

September / October 2020

Volume 1



Cougar News

3501 N. Cork Road, Plant City, FL 33565

(813) 757-9353 <http://cork.mysdhc.org>
Hillsborough County Public School

Cork Elementary School

Sherri Black, Principal
Rosemarie Manhertz, AP

Important Dates

November	19	Great American Teach-In Virtual
	23-27	Fall Break
December	3	Sprit Night-Fred's Market 2nd Grade
	21- Jan 1	Winter Break
January	4	Students & Staff Return to School
	3	Sprit Night-Fred's Market 3rd Grade
	14	End of Quarter 2
	15	Non-Student Day—NO SCHOOL
	18	Non-Student Day—NO SCHOOL for Martin Luther King, Jr.

Letter from the Principal

Fall is one of my favorite seasons as it brings in cooler weather (well, usually) and we begin to think about others more during this special time of year. I'm so very thankful for our Cork teachers, staff, students, families, and community. We've all come together during this global crisis to make the best of a stressful situation. I really appreciate everyone's efforts to keep us safe at school. It takes all of us following the CDC Guidelines to keep this virus away from our school so that we may remain open and healthy. If you've checked the district's COVID-19 dashboard, you will see that we've only had three cases! That's outstanding! Thank you!

You should know that your children are so very happy when they are here. As I walk through classrooms, I see teachers and students completely engaged in learning. It's wonderful actually SEEING them working with math manipulatives, reading books, playing outside, socializing in the hallways, and even eating lunch. The smiles they have are heartwarming. I missed that so much while we were closed. I think they also realize now how much they love school and their teachers. School is cool again!

Attendance and punctuality are very important. We have noticed over the past couple of weeks some complacency with getting our students to school on time. Most importantly, students miss instructional time as teachers start the day at 7:40. Arrival on campus should be no later than 7:35 so that students can get to class on time.

Winter Break is December 21st – January 1st with students returning on January 4th.

I wish you all the happiest of holidays! Stay safe and enjoy the time off with your families.

With Cougar Pride,

Sherri Black

Instruction begins promptly at 7:40.

Your child is marked tardy if they arrive at 7:40.

Arrival time is 7:10-7:35.



**FOLLOW US ON TWITTER @
HCPSCorkES**

We will tweet what's
happening at Cork.

Kindergarten

Thank you, parents, for working so hard with your children. We have been learning new strategies in becoming lifelong learners in our community. Our students have shown responsibility in keeping themselves safe by wearing their masks and washing their hands.

In Reading, students have learned about characters (who is in the story), the setting (where and when the story takes place), and how to identify the main topic with key details. In Math, they have learned to count and compare numbers from 0-10 as well as apply measurement concepts and classify objects by attributes. In Social Studies, our students learned about the voting process and even voted on class items such as class favorite color and class favorite food. We also learned about veterans and special holidays. In Science, students were engaged in learning about their five senses and explored sorting objects by texture inside and outside.

A big shot out to our Science Olympics winners for building Sky Scrapers! Josiah Mejias and Leshly Vega Resendiz!!!

Parents please continue to read with your child at home for at least 20 minutes every day. Next semester our students will continue to grow in Reading, Math, Science and Social Studies with exciting new strategies! We are down one semester and we cannot wait to see how much more our students will grow.

Kindergarten Teachers

Grade 5

Lots of learning is happening in 5th grade! Please make sure to check your child's planner for the objectives for each day. Your child should be able to discuss with you the topics covered and what they have learned. Please also check for any behavior marks and sign. One thing that will significantly help your child in all content areas is reading. To help promote reading fluency and stamina, your child should be reading each night. To help build math fluency, it would highly benefit your child to practice their multiplication facts each day! Stay tuned for news on STEM Fair.



Grade 3

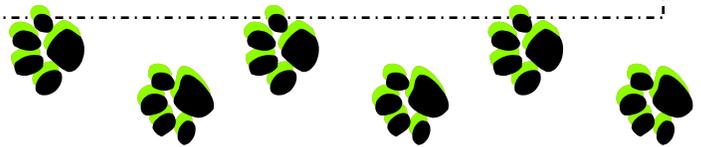
What a great year it has been so far, even during a pandemic! These future 4th graders are working so hard! Even with their masks on! These awesome Cougar cubs have been learning about multiplication and division in Math. Please make sure they are practicing their math facts daily so that they can become fluent in them! Please make sure your child is reading every night so that they can build their comprehension, fluency and build their vocabulary! Thank you for your support at home!



Grade 4

Our fourth graders have been working very hard with finding the theme in Reading and learning the new writing plan of "IBBC". Ask your child what it stands for. The students can tell you all about it. The new program "Achieve 3000" has really given our students lots of activities to grow in their reading. Ask your child what their "Lexile Level" is and what their goal is for each month.

In Math, they have been rounding to various place values for larger multiplication problems. Keep practicing your multiplication tables. Science has been filled with energy and matter. We are looking forward to stem projects that will be coming up soon.



AGP

We have amazing students that are eager and willing to learn. I appreciate having such a great group of students who always work hard and put in their best effort. Even though I am only at Cork part-time for now, I am going to do my best to make sure these children have enrichment and are getting what they need in math. Please always feel free to reach me by email or phone.

Beverly.devane@sdhc.k12.fl.us or
Call 813-757-9353

ART

In October, we welcomed THREE new Art teachers to Cork! We share them with other schools and we are so glad they joined our Cork Family! Mr. Jessi Ramirez teaches Art on Monday & Wednesday, Mrs. LeaAnne Leitner teaches Art on Tuesday and Mr. Ray Cowen teaches Art on Friday.

GUIDANCE

Hi Cougars and Parents,

November and December are the, perfect months to show our generosity to others. During this holiday season, we can show generosity by being kind to others, helping those in need, and doing good deeds without expecting anything in return. Your generous and caring actions during the holiday season cannot only help others and make them feel better, but will make you feel proud of yourself. Showing generosity is not always easy because it usually means putting other people's needs before your own.

There are several ways that you can show generosity. You can visit a sick friend and make them a get-well card, find something nice to say about someone you care about, help your mom or dad fold the laundry and put it away, pick up trash, ask someone to play or you could share one of your toys or games. Let's do what we can for others and show our generous spirit by reaching out and doing what we can for others this holiday season.

Mrs. Terrell

School Counselor



Grade 1

The school year is off to a great start. The first quarter has ended, and we are working hard toward our goals for the second quarter. Our “Book-A-Ween” day was a big event; we loved seeing all of the great storybook costumes. We only wish we could have more of our usual fun activities.

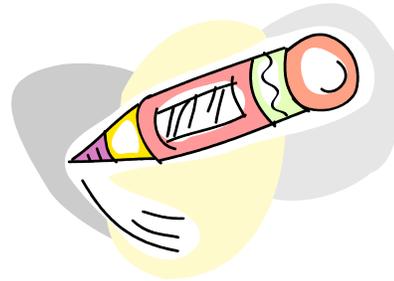
Our mathematicians have been working on number sense, addition and subtraction strategies, fact fluency, and counting in sequence from any number (up to 120).

Our scientists have been working on making observations of the properties of matter, scientific process skills, force and motion and designing boats for our Science Olympics. They will begin working on S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) projects in their classrooms soon.

Our readers and writers have been working to identify the main idea and key details of fiction and non-fiction texts. They have been using those skills to identify the central message in all of the texts they read. Students are continually working on improving their writing skills, with the focus on conventions (capital letters, punctuation, and spacing) and sequencing their writing to have a clear beginning, middle and end.

We still have a focus on the 7 habits of healthy people. Learning to show respect and kindness toward each other and themselves. Keeping our classroom communities a happy and healthy place for all students to learn and show their best. Families can help with this by encouraging your learner to follow directions and make good choices.

Remember to check your child’s planner daily and read with or to them each evening. Looking at the work they bring home can give you examples of concepts to practice with them when they are at home.



Grade 2

We are moving swiftly through the 2020-2021 school year and second grade teachers are working hard to prepare your child for 3rd grade. Please, please, please make sure your child is reading daily at home and discuss with him/her what they are reading about. Reading to your child is also beneficial. Previous studies have found a positive association of parents reading to their children and the child’s reading skills, language skills and cognitive development. Reading to your child also stimulates them to read books themselves. In addition, please encourage your child to practice 2-digit addition and subtraction. We are currently learning about shapes and their attributes.

It is important for you to demonstrate a positive attitude about education to your child. Encourage your child to read and talk with him/her. Studies show that a child’s academic performance is linked to their home life and the amount of parental support.



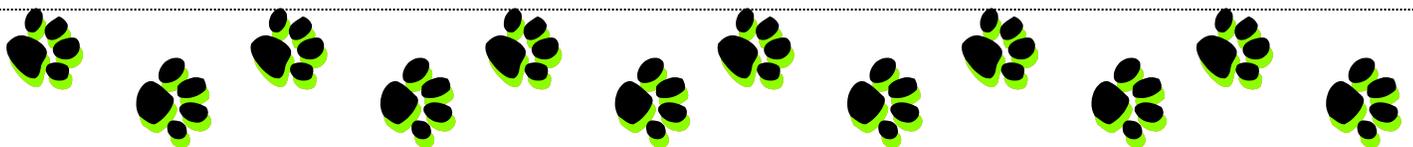
Assistant Principal

A Message from Ms. Rosemarie Manhertz, Ed.S., Assistant Principal for Elementary Instruction at Cork Elementary School.

Creating a safe and successful school is a top priority for us. I am so excited about the growing opportunities the new school year brings despite the challenges with COVID-19. Cork Elementary School earned a school grade “B” for the 2018-2019 school year. This tremendous effort involved the entire Cork family and community. We shape the school vision on a daily basis as we carefully attend to the unique learning diverse needs of our student body. This year we will continue to work tirelessly to ensure that every student is known and cared for, and that all students are given the opportunity to succeed. Given the continued challenges with COVID-19, as a school we continue to stand strong. We have committed teachers who have gone above and beyond to ensure that your children receive the best education whether students are doing “Brick and Mortar learning” or “eLearning”. We are so grateful to have such a dedicated PTA, and continued support from our community partnerships. Our school community work together to cultivate the climate of the school. We will continue to educate the whole child by creating a learning environment that will encourage active learning, positive social interaction, self-motivation, and character building. All students are given opportunities to extend their learning by using critical thinking skills and problem-solving strategies. A rigorous curriculum, strong community support, parent involvement, and a nurturing environment provide the structures to meet the needs of our student population, and to promote student success in literacy, writing, mathematics and science. Cork create responsible citizens while preparing students for life. I look forward to continue successes and working with a winning team here at Cork Elementary School.

Cheers!

Ms. Manhertz



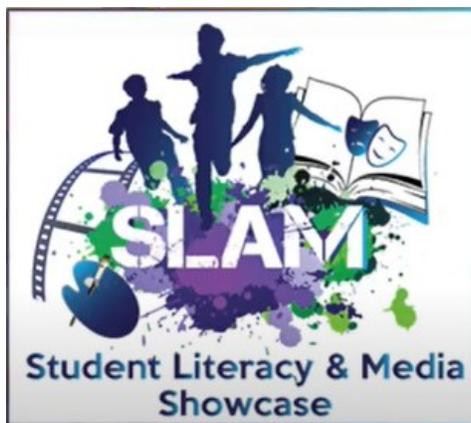
FDLRS Parent Press
A newsletter for families of students receiving
Exceptional Student Education

http://fdlrs.mysdhc.org/FDLRS//News_Newsletters

MEDIA NEWS

All library books will be due on December 17th for the Winter Break. There are several places your child can access books to read over the holidays. myON is available through Clever. Students log in using their lunch number and password. Students can also access books using Axis360. This is an app that can be downloaded to any mobile device. Students use their lunch number as their log in. Bruton Memorial Library is also open for book checkout. Students are able to check out books from Bruton using their lunch number.

There will be a Winter Reading Challenge that students can participate in over the Winter Break. More information will go home closer to the break.



SLAM is a reading program for all Hillsborough County K-12 students which celebrates and promotes reading books nominated for state awards.

Students are encouraged to read these nominations and respond to them through artistic expression. A county-level celebration will showcase the best examples of the student responses.

Students are invited and encouraged to read the books listed on the back of this paper and respond in any of the following ways:

Book Trailer

Students may work together or individually to create a video book trailer about one of the book selections. Videos must be one minute or less in length, and must contain pictures, sound, title, author and citations. These elements must have appropriate copyright permissions or be original work.

Students in grades 3-5 may work individually or in a group of two or three.

2D Art

Individual students create a drawing, painting, collage or digital media as an expression of one of the books. Artwork must be mounted on a sturdy material and must not exceed 11"x14", including mat. Artwork must lay flat on the poster (no 3D art accepted).

A reader's statement which explains the inspiration and connection between the book and the student work must be submitted with each project. This statement must be at least one sentence but may not exceed 300 words. This must be the work of **students only**, and adults are not allowed to alter the student creation in any way.

More information about deadlines to come soon.

Continuous Notification of Nondiscrimination

Pursuant to Title VI, Title IX, Section 504/Title II and other civil rights regulations, the School District of Hillsborough County does not discriminate nor tolerate harassment on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, disability, marital status, genetic information or pregnancy in its educational programs, services or activities, or in its hiring or employment practices; and it will take immediate action to eliminate such harassment, prevent its recurrence, and address its effects. The District also provides equal access to its facilities to the Boy Scouts and other patriotic youth groups, as required by the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act.

The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies:

Dr. Pansy Houghton, Executive Officer, Compliance

901 East Kennedy Boulevard

Tampa, FL 33602

(813) 272-4000

pansy.houghton@sdhc.k12.fl.us



PLEASE DO NOT SEND SODA CANS IN LUNCH-BOXES! We are trying to teach students to make healthy choices and hope this can be modeled at home as well as school!




School Website:
CORK.MYSDHC.ORG



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@HCPSCorkES



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Absence Line

Please let us know of your child's absence by 10:00 am.

Call 757-9353 and press #1 during the greeting. Leave your child's name, teacher's name, date and reason for the absence.



Transportation Changes

If your child will be changing the method of his or her transportation home, please send in a note to your child's teacher. We must have all transportation changes in writing.



Estimados Padres

Si necesitan esta información en español, por favor avisan a la oficina, 757-9353. *Gracias*