MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families,

Quest has dedicated its resources to meeting both your child's academic and social/emotional needs. Similar to academics, we have a pyramid of supports for students with Social/Emotional needs. Below you will find the 3 tiers of support and what is available, at Quest, to meet these needs. If you have concerns in this area, with your own child, please reach out to the classroom teacher or Guidance. In our Guidance team, Mrs. Barton is supporting students with the last name that begins with A-L and Mrs. Baffa is supporting students with the last name that begins with M-Z. Our goal is to help every child be successful here at Quest!

Quest Elementary’s Comprehensive Approach to Social/Emotional Needs of Students

- **Intensive Interventions**
  - Students with very severe behavior problems
  - Intensive monitoring and supervision
  - Ongoing counseling
  - Community-based treatment
  - Alternative school placement
  - Special education evaluation and services

- **At-Risk Students**
  - Students with some problem behaviors
  - Social skills groups: Quest Explorers
  - Short-term counseling
  - Mentoring: Hugs/With the Hawks
  - Tutoring: ASP 3rd Grade and ESL
  - Special education evaluation and services

- **Schoolwide Prevention**
  - All students
  - Clear and consistent discipline
  - Positive behavior support system
  - Lunch Bunch with Guidance
  - Staffed Harmony SEL Program
  - Character development curriculum
  - Counselor’s College Focus Groups
UPCOMING EVENTS

- Nov. 6th: Quest Spirit Day at El Leoncito All Day
- Nov. 8th: Veteran's Day Program at 8 a.m.
- Nov. 11th: Veterans Day - Holiday for All
- Nov. 13th: Picture Retakes
- Nov. 13th: PTO Meeting at 8 a.m.
- Nov. 21st: Fall Drama Performance
- Nov. 25th: Interims Posted on FOCUS
- Nov. 25th: SAC Meeting at 2:45 pm
- Nov. 27th: Teacher/Student Holiday
- Nov. 28th-Nov. 29th: Happy Thanksgiving - Holiday for All

- Dec. 5th-13th: PTO Holiday Shop
- Dec. 6th: Chilly Spoons Spirit Day
- Dec. 12th: Winter Music Concert
- Dec. 16th: SAC Meeting at 2:30 p.m.
- Dec. 17th: School Board Meeting at 5:30 p.m.
- Dec. 18th: PTO Meeting at 8 a.m.
- Dec. 18th-Dec. 20th: Early Release at 1:15 p.m.
- Dec. 23rd: Jan. 7th: Winter Break
- Jan. 8th: Teachers & Students Return

*Every Friday is Early Release at 1:15 pm.*

### AP HIGHLIGHT

#### How to have a Successful School Year

For many children, starting school is an exciting, stressful time. Whether your child is in kindergarten or sixth grade, here are 5 tips for a successful school year for all students.

1. Rest Up

   This is probably the most important tip on the list. A good night’s sleep is crucial to your child’s academic performance the next day. Getting to bed early and waking up at the same time each day not only establishes a routine, but provides your child with the energy, alertness, and motivation to start the day and be their best.

2. Get Organized

   Establish a time for homework each day and prioritize independent reading! Keep track of important dates for academic and extracurricular activities to help keep your child on track for success. Have your child lay the clothes out they are going to wear the night before and pre-plan for lunches each week. This helps save valuable time on already busy mornings. When your child is organized and prepared, stress is not only eliminated, but your child is more likely to be successful during the week.

3. Eat Up

   Breakfast is the most important meal, so don’t let your child skip it. Studies show that eating breakfast is linked to better cognitive function including memory and test grades, better attendance, and better classroom behavior. All of this facilitates greater learning for your child.

4. Set Goals

   What are your child’s aspirations for the school year? Set a plan for what your child wants to accomplish this year, and write a list of goals to complete. Studies show that when you write goals, you are more likely to achieve them. Whether your child wants to achieve straight A’s, to stop procrastinating, or to get the lead in the school play, help them to create goals.

5. Have a Positive Attitude

   Positivity is contagious; to classmates, teachers, and friends at school. Positive thinking affects learning in the classroom and is essential to a great school experience. Students that adopt positive thinking exhibit higher learning success. When your child believes in themselves and their capabilities, your child is more likely to achieve their goals!
Quest’s Writing Continuum

Writing is one of our most essential communication tools. Students have been working diligently this year to express their ideas and develop their craft. Our teachers have developed the following progression to support students as they move through each grade level. Additionally, students and teachers will use color coding throughout the year to identify various elements of writing. Using this framework will help students develop as writers and guide them into higher levels of thinking in all academic areas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kindergarten</th>
<th>Developmental writing (narrative, opinion, informative)</th>
<th>Capitals: Green Punctuation: Red</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Grade</td>
<td>RACE</td>
<td>R: Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; Second Grade</td>
<td>R: Restate the Question</td>
<td>A: Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A: Answer the Question</td>
<td>C: Yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C: Cite the evidence</td>
<td>E: Orange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>E: Edit &amp; Explain what it Mean.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Grade</td>
<td>R: Restate the Question</td>
<td>R: Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A: Answer the Question</td>
<td>A: Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C: Cite the evidence</td>
<td>C: Yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>E: Explain what it Means</td>
<td>E: Orange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth Grade</td>
<td>Transition from RACE to TEA (TEA may be in any order)</td>
<td>T: Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T: Topic Sentence</td>
<td>E: Yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>E: Evidence</td>
<td>A: Orange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A: Analysis</td>
<td>Deeper connections/Examples: Pink</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Hook/Introduction: Blue/Purple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifth &amp; Sixth Grade</td>
<td>TEA (in any order)</td>
<td>T: Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T: Topic Sentence</td>
<td>E: Yellow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>E: Evidence</td>
<td>A: Orange</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Did you know that you can recycle ink cartridges?
GEMS has a collection box in the lobby near the front doors where you can drop off your empty ink cartridges.

Sorry they cannot take toner cartridges.
Thank you for your donations of empty paper towel rolls. We will continue to need them, so please keep them coming.

Kindergarten has completed 2 art projects learning about primary colors, lines, and shapes. We also continue to create and build with various materials.

1st graders read Jack and the Beanstalk and then completed our Jack and the Parachute Challenge in which they built a parachute for Jack to escape from the giant and a barbed wire beanstalk.

2nd graders are learning about animal habitats, specifically bats. They will create individual bats and a team bat cave that will provide shelter for their bats.

In 3rd grade, we are learning about endangered animals, specifically bees, and why bees are so important to protect. Students will create a clay bee and then as a team, they will build a beehive.

4th graders finished up learning about animal adaptations with the “Clever as a Crow” challenge. They are now creating a clay model of a sea animal which will transition into a beach barrier challenge about weathering and erosion.

5th graders completed their “Blast Off!” challenge where they built rockets. We are now moving into a nature art project on weathering and erosion.

6th graders completed and tested their lunar landers. We are now moving into our “Galactic Glove” challenge where they will build a space glove.

**MUSIC**

We are in need of band-aids. Also, we’re still looking for donations for our treasure box! Ms. Foote and Mrs. Haggard are striving to cultivate a positive classroom climate and are rewarding students we see doing their best with a trip to the treasure box. If you have any lightly used/loved small toys or items we’d love to have them. For example, kids meal toys, blind bag toys, shopkins, small hatchimals, or any small toys that your children don’t play with anymore. Students also enjoy Pencils, Pens, Markers, and stickers. Donating items is a great way to declutter your kids toy boxes and share the love with other kids! Thank you to those who have already donated we appreciate your help and support.

**PE**

PE will be having our annual Hoop Shoot Contest with 3rd-6th grade on Tuesday December 17 during their regular scheduled activity time.

**MEDIA**

Our Kindergarten Campfire night was a huge success. All kindergarten students are now checking out a library book when coming to the media center.

The 2nd quarter reading goals are listed below. Library books with a pink star on the spine have a reading counts quiz. Students who successfully meet their quarterly goal will receive a special dog tag at the end of the quarter.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st grade-5 points</th>
<th>2nd grade- 10 points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3rd grade-15 points</td>
<td>4th grade-20 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th grade-25 points</td>
<td>6th grade-25 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Upcoming Performances and Events:**

- November 8th, 2019 @ 8 AM Chorus performance at the Veterans Day Program
- December 12th, 2019 @ 6:30 PM Winter Concert in the Ouest Cafeteria featuring the Chorus, Orff Ensemble, and Beginning and Intermediate Strings
- December 15th, 2019 @ 4 PM Performance at Duran HOA Christmas Party
- December 17th, 2019 @ 6 PM Chorus and Intermediate Strings Carol at the Avenues
- January 30th, 2020 @ 1:15 PM First Grade Music Informance- Information will be sent out in January.
- February 4th or 5th, 2020- 5th Grade field trip to see the Brevard Symphony Youth Orchestra
- February 20th, 2020- Elementary Music Festival Students Rehearsal at the King Center
- February 29th, 2020- Elementary Music Festival Performance at the King Center
- March 5th, 2020- 4th-6th Grade Campfire Sing-a-long: Information will be sent out in March.
- March 25th, 2020- Kindergarten Music Informance- Information will be sent out in March.
- April 21st, 2020- Spring Concert @ 6:30 PM Featuring the Chorus, Orff Ensemble and Beginning and Intermediate Strings
- May 7th, 2020- Beeinene and Intermediate Strines Feederchain Concert at Rockledge High School @ 6:30 PM- more info coming later.
Bahama Strong!

Quest Elementary's first grade does a service project each year. This year we collected supplies for hurricane relief in the Bahamas. Quest families sent in canned foods, hygiene products, baby food and diapers, and much more. Ms. Boyd challenged the school to fill 5 boxes. The response to our request was overwhelming. Our school overfilled 15 boxes of supplies. The boxes were taken to Archangel Aviation's hangar. Archangel is contracted to deliver the supplies by plane and helicopter to the Bahamas. Many people's lives were touched and basic needs met by the big hearts of our Quest families. Thank you to all who helped show our students the meaning of service to our community.
TECH TALK

**Student Google Accounts**

There have been some Questions lately about students having trouble accessing their Google Accounts from home. Here are a couple of helpful tips that may help them get connected.

- Make sure that you are using Google Chrome as your internet browser.
- Always access Google Classroom or Google Apps through Launchpad.
- If you are still having problems accessing the account, then click the link for more helpful information. [Technology Skills Page](#)

JOBS WITH BPS

Current jobs with BPS are available on the districts website [https://iss.brevard.k12.fl.us/JOBLST.pgm](https://iss.brevard.k12.fl.us/JOBLST.pgm)

Current Openings with Quest Elementary include:

**Bus Drivers**

**BAS (Before & After School) Group Leaders**

You must have an up to date Beacon application on file to apply.

[https://iss.brevard.k12.fl.us/AT00.pgm](https://iss.brevard.k12.fl.us/AT00.pgm)

Ways we Communicate

*Instagram @QuestExplorers*

*Twitter @QuestExplorers*

*Facebook @QuestElementarySchool*

[https://www.brevardschools.org/QuestES](https://www.brevardschools.org/QuestES)
COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Thank you for your referrals for our Kindness groups! The students are learning about doing for others without expecting something in return. They will soon be partaking in spreading acts of kindness and learning about empathy.

Our next group will focus on helping students develop organizational skills. If you would like your student to participate, please email your student's counselor. Barton.Christi@brevardschools.org for students with last names (A-L) or Baffa.Laura@brevardschools.org for students with last names (M-Z).

The counselors would like to thank everyone for participating in the Red Ribbon Week dress up days! We appreciate all of you!

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**KEEP YOUR SCHOOL SAFE**
(give an anonymous tip)

**Speakout** 800.423.TIPS

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We hope your family enjoys a very Happy Holiday Season!