

Carpenter's Chatter



Principal's Newsletter for Carpenter Elementary

August 5, 2019

***Parent Curriculum Night:** Parent Curriculum Night for Tracks 3 and 4 is scheduled for *Thursday, August 22nd*. During this evening, teachers will provide an overview of the curriculum and ways that you can help your child be successful in school. The first session is scheduled from 5:30 pm to 6:10 pm and the second session is from 6:20 to 7:00 pm. Both sessions will be identical. At the start of each session, there will be a video from administration and the PTA. This is the one time of the year that we ask you not to bring your children to school. Teachers are planning and working hard to impart curriculum specific information for parents. When children are talking and playing in the back of the classroom, it is difficult for parents to hear the information that is being addressed. Thanks for your cooperation. Hope to see you there.

***Medications:** When bringing in medication for your child, please be sure to have the 1702 form filled out completely by both you and your physician. In addition, please make sure the prescription label is on the medication container. Over the counter medications must have a student's name on them. All medications and 1702 forms must be brought and signed in with the front office staff and a parent. It is unsafe for a student to transport medication to school through their bookbag. Contact the school nurse, Gennetta Nelson, at gnelson@wcpss.net or 919-410-1829.

***Custody:** In situations where the custody of a child is in doubt or in conflict with the wishes of one or both parents, the school is placed in a difficult position. It is important for parents to be transparent and forthcoming with custody paperwork from the court system. We cannot enforce the judge's rulings when we do not have a copy of the custody agreement. When legal custody papers or restraining orders are presented, we will use all reasonable precautions to adhere to the court's ruling. Questions regarding custody agreements can be addressed to Fay Jones, the principal, at 919-462-6810 or by email at ejones2@wcpss.net.

***3rd Grade Explorers' Parent Night:** Third grade is the identification year for the Academically Gifted Program. The Explorers' Program is a process of whole group lessons in math and reading that are conducted by the AIG Teacher in the regular education classroom. During the lessons, the AIG Teacher is looking for students with high participation and accurate contributions. Students who do well will be invited to dig in further through small group lessons in the resource room. Third grade parents that are interested in learning about the Academically Gifted Program and identification process are invited to attend one of two meetings that are offered: *August 8th or August 29th at 5:30 pm*. Both sessions will be identical and parents are welcome to attend either one.

Important Dates

August 5th

First Day for all K Students – Tr 4
PTA K Parent Breakfast Track 4
9:15 am

August 8th

3rd Grade – Tracks 1, 2 & 4
AIG Explorer's Meeting
5:30 pm – Track 1, 2 & 4

August 12th

3rd Grade BOG Test
Track 4

August 13th

Kindergarten Dental Screenings

August 16th

Track 2 Tracks Out
Kindergarten Fire Truck Visit

August 19th

Track 3 Tracks In
PTA Spirit Night
Andias Ice Cream 4:00 – 8:00 pm
AIG Nominations End
Track 1

August 22nd

Kindergarten Fire Truck Visit
Parent Curriculum Night 5:30 pm
Tracks 3 & 4

August 27th

Kindergarten Dental Screenings
Picture Day – Tracks 3 & 4

August 29th

AIG Explorer's Meeting
5:30 pm – Track 3

September 2nd

School Closed
Labor Day Holiday

September 6th

Track 1 Tracks Out

September 9th

Track 2 Tracks In

***3rd Grade BOG:** Track 4, third graders will take a state mandated, multiple choice Beginning of Grade Reading Test (BOG) on *Monday, August 12th*. As part of the Read to Achieve law, this test serves as a pretest and is designed to give an indication of students who may need additional reading instruction to meet grade level benchmarks. There isn't any need to study for it since it is a pretest. In North Carolina, students must be proficient in reading by the end of the third grade year to be promoted to the next grade level. A Reading Camp is available during several track outs to provide non-proficient third grade students with more reading remediation.

***Cognitive Abilities Test:** All third grade students will be administered the Cognitive Abilities Test which is a screening measure for the Academically Gifted Program. Students will be tested on a battery of short verbal, quantitative and nonverbal tests that will be used to generate a composite score. Even if students do not qualify for the AIG program, these subtests can provide useful information about how your child does academically. Tracks 1-3 third graders will take the tests on *October 8th - 10th* and Track 4 third graders will be administered the tests on *October 28th – 30th*. It is very important that students arrive on time and are present in their rooms by 9:15 am. Students who are tardy will need to be tested on makeup days with students who were absent.

***Lunch With Your Child:** Please do come and have lunch with your child whenever your schedule permits. Check in at the office to get a visitor's badge. Do sit at an annex table and your child can invite one friend to sit with you. Snacks and food can be brought in to share with your child but due to food allergies, we ask that treats not be shared with other people's children in the cafeteria. Track 4 kindergarten families need to wait one more month as many children are still working through separation anxiety with their parents. Some five year olds can get confused and emotional when they see their parents at lunch and not be able to go home with them.

***PTA Spirit Night:** There is a PTA Spirit Night, from 4:00 – 8:00 pm on *Monday, August 19th*, at Andias Ice Cream. The address is 10120 Green Level Church Road #208 Cary, NC 27519. Bring the family for a sweet treat and a portion of your ice cream purchases will be donated to our PTA. Make sure to attend the fun loving, competitive ice cream eating contest at 7:00 pm featuring many Carpenter teachers.

***Go, Play, Save PTA Books:** The PTA is also selling Go, Play, Save books for \$30. With so many local coupons in the book, it will pay for itself with the use of only a few coupons! The PTA will receive 50% of all books sold. Thank you in advance for helping our students through supporting our PTA.

***Volunteers:** Please consider registering so that you can volunteer at Carpenter and on field trips. Reactivation is necessary every year. Come any morning to the Media Center to register on a school computer. When registering on our secure online system, you will need to provide your name, social security number, address, date of birth, driver's license number, employer and previous state(s) of residence. After October 31st, volunteers that haven't reactivated their status will only be able to register on Mondays. This will delay the time it takes to complete the background check process and volunteering within the school. Volunteers may go to any WCPSS school and register through the intranet. Access to the volunteer system is: WCPSS Intranet – Business Applications – Volunteer Registration.

***Early Check Outs:** We want your child to come to school on time and stay all day. Research shows a strong correlation between school attendance and school performance. We understand if there is an occasional appointment and you must check your child out of school early to attend. However, some children are being checked out early several times a week. Know that our social worker runs monthly reports to address school attendance through phone calls and personal home visits.

With Chameleon Pride and Spirit,

Fay Jones

Principal

