

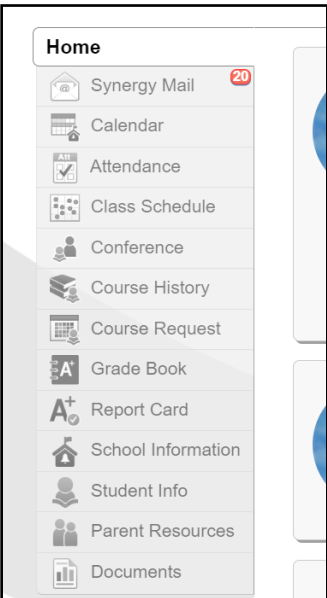


DRAGON TALES

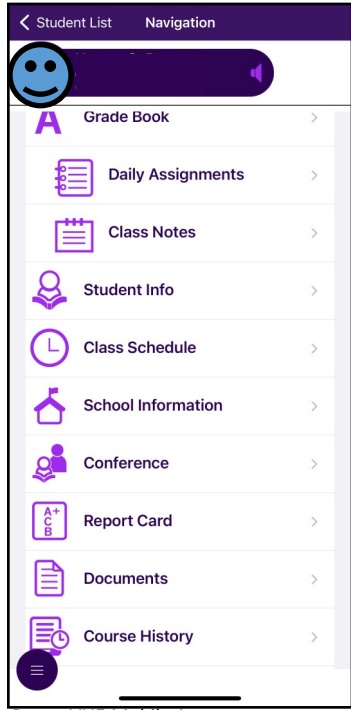
DUFIEF ELEMENTARY'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

MEASURING OUR PROGRESS

During this time of year, all schools are busy reviewing a number of data points aligned with a school's annual school improvement plan. At DuFief, this includes looking at our students' achievement through the lens of both **Proficiency** and **Growth**. When assessing student's proficiency, we are comparing student achievement against grade level expectations. When assessing growth, we are assessing against expected adequate growth outcomes. One assessment tool we use to measure both is the [NWEA MAP Growth Assessment](#). In Grades K-2, MAP is used to measure Proficiency and Growth in MATH.



ParentVUE Desktop



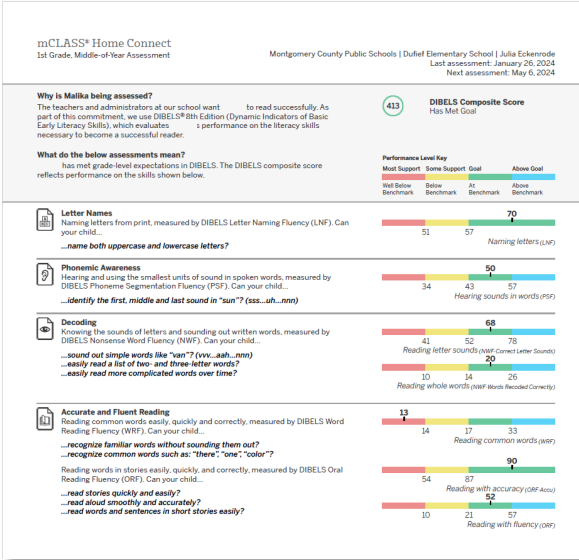
ParentVUE Mobile App

In Grades 3-5, it is used to measure Proficiency and Growth in MATH and READING. Like all MAP results, the latest Winter MAP assessment results are loaded into the *Documents* tab of the [ParentVUE portal](#). Please see below how to access these documents both on the desktop ParentVUE website and ParentVUE app. If you have any questions on the data reported in the reports, please contact your child's teacher.



SAVE THE DATE
 During our March 7th morning **Principal's Tea**, we will be sharing more information about the different student assessments.

FEBRUARY 2
PTA International Night
FEBRUARY 5
Marking Period 2 Report Cards Go Home
FEBRUARY 6
DuFief PTA Meeting/ZOOM
FEBRUARY 8
Marking Period 3 Student Town Hall Meetings
FEBRUARY 9
PTA Sponsored Staff Soup Per Bowl Lunch
FEBRUARY 12-16
DuFief Celebrates Random Acts of Kindness Week
FEBRUARY 14
Classroom Valentine's Day Parties
FEBRUARY 19
President's Day Holiday-Schools and Offices CLOSED
FEBRUARY 21-22
DuFief MSDE Expert Review Team Visit
FEBRUARY 22
DuFief Author Visit
FEBRUARY 27
Student Club Photos
FEBRUARY 29
PTA Dining for DuFief-5 Guys and Ice Skating Night-Rockville Town Square



DUFIEF CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY MONTH

This month, DuFief will be celebrating Black History Month and this year's theme *African Americans and the Arts*. Each morning during our morning announcements, we are sharing a fact about an influential African American artist along with a picture clue. Students are asked to guess "Who Am I?" and submit their guesses each morning. See if you can identify the first artists we learned about!



MEDIA MINUTE

In Kindergarten we have been studying the works of author Peter Brown. Some of his books include: *Children Make Terrible Pets*, *My Teachers is a Monster* and *You WILL be my Friend*. In 1st -3rd grade students have been reading a variety of books exploring different viewpoints of characters and the author. A few we have read include: *Dear Primo*, *Bink and Gollie*, *I'm Trying to Love Spiders*, and *I'm My Own Dog*. In 4th grade the students just finished creating a nonfiction book about a bird they researched on the app bookcreator.com. Our 5th graders are working hard on preparing their Reader's Theater play productions and will present them to the 1st graders soon.



Code.org

During the month of February while students focus on invention, innovation and technology during Benchmark Unit 5, in Media we will be working on technology through coding. All students will participate in age appropriate coding activities. Please check out [Code.org](https://code.org) to see some of the fun things the students will be working on!

REMINDER:

We love celebrating our students' birthdays at DuFief Elementary. During our morning announcements we recognize our student birthdays, and they come down to the office to receive a birthday pencil. Unfortunately, due to student allergies, families are asked not to bring in treats for the class. Thanks for your help with keeping our students healthy and safe!

MCPS CONNECTIONS

Coming Soon: Bus Tracking App



MCPS will be launching a self-service bus app for families this semester. The tracking app will allow users to receive live updates on where their student's bus is, provide important two-way communication capability and enhance safety for students while they wait for and ride the bus.

The MCPS Department of Transportation is currently in a pilot phase with families and students at 10 schools. More information will be shared in the coming weeks as we prepare for the full launch across the district.

Inclement Weather Communication and Make-up Days

Please provide your [feedback](#) on communication around inclement weather that may impact school operations. We would also like to hear your preferences on how MCPS approaches inclement weather make-up days.