



THE STAR GAZER



LOOK AT WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CHALLENGER 7!

2015-16 Bi-weekly Newsletter Issue 9

www.challenger.brevard.k12.fl.us

January 8, 2016

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Monday, January 11**
 - Chat with the Principal; 8-845am - CANCELLED
- Tuesday, January 12**
 - SAC meeting; 4pm Media Center
- Wednesday, January 13**
 - Early Dismissal; 1:15pm
- Friday, January 15**
 - Picture Day Yearbook Makeups and Club Pictures
 - Awards Ceremony; K-6 1:30pm
- Monday, January 18**
 - NO SCHOOL - HOLIDAY**
- Wednesday, January 20**
 - Early Dismissal; 1:15pm
- Thursday, January 21**
 - Class and Faculty picture day
- Tuesday, January 26**
 - Title 1 Parent Workshop
- Wednesday, January 27**
 - Early Dismissal; 1:15pm
- Friday, January 29**
 - Challenger 7 Spelling Bee
- Monday, February 1**
 - Chat with the Principal; 8-8:45am
- Tuesday, February 2**
 - PTO Meeting; 3:30pm
- Wednesday February 3**
 - Early Dismissal; 1:15pm
 - Domino's Pizza Night
- Thursday, February 4**
 - Parent/Teacher Conference; Pre-K - 6th Grade; 5-7pm



Attendance is tracked on a daily basis, with those classes having no tardies or absences for each day of the second nine weeks indicated below. Congratulations to the winner of the K-3 Perfect Attendance Award – Mrs. McGinnis's class with 30 perfect attendance days and to the winner of the 4-6 Perfect Attendance Award – Miss Howell's class with 34 perfect attendance days!

Boyer	12	Badgett	24	Wise	3	Bissett	11
Cohen	13	Boston	20	McGinnis	30	Mugge	12
Stellfox	12	Norman	8	Houghtaling	9	Poole	8
Streichert	2	Webb	14	J. McAdams	9	Howell	34
Fike	4	Benton	0	M. McAdams	3	Vance	20
Hadley	4	Gooden	10	Fricks	5		
Landen	0	Lent	6	Gamble	11		
Wright	22	Steele	4	Johnson	9		



The following three links listed below will be helpful to parents on how to access the Brevard Public Schools Launchpad for students and some helpful information regarding Student Edline accounts. The links are also located on the Challenger 7 school website under the Parents & Students tab.

- Students Accessing Launchpad From Home - <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1S28sRqkWBCCzDO3DbEOV2dTBk9PCjC3pw4T-tKJzk/edit?pref=2&pli=1>
- Accessing Launchpad and Adding Textbook Apps – YouTube Video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7OaA-QiRR1o&feature=youtu.be>
- Edline Parent Instructions – Viewing Student Grade Reports - http://www.edline.net/files/_5QKV4_/3aed29c4fa9ab6f53745a49013852ec4/parents_viewing_private_reports.pdf

Edline is the #1 tool of communication between you and your child's teacher. Activate your code and log in to see what's going on in the classroom, watch grades as they are posted and receive important notices. If you do not have an Edline code yet, come to the front office and ask for an activation code. Forgot your log in information? Go to www.edline.net and click on the "Forgot Password" button and it will be emailed right to you. Stay Connected with Edline! If your student attended Challenger 7 last year and you activated your Edline account then you are ready to go for the 2015-2016 year. Any student who is NEW to Challenger 7 this year needs a new account. Codes are available in the front office. They must be picked up by a parent and you will need to show identification and sign the sheet verifying receipt of your code. Directions for activating the code are on the sheet. If your student attended Challenger 7 last year, but you never activated your code a new sheet can be printed out and made available in the front office, as well. When you activate your account, please remember to put in your email address, so you will receive notifications when the teacher posts new information. NOTE: You will get an email from Edline asking you to confirm your email address. Unless you confirm your address you will not get any email notifications. Please email Zack Mahaleris at mahaleris.zachary@brevardschools.org with Edline questions and/or concerns.



Application Deadline for Choice School Programs is Friday, February 5, 2016.

Students who would like to be considered for entry into **Edgewood Jr/Sr High School** or

Westshore Jr/Sr High school will need to access the Brevard Public School's website > Schools > Choice School tab and apply before the date . www.brevardschools.org



Challenger 7 raised \$660.52 for the St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital through the Math -A-Thon program that concluded last month.

Our donations have helped St. Jude to cover the cost of a platelet transfusion, a platelet count test and infant care supplies for 10 babies. **Many thanks and appreciation goes out to the students, parents and teachers for their participation in making this year's program a tremendous success.**



Our Parent Involvement Plan has been approved by the district and is available for you to view on our website.

A copy is also available in the front office in the Title 1 binder. If you would like a copy please contact Jessica Olds or Denise Gillich. The **Top 2 readers in our Winter Break MyOn Read-a-thon** are **Kaitlyn Kelly** from Ms. Boston's class with 37.06 hours read and **Brandon Gill** from Mrs. Bissett's class with 12.90 hours read. The contest ran from Dec.19-Jan. 4. Each of these winners were awarded an iPad mini! **Congratulations and keep reading!!**



Mission: All Children can learn.



Vision: College and Career Readiness



Classroom News



January is a very exciting time for kindergarten! We typically see many changes in our students, as they mature and learn that kindergarten expectations are turning into almost-first-grade expectations! We will be celebrating Martin Luther King Jr. Day and the 100th Day of School in social studies. We will be learning all about weather and the seasons in science. We continue to work diligently on learning our sight words (your child should know at least 21 by now), as well as being able to write sentences. Students will continue to count and write the numbers up to 20, and use them in real-world settings. (Think: If I have 2 apples and 2 bananas, how many pieces of fruit do I have?) Please remember that MyOn is available even from home computers: passwords are the student's school number. Thank you for your continued support in reading nightly with your child and using their newly found math skills.



First grade has caught the reading fever! We are starting our Chicken Pox reading program this week! Remember to turn in one chicken pox sheet per week to reach the goal of 16 by the end of the year. We are learning about penguins this week! We will be reading lots of fiction and nonfiction texts and discussing the main topic and key details of these stories. Be sure to ask your child what new information they've learned! In math, we are learning about place value. We are looking at 2-digit numbers such as 47 and saying it has 4 tens and 7 ones. This is an easy skill to practice when you're at home or out! Whenever you see a number try and ask your child how many tens and ones are in that number. This will help reinforce what we're learning in school. We will be working on place value for the next few weeks with greater than/less than symbols and finding 10 more/10 less than a number.



Welcome back! We are excited about everything the second semester has in store for us! In science, we are beginning our unit on weather. We will be focusing on the effects of the sun on our environment, as well as the different storms that we may encounter. We will also learn ways to protect ourselves in the different types of storms that are common in our area. In math, we will continue working with numbers to 1,000. We will read, write, and compare numbers, as well as learn about money. We will study the value of different coins, and be able to count the total value of a combination of coins. A great way to practice this at home is to have your student count the value of a handful of change you may have. In reading, we will be focusing on understanding characters and making predictions. Finally in language arts, we will be learning about replacing nouns with pronouns.



A few field trips are being planned at this time: EMBARK will be on 3/18/16 and Wild Oceans/Dixie Crossroads will be on 5/5/16. Parents, if you would like to chaperone, please contact the front office to be sure your volunteer status is in compliance. In math, we are currently working on division. Please be sure that your child is working on their multiplication facts (0-12). Every child should have them memorized in the next month or so. We are off to a great start in 2016, but we need you to check to see if your child needs their supplies replenished. Please ask them what he/she needs to be prepared each and every day.



Welcome back! Fourth Grade continues to work on reading comprehension strategies and writing explanatory and opinion essays. In math, long division is our focus, but we will begin to review other concepts we learned this year. In science, we are starting earth science and will be learning about rocks and minerals. In social studies, we will be learning about different Florida explorers. Our next field trip will be in February. We will be going to Fort Christmas for the Florida Living History festival. This is a different field trip than any others in the past and is designed just for fourth grade. Information will be sent home in the next week or so.



Reading: Each class is working with their own Storyworks Magazine, learning new skills and reviewing old ones. Students receive new spelling/vocabulary words each week. They should know how to spell them and use them in their correct context for the quiz on Friday. Math: We are working on Topic 8 in math - order of operations which includes solving equations with multiple operations, writing and reading equations, and completing charts with operational rules. We will spend approximately 6-7 days on this topic and will move onto adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing fractions and mixed numbers. Ask your student about PEMDAS! Science: We are starting our unit study on the water cycle and weather. We will be learning about the instruments meteorologists use to record and forecast weather. Social Studies: We are wrapping up our unit on Colonial America with a project! Students will be writing to persuade an explorer to settle in Colonial America. They will use facts about colonial life and geography along with language arts skills they have acquired thus far in fifth grade! Remember to utilize MyOn at home for extra practice!



In science, students are finishing up our unit on space. Students took a field trip to the Kennedy Space Center on Thursday, January 7th to see a Saturn V rocket, the Space Shuttle Atlantis, and many other fun activities. In social studies, students are starting a unit on the Ancient Israelites. In reading, we are working on making inferences, generalizations, and drawing conclusions from text. In math, students are learning mathematical properties for numerical and algebraic expressions and using them to prove equivalency. We are also starting to study the standards relating to ratio and proportion and its applications in problem solving situations.



Throughout this year, we have been discovering where music can be found. We are now discovering music in all kinds of **stories** ... fairytales, folktales, fables, and love stories, just to name a few. These are what make up musicals and operas. We are going to begin creating our own music in stories. The Fifth Grade is preparing for their annual King Center field trip to experience a concert performed by the **Brevard Symphony Orchestra** (more information will follow soon.) In addition, select "auditioned" members of the Nebulae Chorus and String ensembles will be rehearsing in preparation for the **2016 Elementary Music Festival** which will be performed at the King Center. Keep an eye out in future newsletters for the names of the students who have been selected.



Just a friendly reminder: Please know the day that your child has PE. It is important that they are dressed in the proper attire to enjoy physical activity without any restrictions. It also becomes a safety issue when students are not wearing proper footwear and/or clothing. Thanks! - Coach B.



We will be hosting our next Parent Night Out on January 22nd from 5:30 - 7:30pm. The movie will be shown in the cafeteria and snacks will be available for small donations.



The 2015-2016 yearbooks are coming! You can purchase a yearbook for the discounted price of \$19 - until March 31, 2016. The price will increase after March. Order forms were sent home with students. You can also stop by the front office to get an order form. We only accept CASH payments. For your convenience, you can pre-order your yearbook online at www.community.pictavo.com. Choose "shop your school" and enter the state, city, and school name. (All online orders are subject to an added service fee from Pictavo.) If you have any questions, contact Heidi Lorenzi at 636-5801, ext. 1004. Sixth Grade parents: Please be on the lookout for information about the recognition ads to honor and praise you graduating sixth grader! Information will be forthcoming and will also be available online soon! Also, please ask how you can contribute pictures to be considered for the yearbook. Thank you for supporting your school's yearbook program!