, south, east, and west)
- **SS.1.3.B.1.a** - Identify and describe physical characteristics of a place (physical features, climate, vegetation and animal life)

### Upcoming Content Projects

N/A

### Upcoming Field Trips

- Look out for information about going to the aquarium. We are possibly going in November. More information to follow.

## Special Note From the Team:

- Bring your folder, homework, and agenda to school every day.
- Check your child's BCPS One account for updated grades.
- Remember the weather will be getting cooler. Please dress your child in accordance to the daily weather forecast. Remember to wear sneakers on gym days.
  - Mrs. Caplan – Gym on Thursdays and Fridays
  - Mrs. Lewis- Gym on Tuesdays
  - Mrs. Winings- Gym on Mondays
  - Ms. Wolfe- Gym on Wednesdays



Dogwood Elementary School  
October 2017 Newsletter  
Second Grade

Ms. J. Miller, Room 214 [jmiller13@bcps.org](mailto:jmiller13@bcps.org)

Mrs. D. Naden, Room 212 [dnaden@bcps.org](mailto:dnaden@bcps.org)

Mrs. J. Rosenbaum, Room 214 [jrosenbaum@bcps.org](mailto:jrosenbaum@bcps.org)

Mr. J. B. Miller, Room 213 [jmiller32@bcps.org](mailto:jmiller32@bcps.org)

Mrs. C. Haberkorn, Room 286 [jsilver@bcps.org](mailto:jsilver@bcps.org)

Phonological Awareness and Reading

- Short o as in ox
- Short u as in umbrella
- Short e as in egg
- Long a as in April

ELA Overview

- **RI 2.1** Ask and answer such questions such as who, what, where, when, why, and how to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text.
- **RI 2.5** Know and use various text features (e.g., captions, bold print, subheadings, glossaries, indexes, electronic menus, icons) to locate key facts or information in a text efficiently.
- **RI 2.7** Explain how specific images (e.g. a diagram showing how a machine works) contribute to and/or clarify the meaning of a text.
- **RI.2.3** Describe the connection between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts, or steps in technical procedures in a text.

ELA Home/School Connection

- [https://learnzillion.com/lesson\\_plans/6559-locate-information-using-text-features](https://learnzillion.com/lesson_plans/6559-locate-information-using-text-features)
- [https://learnzillion.com/lesson\\_plans/8365-explain-how-a-diagram-contributes-to-the-meaning-of-a-text](https://learnzillion.com/lesson_plans/8365-explain-how-a-diagram-contributes-to-the-meaning-of-a-text)
- iReady

Math Overview

- **2.MD.6** Represent whole numbers as lengths from 0 on a number line diagram with equally spaced points corresponding to the numbers 0, 1, 2,..., and represent whole number sums and differences within 100 on a number line diagram.
- **2.MD.8** Solve word problems involving dollar bills, quarters, dimes, nickels, and pennies, using \$ and ¢ symbols appropriately. Example: If you have 2 dimes and 3 pennies, how many cents do you have?
- **2.OA.1** Use addition and subtraction within 100 to solve one- and two-step word problems involving situations of adding to, taking from, putting together, taking apart, and comparing, with unknowns in all positions, e.g., by using drawings and equations with a symbol for the unknown number to represent the problem.
- **2.OA.2** Fluently add and subtract within 20 using mental strategies.
- **2.NBT.2** Count within 1000; skip count by 5s, 10s, and 100s.

Math Home/School Connection

- <http://illuminations.nctm.org/coinbox/>
- <http://gotkidsgames.com/tt/tt.html>
- Dreambox

Science or Social Studies Overview

- Laws and rules
- Government leaders
- Maps and map features
- Economics

Upcoming Content Projects

- None at this time

Upcoming Field Trips

- Stay tuned for a fall field trip!

Special Notes From The Team:

- Reading and spelling homework comes are given to students every Monday and should be returned on Friday.
- If your child is absent, please send in a note so they can be excused.
- If your child will going to be dismissed using a different method please send a note, email, or call the office prior to 2:30pm.

Dogwood Elementary School  
October 2017 Newsletter  
Third Grade

Mrs. Pickens, Rm. 206 [dpatterson4@bcps.org](mailto:dpatterson4@bcps.org)

Ms. Wise, Rm. 210 [cwise2@bcps.org](mailto:cwise2@bcps.org)

Ms. Genovese, Rm. 207 [tgenovese@bcps.org](mailto:tgenovese@bcps.org)

Ms. Brown, Rm. 208 [abrown7@bcps.org](mailto:abrown7@bcps.org)

Ms. Simpkins, Rm. 209 [jsimpkins@bcps.org](mailto:jsimpkins@bcps.org)

#### Phonics/Word Work Overview

- Third grade students will continue to practice and identify the following sounds:
  - ❖ Short *a* and short *i*
  - ❖ Short *e*, *o*, and *u*
  - ❖ Final “Silent” *e*
  - ❖ Long *a*: *ay*, *ai*, *a\_e*, *ea*, *eigh*, *ei*, *ey*

#### ELA Overview

- Unit 1: How Humans Affect Animals
  - ❖ Students will apply the following skills:
    - writing paragraphs
    - identifying the main idea and key details
    - summarizing
    - asking and answering questions
    - determining the cause and effect

#### ELA Home/School Connection

- Questioning and Summarizing Practice
  - ❖ <http://reading.ecb.org/>
- Main Idea
  - ❖ <https://jr.brainpop.com/readingandwriting/comprehension/mainidea/>
  - ❖ <https://youtu.be/3KTQYoPhsKg>
  - ❖ <http://www.roomrecess.com/pages/MainIdea.html> - This game will help students identify the main idea, especially with multiple choice options that are similar to each other.
- Cause and Effect
  - ❖ <https://jr.brainpop.com/readingandwriting/comprehension/causeandeffect/>
  - ❖ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sMTIuPvU6Lc>

#### Math Overview and Helpful Tips

- Unit 1 Multiplication and Division
  - ❖ Multiplication Strategies:
    - Repeated Addition/ Skip Counting
    - Pictures
    - Arrays
    - Number Lines
  - ❖ Multiplication Facts : 0-9
  - ❖ Division Story problems focusing on the number in each group and number of groups
  - ❖ Commutative Property of Multiplication

- Distributive Property of Multiplication

Math Home/School Connection - \*Please use these recourses to help explain math concepts to your child at home.

- Multiplication with pictures
  - ❖ [https://learnzillion.com/lesson\\_plans/5934-interpret-products-by-drawing-pictures](https://learnzillion.com/lesson_plans/5934-interpret-products-by-drawing-pictures)
- Arrays
  - ❖ [https://learnzillion.com/lesson\\_plans/6841-represent-multiplication-using-arrays](https://learnzillion.com/lesson_plans/6841-represent-multiplication-using-arrays)
  - ❖ <https://jr.brainpop.com/math/multiplicationanddivision/arrays/>
- Multiplication on a number line
  - ❖ [https://learnzillion.com/lesson\\_plans/7932-interpret-products-using-a-number-line](https://learnzillion.com/lesson_plans/7932-interpret-products-using-a-number-line)
- Commutative Property
  - ❖ [https://learnzillion.com/lesson\\_plans/8417](https://learnzillion.com/lesson_plans/8417)
- Distributive Property –
  - ❖ <https://www.brainpop.com/math/numbersandoperations/distributiveproperty/>
- Division
  - ❖ [https://learnzillion.com/lesson\\_plans/6098-solve-division-problems-by-drawing-pictures](https://learnzillion.com/lesson_plans/6098-solve-division-problems-by-drawing-pictures)
  - ❖ [https://learnzillion.com/lesson\\_plans/6542-visualizing-a-division-word-problem](https://learnzillion.com/lesson_plans/6542-visualizing-a-division-word-problem)
  - ❖ [https://learnzillion.com/lesson\\_plans/5706-use-repeated-subtraction-for-division](https://learnzillion.com/lesson_plans/5706-use-repeated-subtraction-for-division)

Science/Social Studies/Health

- Health
  - ❖ This unit will focus on building relationships. This includes bullying, handling conflicts, and building positive relationships with other.
- Social Studies
  - ❖ This unit will focus on exploring Asia. We will explore the specific continent, the culture, and the economy of Asia.

Upcoming Content Projects

- Unit 1 requires students to research an endangered animal. The students will create a book, poster, or Wixie in class. Research will begin this month around September 13, 2016.

**Upcoming Field Trips**

None at this time.

**Special Note From the Team:**

- Math and reading homework will be put into the gradebook as not graded. Students will have random checks for homework and they earn tickets for being responsible.
- Spelling homework will be given three times a week in a packet. Please choose the nights that work best for you and your child to complete the homework. The spelling words will match the phonics sound/pattern of the week. Spelling homework will be considered not graded and students will be awarded tickets for completion of spelling homework only.
- Students will be given weekly spelling tests. The homework will help reinforce the sound and words taught in school.
- Additional games for your child to play will be available on BCPSONE lesson tiles. These will change based on the skills we are working on weekly. Please bookmark any games that your

- child finds helpful or extremely engaging. If you would like to return to an activity from previous weeks, you can change the weekly date or look on the calendar to return to that activity.

Dogwood Elementary School  
October 2017 Newsletter  
Fourth Grade

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Ms. C. Sutton - Room 203- [csutton@bcps.org](mailto:csutton@bcps.org)

Mrs. K. Shafi – Room 205 – [kshafi@bcps.org](mailto:kshafi@bcps.org)

Mrs. S. Putnam, Room 202 [sputnam@bcps.org](mailto:sputnam@bcps.org)

Ms. E. Egert- Room 204- [eemert@bcps.org](mailto:eemert@bcps.org)

### Phonological Awareness and Reading

- Each week students will be completing their weekly reading log where they are required to spend 20 minutes/night reading independently.
- Students should also be reading a book of their choice (at their independent reading level) with stamina during the daily DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) block during school.

### ELA Overview

#### Essential Questions: What makes a person memorable? How do journeys shape a person's identity?

- **RI.4.2** Students continue to practice determining the main idea and supporting details using a variety of strategies. This standard is slowly introduced in distinct parts to support students' introduction and development of the skills. In this unit, students are introduced to the skill of summarization for the first time where their progress is assessed on the first checkpoint activity.
- **RI.4.6** In this unit, students are introduced to the concept of first and second hand accounts, as well as how to compare and contrast the focus of information provided. The academic vocabulary is introduced early in the unit and reviewed again towards the end of the unit. Student progress towards mastery of this standard is assessed on the second checkpoint activity.
- **RI.4.9** Students increase the rigor of their reading stamina as they continue to read multiple texts on the same topic. In third grade, students compared and contrasted key points on the same topic whereas students in fourth grade are now accountable for integrating information from at least two texts in different capacities to read and speak about the topic in which they read.
- **W.4.3** In third grade, the term description is used to refer to the development of characters and setting at the beginning of the story. The term exposition is used for the first time in fourth grade. In this unit, students will apply what they learn about the focus and information provided in first-hand accounts in order to compose a small moment narrative.

### ELA Home/School Connection

- Determine the main idea of a text using key details
  - ❖ [https://learnzillion.com/lesson\\_plans/6960-determine-the-main-idea-of-a-text-using-key-details](https://learnzillion.com/lesson_plans/6960-determine-the-main-idea-of-a-text-using-key-details)
- First Hand and Second Hand Account
  - ❖ [https://learnzillion.com/lesson\\_plans/11562-lesson-2-analyzing-firsthand-accounts-of-hurricanes](https://learnzillion.com/lesson_plans/11562-lesson-2-analyzing-firsthand-accounts-of-hurricanes)
- Summarizing
  - ❖ <https://www.flocabulary.com/unit/summarizing/>
  - ❖ [https://learnzillion.com/lesson\\_plans/7246-summarize-a-text](https://learnzillion.com/lesson_plans/7246-summarize-a-text)

## Math Overview and Helpful Tips

**Unit 1- Place Value/Adding and Subtracting** - This unit covers place value concepts to estimate and compare numbers. Students will use properties of operations and number sense to perform multi-digit arithmetic. Our **Envisionmath** textbook covers place value in topic 1 and addition and subtraction in topic 2. The 4<sup>th</sup> grade standards in this unit are:

- **04.NBT.A.01** - Recognize that in a multi-digit whole number, a digit in one place represents ten times what it represents in the place to its right. For example, recognize that  $700 \div 70 = 10$  by applying concepts of place value and division.
- **04.NBT.A.02** - Read and write multi-digit whole numbers using base-ten numerals, number names, and expanded form. Compare two multi-digit numbers based on meanings of the digits in each place, using  $>$ ,  $=$ , and  $<$  symbols to record the results of comparisons.
- **04.NBT.A.03** - Use place value understanding to round multi-digit whole numbers to any place.
- **04.NBT.B.04** - Fluently add and subtract multi-digit whole numbers using the standard algorithm.
- **04.OA.A.03** - Solve multistep word problems posed with whole numbers and having whole-number answers using the four operations, including problems in which remainders must be interpreted. Represent these problems using equations with a letter standing for the unknown quantity. Assess the reasonableness of answers using mental computation and estimation strategies including rounding.
- **Unit 4 Math Vocabulary:** place value, millions, decomposing, composing, period, expanded form, greater than symbol ( $>$ ), less than symbol ( $<$ ), rounding, estimation, conjecture, Commutative Property of Addition, Associative Property of Addition, Identity Property of Addition, counting on, compensation, variable, algorithm, inverse operations, inequality, equation

**Math Home/School Connection:** The following videos may be helpful.

1. Place Value  
<https://jr.brainpop.com/math/numbersense/placevalue/>
2. Comparing Numbers  
<https://jr.brainpop.com/math/numbersense/comparingnumbers/>
3. Rounding  
<https://jr.brainpop.com/math/numbersense/rounding/>
4. Adding with Regrouping  
<https://jr.brainpop.com/math/additionandsubtraction/addingwithregrouping/>
5. Subtracting with Regrouping  
<https://jr.brainpop.com/math/additionandsubtraction/addingwithregrouping/>

## Science and Social Studies Overview

- **Unit 1 Social Studies (Geography and Economics in the United States):** The geography of an area affects the people who live there. Geographic characteristics such as natural resources, access to transportation networks, climate, and landforms impact the ways that people live, work, and play. In this unit, students will develop skills for interpreting a variety of maps as they analyze the regions of Maryland and of the United States.

**Essential Questions:** How has the geography of the United States affected the people living there?  
How has the geography of Maryland affected the people living there?

- **4.3.D.1.** Describe how people adapt to, modify and impact the natural environment
- **4.3.A.1.a.** Construct and interpret a variety of maps using map elements
- **4.3.B.1.a.** Compare physical characteristics of different places and regions of Maryland and the United States
- **4.3.A.1.d.** Identify and locate physical features and human-made features of the United States
- **4.3.A.1.c.** Identify and locate natural/physical features and human-made features of Maryland
- **4.3.C.1.c.** Describe the transportation and communication networks for the movement of people, goods, and ideas to, from and within Maryland
- **4.4.B.1.b.** Give examples of the kinds of goods and services produced in Maryland during different historical periods
- **4.4.A.3.a.** Describe how changes in technology impacted the lives of consumers
- **4.3.D.1.b.** Describe ways and reasons people in the United States modify the natural environment and the consequences of modifications
- **4.3.D.1.c.** Explain how the growth of communities and suburbs have had consequences on the environment, loss of farmland, and pollution

**Upcoming Content Projects**

- **Maryland Travel Journal:** At the end of the social studies unit, the students will write a journal entry about a trip through the three regions in Maryland.
- **Narrative Stories:** At the end of ELA unit 1, the students will be writing a narrative story based on a memorable person they learned about in class.

**Upcoming Field Trips**

- **Aquarium:** Teachers are in the process of planning. More information will be sent home soon.
- **Historic St. Mary's City-** Spring 2018

**Special Note From the Team:**

- BCPS One: Parents, please continue to check grades as they are updated through BCPS One. First quarter is in full swing and teachers will update grades weekly. If you have any questions about the grades, please contact your child's homeroom teacher.
- The 4<sup>th</sup> grade students are taking both the fall MAP reading and math assessment.



Dogwood Elementary School  
October 2017 Newsletter  
Fifth Grade

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**Phonics/Word Work Overview**

- We are focusing on short vowel sounds and long vowel sounds in single and multisyllabic words.
- We are identifying different spelling patterns for each sound.

**ELA Overview**

- We are working on quoting, paraphrasing, summarizing, and inferring based on evidence from informational texts.
  - ❖ **RI.5.1.** Quote accurately from a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.
  - ❖ **RI.5.2.** Determine two or more main ideas of a text and explain how they are supported by key details; summarize the text
  - ❖ **RI.5.7.** Draw on information from multiple print or digital sources, demonstrating the ability to locate an answer to a question quickly or to solve a problem efficiently.
- We are working on drawing information from multiple sources in order to answer a question about a text.
  - ❖ **RI.5.7.** Draw on information from multiple print or digital sources, demonstrating the ability to locate an answer to a question quickly or to solve a problem efficiently.
- We are creating an infographic in order to examine a topic and convey information clearly
  - ❖ **W.5.2.** Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly
- We are using commas to separate items in a series.
  - ❖ **L.5.2.A.** Use punctuation to separate items in a series.

**ELA Home/School Connection**

- Worldbook for Kids (great extension research opportunities)
  - ❖ Accessed through BCPSOne “Digital Content”
- Tumblebooks
  - ❖ Accessed through BCPSOne “Digital Content”
- Reading Rockets: How Parents Can Support the Common Core Writing Standard
  - ❖ <http://www.readingrockets.org/article/how-parents-can-support-common-core-writing-standards>
- Reading Literature, Reading for Information, & Writing Skills Overview:
  - ❖ [http://www.lbeach.org/Assets/CC\\_ELA/ParentGuide\\_ELA\\_5.pdf](http://www.lbeach.org/Assets/CC_ELA/ParentGuide_ELA_5.pdf)
- Tips for Strengthen your child’s reading comprehension at home:  
<http://www.scholastic.com/parents/resources/article/milestones-expectations/fifth-grade-reading-tips-to-smoothen-transition>

### Math Overview and Helpful Tips- Unit One: Decimal Place Value, Addition, and Subtraction

- In this unit, we will work with whole number and decimal place value in order to compare, order, estimate, and round numbers. In addition, we will use models and place value understanding to add and subtract decimals through thousandths.
- We are working on understanding place value in order to identify and explain the relationship between different numbers.
  - ❖ **05.NBT.A.01** - Recognize that in a multi-digit number, a digit in one place represents 10 times as much as it represents in the place to its right and  $1/10$  of what it represents in the place to its left.
- We are working on multiplying, representing, and expanding numbers by using powers of ten.
  - ❖ **05.NBT.A.02** - Explain patterns in the number of zeros of the product when multiplying a number by powers of 10, and explain patterns in the placement of the decimal point when a decimal is multiplied or divided by a power of 10. Use whole-number exponents to denote powers of 10.
- We have been developing the ability to write decimals in multiple forms as well as to compare the size of different decimals.
  - ❖ **05.NBT.A.03** - Read, write, and compare decimals to thousandths.
- We have been rounding numbers to ones, tenths, hundredths, and thousandths.
  - ❖ **05.NBT.A.04** - Use place value understanding to round decimals to any place.
- We are working on adding, subtracting, multiplying, and divide decimals using models and the standard algorithm.
  - ❖ **05.NBT.B.07** - Add, subtract, multiply, and divide decimals to hundredths, using concrete models or drawings and strategies based on place value, properties of operations, and/or the relationship between addition and subtraction; relate the strategy to a written method and explain the reasoning used.

### Math Home/School Connection

- ❖ Khan Academy Adding Decimals:  
[https://www.khanacademy.org/math/pre-algebra/pre-algebra-decimals/pre-algebra-add-decimals/e/adding\\_decimals](https://www.khanacademy.org/math/pre-algebra/pre-algebra-decimals/pre-algebra-add-decimals/e/adding_decimals)
- ❖ Math Playground  
<http://www.mathplayground.com/>
- ❖ Dreambox  
<http://www.dreambox.com/> or access through BCPSOne

### Science or Social Studies Overview

- Blast Off!
  - ❖ We are learning about matter and its physical and chemical properties as well as how matter combines and creates new substances.

### Upcoming Content Projects

- ❖ Students will create an infographic using information from multiple sources, utilizing all skills learning in English/Language Arts throughout the unit.
- ❖ Students will researching chemicals in order to develop a fuel that will be used in a real-life model rocket simulation in science class.

### Upcoming Field Trips

- ❖ *PENDING October/November Field Trip: College tour to Morgan University. Cost TBD.*
- ❖ *Bio-Blitz Field Trip: May 2018; fifth grade is going to Patapsco Valley State Park in Baltimore County. Students will apply what they've learned in science class regarding their exploration, understanding, and documentation of the biodiversity of life in an area . Free.*
- ❖ *Philadelphia: End of May or early June. Approximately \$50.*

**Special Note From the Team**

- ❖ All fifth grade classrooms are using Class Dojo this year to monitor positive behavior. Please let your classroom teacher know if you still would like to sign up for Class Dojo, but need another registration paper! We are hoping for 100% participation from parents.
- ❖ In the past few weeks, your child has taken the fall MAP testing, standing for Measures of Academic Progress. They will be tested again in the winter.
- ❖ Please check BCPSOne regularly for grade updates.