

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 20	Progress Reports go home	April 25-29	LEAP/ILEAP Testing
April 21	Papers go home	April 28	Art Show
April 22	7:00 am—Star Student Breakfast	May 2	All library books due



APRIL 2016

www.zacharyelementary.org

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

When one thinks of picnics, the thought usually focuses on food. Perhaps there are a few thoughts of ants and other insects that crawl into our minds and plates. My thoughts were expanded last month as ZES held its first Spring Parent Picnic. On the lawn behind our library, parents, grandparents and students spread blankets and sat at tables and enjoyed a meal and good conversation together. There were also games to provide an opportunity for parents to engage in a little friendly competition with their child. I witnessed a few parents jumping rope! I'm sure that event was one not generally on their daily schedule. We had our nurse on high alert just for that reason. As I observed, my mind began to process these images of children and family. What follows next (just like food and ants) is reflection. I am constantly thinking about the things that I see. My family would be quick to tell you that I "over think". Here are the things that now crawl into my thoughts as I think about picnics: 1) Less may actually be more. Cell phones were not served at the meal, and no one appeared to go into MCDS. That's short for Mobile Communication Depravity Shock. My family would also tell you that I make up fancy terms and define them myself for sport. 2) Laughter can bring more satisfaction than a Cane's Box Combo! It was great to see adults laugh with children and occasionally children laughing (appropriately) at adults (It's not everyday that they see their mom or dad jumping rope). 3.) Picnic baskets can carry more than food. As the baskets, bags, and in a few cases "small suitcases" were opened, more than food followed. I saw generous portions of "community" served with sides of "kindness" and "care". Food, family, and school served on a blanket, became more about how we are alike and less about how we are different. That is what makes Zachary special. Thank you for enabling me to see more than ants!

Dewey Davis



AR CLUB



900 Point Club

Heikes, J

800 Point Club

Brazelton, P

400 Point Club

Godbold, E

Varnado, C

300 Point Club

Dilney, C

Huggins, D

Iyun, R

Mayes, F

200 Point Club

Deroche, E

Funk, N

Lampton, S

Mccrary, K

Nwabueze, E

Smith, Z

Willson, K



100 Point Club

Achord, R

Bankston, B

Barton, A

Bell, M

Blackledge, I

Boudreaux, A

Burrell, B

Campbell, S

Carter, N

Cassard, C

Concienne, A

Coulon, P

Criss, A

Delee, C

Derouen, L

Duggan, C

Easterly, K

Elkins, J

Firven, M

Folse, G

Goranson, C

Grant, A

100 Point Club

Hart, A

Hogan, S

Holmes, G

Honore, T

Huang, S

Hughes, C

Hull, B

Jackson, W

Johnson, T

Landor, T

Lawrence, J

Lazard, T

Lea, M

Ledoux, S

Lee, A

Legrand, S

Lowery, K

Loyd, S

Martinez, E

Mason, J

Mccarthy, L

Messer, K

100 Point Club

Mitchem, A

Naquin, S

Patterson, J

Pickett, C

Prejean, J

Rish, E

Robertson, G

Sanders, A

Scott, N

Shoaf, E

Sinclair, K

Thompson, A

Thompson, M

Valliere, E

Walker, J

Wallace, T

Walters, C

Walters, J

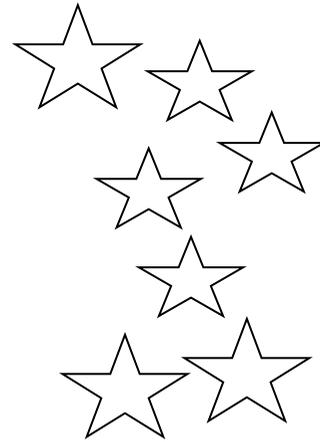
Westbrook, A

Williams, C

Williams, M

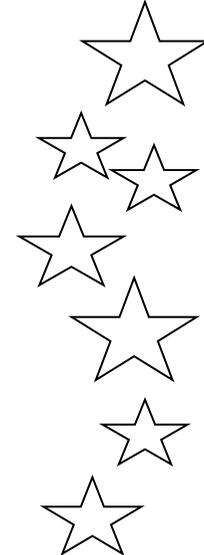
Williams, T

STAR STUDENTS



Jala Hauer
William O'Brien
Lillian Nettles
Dillon East
Eni Nwabueze
Roderick Boyd
Caden Turner
Clair Floyd
Jaylen Bocard
Maci Louque
Tristen Tanner

Will Town
Rylee Guidry
Ivan Roberts
Austin Wiltz
Kassidy Hall
Keira Von Kanel
Claire Connor
Lindsay Hoffman
Zoe Jones
Ira Cooper
Sarah Hagan
Shelby Mansur



Amijah Williams
Lane Thibodeaux
Caleb Crawford
Jabari Bowie
Garrison Devall
Charli Jaksic
Trae McDavid
Brooke Williams
Christal Hawkins
Claudia Varnado
Kadra Bates
Zaria Batiste

3rd GRADE NEWS

ELA

This is going to be an awesome month for 3rd grade. We have so many activities planned. Please stay in touch by taking time to read all notes that go home almost every day. First, we will continue to read and discover folktales, myths, and fables. Students will continue learning and applying skills associated with theme, or central message. We will continue with using text structure such as cause and effect and point of view. We will be comparing and contrasting similar books and characters of stories. All of these skills are to help with comprehension of stories that we will be reading. One of our main focuses this month is information about Louisiana. Students will learn about our state and famous people. Another one of our focus skills and activities will be on reading and writing poetry. Students will concentrate on the terms used in poetry as well as learn to understand the mood and motivation of poems. Next, we will continue to write using the six traits of writing. We still have a lot to cover between now and the end of school. Please help us keep our students motivated and focused. It is important to get to school, and stay on task at all times. We appreciate all that you do for your child and for our school.

MSS

Third grade students are working very hard and doing their best to prepare for the iLEAP Test. We are looking forward to seeing great test results from them! When testing is over, we will continue to prepare our third graders for fourth grade. In math, we will calculate with mental math strategies, graphing, area, perimeter, division, and problem solving. Of course, we will continue to work on the basic multiplication and division facts.

The students are preparing to travel to Grand Isle, Louisiana for the Coastal Roots field trip at the end of April. They will plant bitter panicum grass on the beaches of Grand Isle. These grasses have been grown at Zachary Elementary over the past year through the LSU Coastal Roots program. Students will also go on a nature walk through the state park. Our students can't wait to help the environment!



4th GRADE NEWS

Students are rocking and rolling this month in math! As we finish up with fractions, students will begin making connections between fractions and decimals. Vocabulary such as tenths and hundredths will be used, and students will use place value knowledge to model, compare, and explain decimal values. Along with decimals, geometry concepts will be introduced. Students will discover lines, points and angles, along with how to classify shapes based on these components. Lastly, students will be completing spiral reviews all throughout the month of April. We will be reviewing skills learned during the first semester of school like place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division while incorporating tasks and word problems within each skill.

Students will continue discussing life science throughout the month of April. Ecosystems, animals and plants will be our focus for the upcoming weeks. Students will be planting their roots while we discuss photosynthesis, abiotic and biotic components, food chains and food webs. We will also take a closer look at the human body and examine how the organs of the circulatory and respiratory systems function. We will close the month of April with a spiral review of science, diving back into physical, earth and space science. In social studies, students will take a trip out west and fulfill their manifest destiny to better understand ideas of westward expansion. Following our journey out west, we will make our way to the northeast to take a closer look at Ellis Island and immigration as well as the industrial revolution and inventors. To close out April, we will examine the civil rights movement and economics for us to better understand and explore how America has transformed into the wonderful country that we now know today.

Students are springing into action this month as we gear up for LEAP test. We are working on reviewing important reading skills and strategies so students can show what they know on the test! Some important skills we are focusing on include identifying problem and solution, cause and effect relationships, and summarizing key points in nonfiction texts. We will practice these strategies using a wide range of fiction and nonfiction texts found in our basal reader and through the use of novel read alouds in the classroom. In writing, we are working on responding to prompts using text based evidence. We haven't forgotten how important it is for good writers to use descriptive language in their essays so this month we will focus on how to use adjectives correctly and incorporate them into our writing. Some helpful habits to form at home would be to encourage your child to read daily. This will improve your child's fluency and reading comprehension as well as promote life-long reading habits.

News from ZES

Spanish

3rd Grade Spanish Club students have completed their maracas, sombreros and learned all about weaving and Latin instruments! We are looking forward to finishing out our activities on dance! 4th Grade Spanish Club students are in process of writing the rough draft of the letters to a classroom in Spain! Students will be meeting their Penpals in a face-to-face Skype conference this April.

All 3rd graders have completed their second storytelling unit, and are demonstrating an increase in their ability to understand and respond using complete sentences in Spanish. Our 4th graders are gearing up to advance their proficiency as they prepare to read their first Spanish novel, Brandon Brown Quiere un Perro!

iLEAP/LEAP Tips:

- ◇ Be sure your child is at school **EVERYDAY, ALL** day.
 - ◇ Maintain a relaxing, stress-free home environment daily.
 - ◇ Encourage your child to read all directions and questions carefully.
 - ◇ Encourage your child to stay focused.
 - ◇ Encourage your child to CHECK OVER his/her work carefully.
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- ⇒ Be sure your child gets a good night's sleep (being fully rested and alert will ensure a good testing experience).
 - ⇒ Eat a **healthy** breakfast (pop tarts, cereal, donuts, are not great breakfast choices during testing. Choose high protein, healthy choices such as grits, eggs, and bacon).
 - ⇒ Arrive at school **ON TIME!**
 - ⇒ Encourage your child to think positive" **I AM AWESOME...I WILL ROCK THIS TEST!"**



Music

Music is extremely busy this month! All 4th grade students have received a note regarding tickets/t-shirt for our spring show. They all need to return this form indicating their participation in the school musical, 101 Dalmatians KIDS. It is May 9-12th at the ZHS Performing Arts Center and will be a blast! Also, please mark your calendars for the spring choir concert on May 3rd, 2016. 3rd graders are to arrive at ZES at 5:30pm with a performance at 6pm, and fourth grade is to arrive at 6:30pm with a performance at 7pm. Hope to see you there!



All library books are due back by May 2nd. Books that are not found will need to be paid for in cash.