



# CONCORD MUSTANG MINUTES

November 2023

*Monthly Newsletter*

## **A Message from Concord Administration**

**Dear Parents & Guardians,**

The 2nd quarter has started, and we want to ensure that all students continue to receive a quality education at Concord Elementary School. It is important that your child attends school daily and arrives at school on time. Our attendance rate for October 2023 was 90.49%. Concord would like to maintain a 94% or higher monthly attendance rate. Attendance is the law!

Parents, please ensure that your child completes his/her homework on a nightly basis. Homework is a reinforcement of what is taught in class. Students will also need to complete their Reading and Math logs on a nightly basis. Students should also be logging into i-Ready (Reading) and Dreambox (Math) at least three times a week.

If you have a child in Pre-K - 1st grade and they are a bus rider, a parent/guardian must meet them at their bus stop every day. If a parent/guardian is not at the bus stop to meet their child, the bus driver will return them to school. Ensure that you meet your child at the bus stop at 2:25 p.m. daily.

Listed below are important dates:

<b>Friday, November 3, 2023,</b>	<b>Asynchronous Learning Day (Students will complete work at home.</b>
<b>Friday, November 10, 2023</b>	<b>Schools are closed for students</b>
<b>Friday, November 12, 2023</b>	<b>Fundraiser items pick up day</b>
<b>Wednesday, November 22 - Friday, November 24, 2023</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Break</b>
<b>Monday, November 27 - Friday, December 4, 2023</b>	<b>Bookfair</b>

If you have any questions, please contact us at the school at (301) 817-0488 and/or by email, [Dana.Doggett@pgcps.org](mailto:Dana.Doggett@pgcps.org) and [Tracie.Connelly@pgcps.org](mailto:Tracie.Connelly@pgcps.org) Thank you.



# Primary News

## **KINDERGARTEN**

Kindergarten is moving through the fall. In reading, we are still practicing our letters; we are working on letters, sounds, and words that start with that letter. Nouns, parts of speech, and verbs (action words) are being studied. The science, we are still learning about living things and what they need to survive. In math, we are learning to decompose numbers into 10. You must provide a snack for your child. Make sure your child's Chromebook is fully charged daily. Please practice letting your child login. If your child is out, please send a note. Your child gets homework for the week; check their notebooks on Monday, and they should turn them in on Friday. Make sure your child has a change of clothes in their backpack in case of an accident. Your child has two teachers, Mrs. Taylor and Ms. Freeman. We are working closely together.

## **FIRST GRADE**

Unit 9: We Use Goods and Services Essential Question: Why do people trade with each other? Week 1 Benchmark Advance RW: Unit 9, Week 1 "From Dairy Farm to You" "The Most Important Service" Main Topic and Retell Key Details RI.1.2 Describe Connections Between Events RI.1.3 Multiple Meaning Words L.1.4 Reasons an Author Gives to Support Points RI.1.8 Please use this as a guideline to have conversations with your scholar. The scholars love to talk, they love to talk! Confidence is gained by children who can express themselves! I am available to all of you, just email me @[lawrencia.cole@pgcps.org](mailto:lawrencia.cole@pgcps.org) or text me @ 202-904-1301. This month the 1st graders will be adding and subtracting within 20. We will learn a new math strategy called Tally. Using a new tally strategy will support students to solve problems more quickly and accurately within 20 or more.

## **SECOND GRADE**

Second grade is going great! We are learning about how everyone has a "story" and learning about the story of other people's lives. In reading, we are reading informational texts, fiction stories, and biographies to learn about everyone's story. We are learning the different features of biographies! We will continue to learn digraphs, blends, long vowel spelling patterns, and different spelling patterns in our spelling words. In class, we are reading the "Blend it" books in the curriculum to practice reading blends and words in small group instruction and in centers. We will continue to work on blending, decoding, and working with prefixes/ suffixes and inflectional endings. The students are doing a great job with segmenting words and breaking words into syllables! We are learning about prefixes and that we can add a word part to a base word to change its meaning. In Math, we will continue to add and subtract within 100 with regrouping. We will learn different vocabulary to help us solve word problems and equations.



# Intermediate News

## **THIRD GRADE**

In Reading, students will practice synthesizing, asking/answering questions, finding the central idea, and monitoring and clarifying in Module 9- From Farm to Table. They will also continue cursive handwriting practice, learning their signatures, identifying content area words, and writing a persuasive essay. In Social Studies, third-grade students will explore the theme of celebrating diversity and traditions. In Math our third graders will continue to learn multiplication, strategies to help solve multiplication problems, and 2D shapes. In Science, students will begin to learn about life cycles.

## **FOURTH GRADE**

**Reading and Language Arts and Social Studies**

Students are currently working on W4.4, writing narratives or biographies. In social studies, students learn about What Makes a Community. Students are readily exploring the three forms of government that guide decision-making in our community.

In Math this unit, students develop an understanding of the meaning of multiplication by solving problems involving equal groups of objects. They interpret and represent these problems using visual representations, and they connect what they know about repeated addition and skip/double counting to multiplication.

## **FIFTH GRADE**

Our 5th graders did a good job! Let's start the second quarter. Our scholars will be learning the addition and subtraction of decimals, including money, and the addition and subtraction of fractions, including mixed fractions. Continue to expose our scholars to real-life Math situations.

In Science, we will start with Unit 2: From Matter to Organisms. This unit discusses the needs of plants and how matter and energy flow in the ecosystem.

Health covers all about the basic nutritional guidelines, different nutritional needs throughout the lifetime, illnesses associated with food handling, and advocating for nutritional health.

**Reading:** Students are working on a new Module.

**Genre Study:** Mysteries are stories in which the main character sets out to solve a mystery, crime, or other puzzle.

**Objective:** Students will make inferences, to make and confirm predictions.

Students will continue to learn about the Learning Mindset with a focus on problem-solving.

**Writing:**

Students decorated their own Writer's Notebook. This notebook symbolizes the students and reflects what they like, and what is important to them. They will write their prompts and learn how to write paragraphs.



# News From Our Specialists

## **SPECIAL EDUCATION**

### **PARENT ENGAGEMENT NIGHT**

By Sonia D. Bobis

#### **ATTENTION!!!**

**WHO: Parents of Children with Disabilities, Grades 1 - 3**

**WHAT: PARENT ENGAGEMENT NIGHT**

Learn some reading and math strategies to help your child/children improve their skills. Enjoy fun learning activities.

**WHEN: November 13, 2023**

**4:30 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.**

**CONTACT PERSON: Sonia D. Bobis, 301-817-0488**

## **TECHNOLOGY CORNER**

Happy Harvest season, families! As the season changes, we will have inclement weather, and students will need to use their Chromebooks for asynchronous learning days. Please make sure your student has a working Chromebook each day and uses it at home to complete their online intervention tools. We currently have several students who are missing devices. Parents, please complete the technology request form located on our school website to have their devices replaced. If they do not have a working device, they may be missing out on their academics through online interventions, which are proven to support increasing students' math and reading levels. Please be advised that students in K-3 are using Lexia Core for reading and Dreambox for math. Students in grades 4-5 use iReady for reading and Dreambox for math. Although we have a limited number of loaner devices for the day during school hours, students who require a device for district testing take precedence. Kindly ensure proper care of your child's device because the cost to replace it can range between \$30-\$200.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

In the first weeks of this month, students will work on their throwing skills, such as underhand and overhand throwing. In the last few weeks of November, students will work on their catching abilities. Throwing and catching will help students increase their fine motor skills, gross motor skills, hand-eye coordination, and more.

Parents, please remember that your child should be wearing the proper shoes and clothing during their PE days. Also, please keep in mind that eating healthy and getting the proper rest at home can play a huge role in your child's overall physical and educational success.

## **MEDIA**

**BookFair November 27, 2023 - December 04, 2023**

# Library Resources



<http://sks.sirs.com>  
Centralized access to all SIRS products which target the needs of students with content selected to support research, study, and homework.



<http://eLibrary.bigchalk.com/libweb/k6/do/search>  
click on My products  
Learner-tested design stocked with age-appropriate articles, videos, sounds, and pictures.



<http://discoverer.sirs.com>  
Helps students in grades 1-9 develop their research, writing, language and computer skills.



<http://decades.sirs.com/>  
click on My products  
Primary and secondary source articles highlighting events, movements, people, and places.



<http://online.culturegrams.com>  
In-depth reports covering 200+ countries, the United States, and Canada.



<http://www.worldbookonline.com>  
Offers an encyclopedia, dictionary, atlas, homework help, study aids and curriculum guides.



<http://school.eb.com>  
Thousands of curriculum-relevant articles, images, videos, audio clips, primary sources, maps, editor-recommended websites



<http://search.ebscohost.com>  
A comprehensive collection of automobile repair reference information on most major manufacturers of domestic and imported vehicles.



<http://search.ebscohost.com>  
Full text for reference books, encyclopedias, non-fiction books, history periodicals and historical documents; biographies of historical figures; historical photos and maps; and historical video.



<http://search.ebscohost.com>  
A comprehensive research database that provides easy access to a multitude of full-text science-oriented content.



<http://search.ebscohost.com>  
EBSCO's interface for schools. The interface supports student research and classroom instruction.



<http://search.ebscohost.com>  
"how-to" instructions and creative ideas for virtually every hobby enthusiast.



<http://search.ebscohost.com>  
"how-to" instructions covering a variety of home improvement and repair projects



<http://search.ebscohost.com>  
Detailed user-friendly repair guides for all manner of small engines.



<http://destiny.pgcps.org>  
Learn a Language online



<http://search.ebscohost.com>  
*MasterFILE Premier*  
Academic Search, Education Research, ERIC, MasterFILE, Teacher Reference Center, Regional Business News, Business Source, MAS Ultra - School Education, Funk & Wagnalls Encyclopedia, Middle Search Plus, Primary Search.



<http://online.sagepub.com>\*  
Includes more than **700** journals spanning the Humanities, Social Sciences, and Science, Technology, and Medicine.



<http://search.proquest.com>\*  
*ProQuest Dissertations & Theses*  
Includes millions of searchable citations to dissertation and theses from around the world.



<http://safarimontage.pgcps.org>  
Provides K-12 schools with access to 9,500 videos and 17,195 images.  
County credentials to login

\* Only available on the network

Questions?  
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<http://www1.pgcps.org/librarymedia>