

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1/7	Report Cards go Home	1/18	MLK Holiday—No School
1/8	Paid Free Dress	1/26	Star Student Breakfast—7:00 AM
1/12	Spring STEM Club Meets	1/28	Papers go home
1/14	Papers go home		



January 2016

WWW.ZACHARYELEMENTARY.ORG

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

A Little Math

I think there are times in people's lives that they count their blessings. They reflect on the things for which they are grateful. They dwell upon the things that add value to their existence. They focus on the things and people that enrich their lives. I guess you can say it a number of different ways. This seems to happen most often around holidays, the commencement of a new year, or the conclusion of life. There are some that treat these blessings like freckles on your face (On a side note, I had plenty of these growing up and red hair to match). Like freckles that people don't notice (because of familiarity) when they look in a mirror, blessings can blend into the landscape of our lives and go undetected. I would like to recommend another approach to the blessings in our lives. I suggest to you the "field trip approach". I share with my teachers every year a simple approach to field trip supervision of children. Here's my approach to supervising children on a field trip: "Count them and after you've counted them, count them again"! Repeat this process until you've returned them to their parents. The approach is simple. As a teacher, you don't limit your counting of students to unloading or loading the bus. You count them all the time. You don't take them for granted, or let your vision of them become blended into a crowd of people. They (students) are always in your thoughts. Here's my encouragement to you. Don't wait for a holiday, a special event, a tragedy, or a "curtain call" to do some "blessing math". The approach is simple: Count them, count them again, and repeat this process! By the way, working with your child is one of my blessings. I plan to count them often!

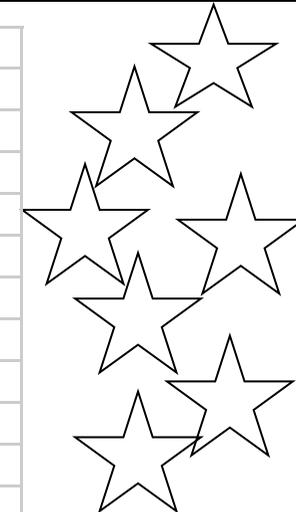


Dewey Davis

STAR STUDENTS

La'Dayvon Sims
Jacob Hardy
Melissa Nolan
Paris Brazelton
Torreon Wallace
Lola Granger
Madison Hull
Nathen Booty
Nyla Doiron
Gracie Engels
Katelyn Gill

Issac Rupnow
Jhari Stevenson
Gabriela Ramirez
Vy Thai
Tylia Davis
Drake Suire
Ryleigh Treloar
Meleah Williams
Toria Patin
Auna Cook
Audrey Mitchem
Isabella Record



Charli Jaksic
John Bradley
Brecken Smith
Bailey Dehon
Carter Brunson
Russell Wells
Kodi Walker
Peyton Walker
Katherine Robert
Jack Heikes
Niah Scott
Natalie Naquin

AR CLUB

600 Point Club

Paris B.

500 Point Club

Jack H.

100 Point Club

Edward G.

Daniel H.

Richard I.

Sara L.

Claudia V.

Cal C.

Evelyn D.

Cameron D.

Joanna L.

Madison L.

Fuller M.

Katie M.

Eni N.

Kasen S.

Zachary S.

Avery T.

Triston W.

Kameron W.

50 Point Club

Reece A.

Leila A.

Brennan P.

Mary G.

Andrew B.

Blaire A.

Samaria B.

Isabella B.

Alexandra B.

Kaylee B.

Ryan B.

Brady B.

Shane C.

Parker C.

Amelia C.

Kristen C.

Kaylin C.

David C.

Paige C.

Aniya C.

Chloe D.

Lillie D.

Chandler D.

Kade E.

Dylan E.

Joy E.

Amanda L.

Maat F.

50 Point Club

Delana F.

Jamyrea F.

Nicholas F.

Jolie G.

Cameron G.

Lilah G.

Ashley H.

Sophia H.

Gabrielle H.

Taleyah H.

Selina H.

Brandon H.

William J.

Taylah J.

Terin L.

Nayda L.

Tatyanna L.

Kameron L.

Aniyah L.

Starr L.

Emma M.

Jackson M.

Logan M.

David M.

Kale M.

Audrey M.

Patricia M.

Samara M.

50 Point Club

Ryan M.

Sebastian N.

Kenjaylen N.

Jazmine P.

Carson P.

Jack P.

Anna R.

Elli R.

Grant R.

Samuel R.

Audrie R.

Niah S.

Elliot S.

Lane T.

Margaret T.

Emma T.

Evan V.

Ryan V.

Jan'nisha W.

Torreon W.

Cole W.

Jacob W.

Aaron W.

Camryn W.

Janyria W.

Miles W.

Carson W.

3rd GRADE NEWS

Third graders are starting the new year off with many engaging, challenging, and fun learning opportunities. In ELA we are wrapping up unit two: Our Great Country and are ready to begin unit three: Friendship. We will continue our study of literary genres, adding the folktale genre to the different types of fiction we have been learning since the beginning of the year. Our focus skill in literature is "theme". The students will read a variety of texts with the goal of determining the theme in each text. It is exciting to see the growth our students have made in narrative writing. They are using figurative language and other language skills in their writing. This month our focus will be on expository writing. We are looking forward to a lot of great learning in January!

In mathematics, we will continue to cover multiplication and division concepts and facts as well as practice problem solving strategies and begin our fractions unit. Please have your child practice their multiplication facts as often as possible. Our solar system and levels of government will be the topics of study in social studies and science. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

4th GRADE NEWS

Happy New Year! It's so wonderful to be back. Fourth graders are continuing to do a fabulous job as we head back from our break. In English Language Arts, students are exploring the characteristics of different types of genres; such as fantasy, historical fiction, and nonfiction. Students have covered a variety of skills, such as identifying the theme, main idea (or central message), summarizing, and identifying vocabulary words in context. We have begun the fourth unit of reading and will continue the unit throughout the month. We will address point of view and cause and effect. We will continue to address various skills and responding to literature. Fourth graders are continuing

to read independently, as well as enjoying novel studies in the classroom. Please encourage your child to read each and every night for at least fifteen to twenty minutes. Overall, the fourth graders are accomplishing great things. We know that the students will continue to show their best effort.

In math, fourth grade students will expand their understanding of division. The students will find whole number quotients and remainders with up to four-digit dividends and one-digit divisors. Strategies such as area model and partial quotient method will be used to solve division problems. Students will learn the meaning of remainders and apply it in real life problem solving. Upon completion of the division unit, students will begin exploring fractions.

Fourth grade scientists are reaching for the stars as we wrap up our learning all about objects in the sky. We enjoyed our special "Space Carnival" activities from Sci-Port in Shreveport during December to help us blast off our learning. We have learned how the earth rotates on its axis while it revolves around the sun at the same time. We have become moon experts also! Students have modeled and learned about the phases of the moon as well as solar and lunar eclipses. After our time observing the objects in the sky, we will look closer to home and begin learning about the layers of the earth, rocks, and changes on the earth's surface due to weathering and erosion. Earth science rocks!

In social studies, we are becoming junior historians as we learn about the formation of our country. We've learned about explorers and their reasons for coming to the new world, but now it's time to find out all about how and why our country was formed. We'll learn about our government and some of the big ideas on which our nation was founded. We'll discover some important documents and meet some important historical figures along the way.

News from ZES

Art

I'd like to say thanks to ZEPTO for their generous donation to the art department to provide art materials for your child. I'd also like to thank the parents for the overwhelming success of the STEAM Saturday art/science workshop that raised money for our ZES sculpture garden. It should be constructed and installed soon. It has been very busy in art classes so far. We are preparing to have an art show at the school board office beginning the first week in February. Students are working on individual and group projects. We have completed a Rodrigue-like *Blue Dog* made using Mardi Gras colored beads. Students have been busy folding paper airplanes with antique 1950's encyclopedia paper. These are used to construct an antique paper airplane sculpture to be installed in our beautiful library. Several students made a point to inform me that we desperately need some beautiful student-made artwork in our cafeteria, so we have started several painting projects using pizza boxes. They will be magnificent! We will also begin several portrait projects using wood, clay, and lots of discarded junk you might find in your kitchen junk drawer or garage work bench. I am in need of wood working junk like nails, screws, wall anchors, broken saw blades, dowels, as well as plumbing (pvc parts) and electrical stuff (old wire with colorful insulator plastic or old time breakers, conduit, etc). Items shouldn't be larger than 3" or 4". Colorful items of any sort that might be used to create facial features (eyes, nose, ears, mouth, eye brows, etc.) can be donated. Sounds strange, but they should be very neat and creative at the end!



P.E.

Happy New Year from the P.E. Department! We hope you are starting off 2016 with some health and fitness goals. Eating healthy and staying active are key points to living a great life. If it's too cold outside, try bowling or skating for some great family fitness fun. Instead of eating dessert, try fresh fruit for your sweet treat. Please remember tennis shoes are required everyday for P.E.



SPANISH

As we ring in the New Year, we are gearing up for the **Spring 2016** semester of Spanish Club! If you haven't already, please register for your child's text remind group. If your child will be participating in the Spring group for:
3rd Grade, text @span3spr to 81010
4th Grade, text @span4spr to 81010
Please reply "yes" to receive notifications. We look forward to a great second half of the school year!



Music

This month in music is going to be a great one! We will be focusing on the concepts of rhythm and steady beat this month with third grade, and fourth grade will be beginning the introduction to our spring musical, 101 Dalmatians KIDS! Please continue to have students check my website to stay up to date on any music information that goes home with the kids.

<http://www.zesmusic.weebly.com>

Choir will resume the week of January 19th, 2016.

YEARBOOKS!

Order online @
www.zacharyelementary.org