

December 18th, 2020



Dear Stevenson Families,

What an exciting end of the school year! Our ELearner Parade was wonderful! We were so excited to see our Stevenson families! Our Brick and Mortar students lined up the car loop with messages on signs and goodies for our ELearners. What a wonderful sight it was watching our students get so excited to see each other! We even had a firetruck and several deputies thanks to Corporal Brooks! We even had our Stevenson Penguin (SSSHHHH!!! It was Principal Fleege) waving and sharing good wishes! Though it was very exciting it was bittersweet realizing how much we miss our friends.

As we wind down our days and prepare for our holiday break we would like to extend our heartfelt wishes to all of our Stevenson families and hope that everyone has a joyful and family filled winter break! Let there be peace and love throughout your days. See you in 2021!

Mrs. Fleege and Mrs. Vanderpool



Stevenson's Mission:

To inspire students to strive for excellence through a rigorous, academic and arts-integrated curriculum in a safe, equitable learning community.

Stevenson's Vision:

Exemplify excellence in cognition, character, and creativity.



January 2021

Monday, 4th

Students and Teachers return to school.

Friday, 8th

Early Release Day

Monday, 11th

The beginning of The Great Stevenson Read-A-Thon

Thursday 14th (5:00-6:00PM)

Friday, 15th (8:00AM)

New Parent Orientation

Wednesday, 13th, Thursday 14th, Friday 15th

Exam Days/ Early Dismissal

Monday, 18th

No school for teachers and students. MLK birthday

Tuesday, 19th

SAC and PVFO Meeting
4:30 PM

Thursday, 21st

Science Fair Awards

Friday, 22nd

Early Release Day

Monday, 25th

Report cards published on Focus

Out of Uniform (Book Character Theme)

Friday, 29th

Early Release Day

6th Grade

In math, sixth grade has just finished chapter 4, which includes finding the area of parallelograms, triangles, and trapezoids. The grade level average was 83%. We are currently working on chapter 5 which includes ratios, ratio tables, rates, unit rates, comparing and graphing ratios, percents/solving percent problems, and converting measures.

In ELA, students are working on comprehension of literature. We have been reading short stories and tackling complex texts, such as *The Gift of the Magi* and *Two Thanksgiving Day Gentlemen*. Upon our return from winter break, we will be hitting the ground running with a Percy Jackson deep-dive, a writer's workshop, and the beginning of a new novel that will be announced soon. Keep an eye out for what our next awesome story will be!

In social studies, we have been working on Ancient Rome and our DBQ for the second quarter. We also have been working on some guidance lessons that cover mental health challenges. We have been having some great discussions in class.

An email went home recently about the science fair. Please note that the science fair is optional this year but it is still highly recommended.

Kindergarten

Kindergarten enjoyed learning about plants and animals, they culminated the science unit by planting flowers and observing water bugs. In Social Studies they learned about jobs people have, election day, Veterans and what the armed forces do for our country. The students are practicing reading text closely, and each time using the text for different purposes like new vocabulary, fluency and comprehension. They also use the text to organize their thoughts on graphic organizers and then are able to finish a sentence that talks about the book. The students enjoy using their sight words in the weekly poems and making a craft to go with the poem. They are starting to be very independent with their computers. The kindergartners are able to sign on to Launchpad by themselves and work on their i-ready lessons. In math, they learned about solid and flat shapes and different attributes of each shape. They can now think of many different ways to sort shapes. The kindergarteners did very well taking their first independent listening comprehension assessment and writing assessment. It was exciting to see how much our students have grown since the initial KLS (Kindergarten Literacy Survey).

5th Grade

ELA/Social Studies: 5th Grade wishes all of our students and families a happy holiday break! On the IReady reading diagnostic 2, the grade level grew and impressive 129% based on our average annual growth goal. This is excellent progress and will likely lead to even greater growth by the final diagnostic in May. In January, 5th Grade will begin studying the events of the American Revolution and our War for Independence.

Science: We are finishing atomic theory. Ask to see their 3D atom they are creating.

Math: In Math block our students will be finishing up Module 3 and the End of Module testing will be on January 5, 2021. Review materials are posted in Google Classroom. Our students (80.3 average) scored above the county average (67.2) on the End of Module 2 Assessment. Enjoy your Winter Break!

3rd Grade

November was filled with many events and activities to keep us all busy! School wide arts day was enjoyed by all who participated. The kids loved making penguins and Ms. Sonberg did a wonderful job of making it interactive for everyone despite having to do it digitally. Our online students also enjoyed working on the penguin magnets from home.

After we returned from our fall break students took the i-Ready reading diagnostic. This is the second diagnostic. The first test was administered in September and showed that 83% of our students were working on grade level, or above in reading. On our most recent test, our numbers showed that 87% of our students are now on grade level, or above in reading. This is wonderful news and we are all so proud of them! As winter break draws near, it is imperative that we continue to encourage all of our Penguins to read during their break. When they return in January we will be working even harder to acquire those third grade standards we need to know for the FSA.

1st Grade

First grade continues to learn using hands-on strategies. Our science this month has had us simulate fast and slow changes using chocolate chip cookies. We also watched a volcano explode and witnessed the way it changes the land along with the animal habitats. Finally, we talked about buildings during earthquakes and we engineered one of our own. In social studies we are learning about festivals and holiday around the world. In math we are working hard completing addition and subtraction within 20 in Module 2 and get ready to move on to module 3 when we return from winter break. We want to Congratulate our 1st grade penguins on a successful iReady Diagnostic. We are super proud to announce that our 1st graders have jumped from 22% being on or above grade level in reading to 44%! We doubled it! Way to go 1st Grade Penguins!

4th Grade!

We extremely proud of how our students have adapted and exceled during the first half of this nontraditional school year despite all the changes and modifications that were implemented. As 2020 comes to a close, we are wishing everyone a safe winter break full of joy and memories. Returning to school in January, we will be ready to kick of 2021 recharged with refreshed spirits and a positive mindset ready to learn and grow.

Upon return, we will still be wrapping up and finalizing the second quarter. Most students have concluded their iReady Diagnostics in Math and Reading, so please ask your child about their progress. We are happy to report that 91% of our students are passing their weekly lessons for My Path online in Reading iReady, which is a specific path designed for your child which will allow them to progress onward based on their strengths and needs.

In class, we have delved into a plethora of Scientific, Historical, and Technical texts to allow students to enhance vocabulary, analyze author's reasons and evidence, infer, identify cause and effect, and develop strong responses to text by citing evidence. For Math, we have concluded our study of multiplication and division, and will now transition into fractions and decimals. This is directly correlated to basic multiplication once we begin equivalent fractions, so please ensure your child has obtained mastery of this.

Science Fair Projects will be due January 8th, so students will have one week back at school to modify or complete any components of their virtual board. This is just one example of how the school year has had to alter the modality in which it normally functions. On the bright side, students have developed a strong foundation for utilizing technology more than ever before. Please encourage them to carry on. We are so proud of all their accomplishments thus far.

2nd Grade

We cannot believe we are already halfway through the year with our sweet 2nd graders. This group of kiddos has displayed great resilience and determination in mastering 2nd grade standards.

We have some major improvement data to share! In reading, our 2nd graders recently completed the iReady Reading Diagnostic. This assessment gives us a great idea as to where our students are in reading levels and comprehension. We went from 45% of 2nd graders reading on grade level to 78% students! Wow, talk about major progress! We also went from 52% to 20% of students being one grade level below in reading. These kiddos are learning, working hard, and showing us everything they know!

In December we have been learning about holidays around the world. Ask your student about Hanukkah and La Posada. They are becoming holiday experts!

In math we are continuing to master vertical addition and subtraction. This can be a tricky skill for students to master, so please encourage your 2nd grader to practice this skill as often as possible at home.

We have built some major rock collections in our classrooms! It was fun to learn about rocks and minerals. Moving onto soil will be an interesting extension, especially learning that most of our soil in Florida is sand!

We hope everyone has a wonderful winter break at home with families. We hope that everyone stays safe and healthy. We cannot wait to see our sweet 2nd graders back in January!

Congratulations to these talented artists and their winning works:



First Place
Shannon S.
Sea Park Elementary



Second Place
Ember G.
RL Stevenson Elementary



Third Place
Jaxson K.
RL Stevenson Elementary



*Brevard
Achievement
Center second
(Ember) and third
Jaxson) place
winners of the
holiday card
contest.*

Robert Louis Stevenson Elementary School of the Arts Uniform Policy

The School Uniform Core Components

For R.L.S. the uniform consists of:

- Boy Bottom – Khaki shorts or pants
 - Girl Bottom – Khaki shorts, long Capri pants or skorts and be the length of mid thigh
 - Belt – Brown or black belt will be worn with all shorts and pants That have been made with belt Loops. Elastic waist pants/shorts do not require a belt.
 - Shoes – Closed-toed shoes or sneakers that cover the foot. Shoe- laces must be the same color as shoes or white and be tied at all times. No boots. No sandals. No sling-backs. No open toed shoes. No “heeels” or shoes with wheels. No platform shoes. Sneakers are appropriate footwear, especially when worn on physical education days. We are permitting any color sneaker, however, battery operated sneakers that light-up are prohibited.
 - Socks/tights – solid white or black socks that are visible from the top of the shoe or tights. Tights must be white or black.
- Cold Weather Options: ➤ White long or short sleeve tee shirts may be worn under the uniform shirt. White turtleneck shirts are permitted under the uniform shirt (colored tee shirts or turtlenecks are NOT permitted.
- Jackets and sweaters – Plain navy- blue jacket or sweater (may be purchased from any vendor). Previously purchased school cardigans and jackets with the school logo may also be worn but are not required.
 - Other Accessories – Solid white socks or solid black socks must be ankle length and visible. Hair accessories (headbands, scrunches, or hair bows) in any pastel (soft and delicate shade) or other color which coordinates with the uniform shirt may be worn. Bright colored or distracting hair accessories are prohibited.
 - Special “Blue Ribbon T-Shirts” may be purchased from the school and worn on Friday’s as an option.

*Uniform components must be purchased from the approved uniform vendor. “Looka-likes” are not permitted.

Free or Low-Cost Health and Dental Insurance for Kids

Free or Low-Cost Health and Dental Insurance for Kids

Your child and their siblings could be one of the 174,000 children eligible for completely free or low-cost health and dental insurance through Florida KidCare – even if one or both parents are working.

Approximately 2.3 million children rely on Florida KidCare for the head-to-toe coverage they need from birth through the end of age 18. Florida KidCare is designed to provide services to children at each stage of growth and development. Health and dental services are delivered through quality plans that offer a choice of local doctors, dentists, specialists, hospitals, pharmacies and other health care providers. Benefits include but are not limited to:

- Doctor Visits
- Check-ups
- Vision & Hearing
- Dental Care
- Hospital Stays
- Surgeries
- Immunizations
- Prescriptions
- Emergencies
- Mental Health Services

Florida KidCare includes free, subsidized and full-pay options based on a family's household size and annual income. Most families pay nothing at all for coverage, and many pay just \$15 or \$20 a month. Families who do not qualify for free or subsidized coverage may purchase a competitively priced full-pay plan.

Lawfully residing immigrant children are eligible without a waiting period, and parent immigration status will never be asked.

With no application fee and year-round enrollment, the time to apply is always now. Simply fill out the application, and Florida KidCare will match your child with the right option.

Apply online at floridakidcare.org or call **1-888-540-KIDS (5437)**.

G.S.P.

Here is the GSP December Update!

Reflecting on another busy month, we see tons of progress and collaboration. As we get ready for the break, we are wrapping up our month-long project on problem solving. We took on the challenge of uniform wearing within the school. Using a step-by-step process, we used data to correctly identify the problem. We then brainstormed ideas on how to address the issue. It was great to see the different solutions each grade level developed. The team focused on 2 issues we identified: 1) Informing students about the requirements of the uniform policy and 2) where students can find the uniform policy. We created posters, interviewed Corporal Brooks, created news videos, and even created a Podcast! To test the results, we will conduct a final exit survey and another secret uniform review to measure the results of our efforts.

Looking forward, we will shift gears and begin another school wide project. The Wonder Project was a huge success, and we look forward to even greater success as we move into our next collaborative project. Collaboration in the classroom can help students think more deeply and creatively about a subject and develop more empathy for others' perspectives. Look for the exciting announcement about this project right after Winter Break!

Congratulations Stevenson Students!!

November 2020

Citizenship: Good citizenship is not doing what “looks good.” It means helping others, knowing more than how the government works and working to make our community, country, and world a better place to live.

The link showing our recipients is

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/e/2PACX-1vSYf0W3andx2prNI328SOBfKW60aIQYE_CXtvxtaJBsolFu2d_aAaIP-WPvx1eXmQ9wVcFy40JE4aMY/pub?start=true&loop=true&delayms=5000

Congratulations Stevenson Students!!

December 2020

Gratitude: “Showing appreciation for what I have.” This means recognizing what others have done for you and showing your gratitude.

The link showing our recipients is

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/e/2PACX-1vSj2RiB-bA0ylKad7vnb9AHt1RGWXu-udHeiOJA2fWx2fSa6f79E1z-gx7zXzGymYGQMyjWSEf_XP8C/pub?start=true&loop=true&delayms=5000

2020 Holiday Survival Guide



MyFloridaMyFamily has partnered with AuntBertha to develop an online platform that is providing counties with a comprehensive directory of local resources that will help strengthen families. Search by zip code below to locate resources near you: <https://www.myfloridamymfamily.com/>

HELPING KIDS COPE WITH THE HOLIDAYS DURING A PANDEMIC & THE START OF NEW FAMILY TRADITIONS

This year has been difficult to say the least. With the holidays approaching – and the challenges and uncertainty of the coronavirus pandemic still ongoing – you may be wondering how to help your child cope with the disappointment of things being different this year. Below are some helpful links to help prepare kids for a very different holiday season this year:

- **HOW TO HELP KIDS HANDLE HOLIDAY DISAPPOINTMENT DURING COVID-19**
<https://www.cornellchildrensmemorial.org/coronavirus/how-to-help-kids-handle-holiday-disappointment-during-covid-19/>
- **30 MEMORABLE FAMILY CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS TO START IN 2020**
<https://mommyonthepage.com/memory-making-christmas-traditions/>
- **PREPARING YOUR KIDS FOR THE HOLIDAYS DURING COVID-19**
<https://discoveries.childrensmemorial.com/holidays-during-covid-19/>
- **THE HOLIDAYS WILL BE DIFFERENT THIS YEAR – HERE'S WHAT TO SAY TO KIDS**
<https://www.today.com/parents/talking-kids-about-how-2020-holidays-will-be-different-t139135>



There are many things to do for this Holiday break with your family. Try new things this year and make new family traditions. Check out the two links below for events going on in Brevard.

Christmas will be here before you know it! We want to help you find the perfect gift for everyone. Plus enter to WIN ALL the Gifts on our list!

Happy Childhood Memories & Brain Development

Happy childhood memories are essential to a child's developing brain. ... One might expect childhood memories to matter less and less over time, but these memories still predicted better physical and mental health when people were in middle age and older adulthood.

This year may be particularly stressful for parents due to financial hardships. Although this year may not be perfect but we can still take advantage of this time by making more memories with them. If you look back on your own childhood, you may notice that the memories you had with your parents are the things you remember and not the actual gifts you got. Family time together are the moments that mean everything to a child, making them feel safe, secure and loved. And when kids feel like that, they thrive, enabling them to become happy, healthy adults. The best part is that you don't need a lot of money to make happy memories with your kids.

This year start new family traditions like making cookies from scratch, having family movie nights or game nights. You can also make home made Christmas ornaments and decorations or even homemade gifts for family members with your kids. [See links above for ideas.](#)

- **THE HEALTH BENEFITS OF A HAPPY CHILDHOOD**
<https://www.honmamanjournal.com/blog/the-health-benefits-of-a-happy-childhood>
- **CHRISTMAS CRAFTS FOR KIDS**
<https://www.personalcreations.com/blogs/christmas-crafts-for-kids>
- **DIY DOLLAR TREE CHRISTMAS GIFT CRAFTS**
<https://www.prudentliving.com/dollar-store-diy-christmas-gifts/>

TAKING CARE OF YOUR MENTAL HEALTH DURING THE SOCIALLY DISTANCED HOLIDAYS

With winter approaching and a global pandemic still upon us, we are all faced with needing to continue practicing safe social distancing during the holidays. Considering the year everyone has had away from family, along with financial hardships, this holiday season will be particularly stressful and tough on our mental health. Below are some helpful resources for recognizing and managing the stressors of this holiday season. You will also find, to the right, Crisis hotline numbers and Emergency 24/7 free and low-cost counseling services.

Remember, stress side effects can look different for everyone, especially for children so it's important to take care of yourself, but also talk with your family to help them prepare and process what this holiday season will look like.

- **A MINDFUL TIP TO DE-STRESS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON**
<https://www.hopsonmindline.org/health/wellness-and-prevention/a-mindful-tip-to-de-stress-this-holiday-season>
- **TAKING CARE OF YOUR MENTAL HEALTH DURING THE SOCIALLY DISTANCED HOLIDAYS**
<https://www.rockwell.org/blog/taking-care-of-your-mental-health-during-the-socially-distanced-holidays>
- **SURVIVING PAINFUL HOLIDAY EMOTIONS**
<https://www.nami.org/Blogs/NAMI-Blog/November-2020/surviving-painful-holiday-emotions>



HOLIDAY MEALS, DINNERS, FOOD & GIFTS

There are several places to turn to for free Holiday dinners, meals and food such as, Charities, churches, soup kitchens, and even restaurants may serve a meal to a low-income family, families in need. **Food Pantry Locator:** <https://www.feedingamerica.org/>

As we approach the holidays, churches and charities will begin announcing their food giveaway dates. There are two great Facebook groups that find these announcements and post them centrally on their Facebook group pages. Sometimes these dates and announcements aren't revealed till days before, but these group pages post them ASAP. These groups not only post food resources but holiday gift resources too. To join the groups, visit the following links and request to join:

- **Eckerd Connects Brevard Community Resource Facebook Group:**
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/EckerdConnectsBrevardCommunityResources/>
- **Coronavirus Mutual Aid Network of Brevard County, FL Facebook Group:**
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/mutualaidbrevard/>

No person shall, on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age or disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of or be subjected to unequal distribution under any program or activity receiving or benefiting from federal financial assistance administered by Eckerd Connects. Foreign language and sign language interpreters will be made available at no charge to the client. Eckerd Connects is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit, equal opportunity employer. Eckerd Connects has provided the above resources as a convenience to the public. However, Eckerd Connects is not legally affiliated with the above agencies and organizations, nor involved with how they deliver resources and services. You may contact the individual organization listed above for details on how they assist.

MENTAL HEALTH, EMERGENCY HOTLINES & SERVICES:

- **Mobile Response Team: 321-213-0315**
Offers 24/7 crisis intervention and brief counseling for children and families.
- **Family Support Warm Line: 1-888-733-6303**
Free 24/7 Emergency Counseling Hotline. Call or Text available.
- **The U.S. Department of Health & Human Services:**
Offers an available 24/7 text line. Users can text TalkWithUs to 66746 for text-based support.
- **Veterans Crisis Hotline: 800-273-8255**
Connects veterans in crisis and their families with qualified responders.
- **National Suicide Prevention Line: 866-342-6897**
Emotional support help line that is available to anyone, even if they are not a UMR or United Healthcare plan member. Available free of charge.
- **Disaster Distress Hotline: 800-985-5990**
Offers help dealing with the stress of COVID-19.

Impower Free Mental Health Counseling:

- 321-639-1224 Opt. 2
(Mental Health & Substance Abuse Counseling, Case Management and Medication Management)
- Can offer low cost mental health services.
- If you have been impacted by COVID 19, Impower can offer FREE mental health services through telehealth to adults and children.

Coastal Psychiatric Urgent Care: 321-586-5444

- (Urgent/Same Day Mental Health & Substance Abuse Counseling, Case Management and Medication Management)
- Sliding scale payments to those who qualify
- Serves individuals aged 4 & up
- Accepts out of pocket payments

Domestic Violence Crisis Lines & Shelters:

- **Serene Harbor:** 321-725-8282 (Call or Text)
- **Salvation Army:** (Call) 321-631-2764 OR (Text) 321-450-4325
- **Women's Center:** 321-607-6809

COLD NIGHT SHELTERS AND RESOURCES

- **Shining Center of Central Brevard:**
321-631-0306 • 113 Aurora St. Cocoa
Cold Night shelter opens at 6pm for persons experiencing homelessness in the following areas: Cocoa, Cocoa beach, Cape Canaveral, Merritt Island, Rockledge, and Sharps
- **His Place Ministries:**
321-674-9009 • 1842 S. Harbor City Blvd. Melbourne
Cold Night Shelter opens at 8pm-7am
- **Mosaic Palm Bay:**
321-821-4067 • 2100 Port Malabar Blvd. N.E Palm Bay
When temperatures are forecasted for 45 degrees and below, a cold night shelter is open from 6pm-7am.
- **Tombala Christian Church:** 344 Emerson Dr. NW Palm Bay
Anyone in need can get hot chili and coffee, as well as a blanket, coat, and bus pass between 4-6 PM when temperatures will be 45 degrees and below.

- **Tov's for kids:** Sign up ENDS December 11, 2020
- Sign up is done at: <https://www.tovsforsilver.com/> ONLY.
- Sign up will open, each morning before 10:00AM.

- **Tov's for kids:**
- North Brevard: 321-200-6173
- South Brevard: 321-290-3676

- **Salvation Army angel tree**
- Application Site: <https://saangeltree.org/>

- **South Brevard sharing center:**
- If you are a registered client before October 15th, you are eligible to register for the Magic of Christmas by following link and signing up: <https://www.sbc.org/christmas>

- **His place ministries:** 321-674-9009





Literacy News



Encouraging Your Child to Read

As students approach two weeks away from school, continuing daily reading habits is critical. Here are a few tips to encourage reading at home:

- Model daily reading habits as a family.
- Read together...including maps, recipes, newspapers, cereal boxes, directions.
- Visit your local library.
- Model fluent reading for your student and then have them reread the same page, paragraph, or passage.
- Write short notes or jokes/riddles for your student to read.
- Listen to audio books.
- Get excited about books and reading...your student will be more likely to feel the same.

Please forward questions to Ms. Schoon at

schoon.angela@brevardschools.org.

Happy listening, reading, writing, and speaking!



Happy Holidays

* Wishing you all
the peace and joy
in this Holiday Season.

