Important Dates to Remember

Dec 8th - 4:00pm PTO Meeting
        Interims Posted online
Dec 14th - 3:00pm SAC Meeting
Dec 14th- Jan 1st - No School Winter Break
Jan 4th - Back from Break

Media News

In Media news, the gingerbread man is hiding in the Media Center! We had so much fun with the pumpkin decorating challenge in October, we decided to have another optional at home challenge for the month of December! Decorate your gingerbread man as a book character so he can escape the fox! Completed gingerbread men can be returned to the Media Center for display!

We will wrap up 2020 with a “One Smart Cookie” party for students who have been reading and earning Reading Counts points! December 10th is the last day to earn points toward the party. To earn points, students take a 10 question quiz on the Reading Counts app located on Launchpad. In person students can take a quiz in their classroom and eLearning students can take a quiz at home. The app is only available during school hours.

Requirements:
1st and 2nd Grade: 25 points
3rd and 4th Grade: 30 points
5th and 6th Grade: 35 points

Top 5 Reading Counts
in alphabetical order by grade level:

1st Grade: Hailey R
2nd Grade: Ileana C
          Zoe F
          Trinity G
          Michael R
          Brynn R
3rd Grade: Evelyn D
          Hayden H
          Brian I
          Brooklyn R
          Joey R
          Virginia W
4th Grade: Thomas C
          Brooklyn F
          Griffin L
          Olivia M
          Jenesis R
5th Grade: Riley H
          Ana J
          Ruby N
          Brody R
          Ryan V
6th Grade: Wren C
          Drew F
          Kole H
          Lili J
          Emily L
Counselor Corner

When you hear the phrase “Practice makes perfect,” you probably think of sports, or a musical instrument, or academics, but an important skill for your child to practice is EMPATHY. Empathy is not a skill that we are all born with. Yes, we can feel sorry for others misfortune, but the act of empathy goes a little deeper than that. Are you able to put yourself in that other person’s shoes and imagine how it feels to be them? Perspective-taking or imagining another’s point of view is an important part of empathy development. This process of understanding how another person is feeling may be more difficult for some children. In that case you want to make sure to give your child lots of practice.

Ways to practice this with your child would be to have discussions about another person’s perspective in a story you are reading or while you are watching TV shows. Help your child to recognize facial expressions and body language as a means of communication. Model to them how it feels to give or receive compliments. Make up scenarios and discuss how that person may feel and what you can do to be helpful. Verbalize how something made you feel and how you handled it.

The holidays are a perfect time to practice and develop the skill of EMPATHY. As a family you can donate items, time, or money to local charities. When looking through the toy catalogues have your children choose a couple of items they would like to donate to a child in need. Explain to children the importance of donating instead of throwing items away that we no longer use. Encourage them to clean out their playrooms and closets and take it to a local donation center. Help them recognize that good, warm feeling they have when they do something kind for someone else. Investing in our children’s emotional wellbeing and helping them develop a skill, such as Empathy, will ensure that they grow up to be caring and loving adults.

I wish you all a very happy holiday season!
Mrs. Barton, School Counselor

From Nurse Wendi

We could use any extra clothing you may have.
Shirts
Pants
Underwear
Socks
All sizes from K-6
Thank you!
Run, run as fast as you can!
You can’t catch me,
I’m the gingerbread man!

During the month of December, we will be doing a Gingerbread Man unit. As we compare various Gingerbread Men stories, our class will be searching for our very own Gingerbread Man who has disappeared!

Do you have a family member or a friend who lives in another state or country? Do you know someone who is traveling to another state or country? If so, we need your help!!!! It is as simple as this . . .

Please contact that person and have them send a postcard to (choose 1 teacher per postcard):

Viera Elementary School
c/o (McMahan, Lydon, Cwiklinski, Hook, or Marchak) Kindergarten Class
8300 Stadium Drive
Melbourne, Fl 32940

The postcard should mention that they have seen our Gingerbread Man. Please start sending them now! We will be starting our Gingerbread unit on December 7th.

Here is a sample letter:

Dear Mrs. ________’s Class,
I have spotted your Gingerbread Man in Washington D.C. My family saw him standing outside of the White House. We tried talking to him, but he ran away before we could get an answer. Good luck finding and catching your gingerbread man. He is pretty fast.

Good Luck,
Mrs. Doe (Jane Doe’s aunt)

Thank you!!
P.S. Keep this a secret!!!!