

MITCHELL MINUTE

October 2024

Dr. Sainz Says!

Mitchell Families,

It is hard to believe it is already the end of the first quarter of school. Mitchell Scholars have been busy learning each day and demonstrating their seven habits. Our scholars in first through fifth grade have been participating in their Student Leadership Teams. Our kindergarten through fifth grade scholars are busy participating in a variety of ELA topics with our new literacy program CKLA. They are also continuing their work with math in Bridges. Our CD scholars have been focusing on learning all about school and engaging in topics with Creative Curriculum. We are excited to see this learning carry into second quarter

If you have not yet had your Data conference, please reach out to your child's teacher. These conferences are extremely important and we need you as parents to be engaged with your scholars learning and the work they do each day. Thank you to those families who have already completed their conference!

It is extremely important that all families complete the required information so that their scholar may attend field trips this year. Please see the information below and reach out to your child's teacher.

If your child is a bus rider, we need your help. A shout out to those parents that stay at the bus stop with their child in the morning. While I realize that not everyone may be able to do this, please go over expectations with your child. Students should not be running around, chasing one another, standing and running in the street, eating snacks, and throwing things at one another. We are continuing to have problems on the morning route. Mitchell is not able to provide supervision on the bus each morning. We need your help and attention to this situation. Riding a bus is a privilege for our scholars!

Our first quarter awards assembly is this coming Friday, October 18th. We have a special announcement to make during this time. We hope to see you at these assemblies!

Thanks for your continued partnership,

Dr. Amber Sainz
Mitchell Elementary Principal
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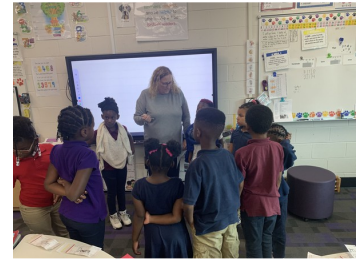


Family Data Conferences

Our goal is to have 100% participation in Family Data Conferences. If you have not had one yet, please reach out to your child's teacher to set up a time. These conferences are important so you understand how your child is performing at school and how you can help support them.

Required Parent Meetings for Field Trips

If you missed your child's Parent Meeting, please reach out to your child's teacher. They have an alternative way for you to get the information needed. Parents will be required to attend these meetings in order for scholars to attend a field trip this school year.



Mitchell Parent Calendar

Here is the [calendar](#) that was shared at the beginning of the year. Please note the dates in yellow have been changed.

From the Front Office

Visiting the school-All visitors must enter through the main entrance of the school. Make sure and bring your driver's license. On a day to day basis, the front entrance will be used. During special events, we ask you sign in through the first floor entrance. If you need to speak with a staff member during the day, please call or email and set-up an appointment.

School Bell Times

Doors open at 7:15 AM

School starts at 7:40 AM (The car rider gates close at 7:40 a.m. After this time you need to walk your scholar around to the main entrance).

Tardy Bell at 7:45 AM

School Dismisses at 2:40 PM

****Students must be picked up by 3:00 PM. **The Mitchell Parent Handbook includes additional information regarding this policy. Please ensure you have transportation arrangements for your scholars. Office Staff are not able to stay with scholars beyond 3:00 p.m.**

Please make sure that you have registered! Reach out to Ms. Cierra and she can help you.

Mitchell Elementary

1st Quarter Awards

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR FIRST AWARDS CEREMONY OF THE 24-25 SCHOOL YEAR!

SCHOLARS WILL BE RECOGNIZED FOR ACADEMIC, BEHAVIOR, AND ATTENDANCE ACHIEVEMENTS!

Friday, October 18th
CD-2nd: 8:15-9:00
3rd-5th: 9:15-10:00

NOT ALL SCHOLARS RECEIVE AN AWARD. PLEASE CONTACT YOUR SCHOLAR'S TEACHER IF YOU HAVE SPECIFIC QUESTIONS.

Dates to Remember

October 18th-

First Quarter Awards Assembly (CD-2nd 8:15 a.m.-9:00 a.m.), (3rd-5th 9:15 a.m.-10:00 a.m.)

Half-Day dismissal@10:40 a.m.

October 24th-

Burke High School Trunk or Treat@3:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

November 7th-

Mitchell Fall Family Festival@5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. (This replaces the Game Night that was on the calendar for October 24th)



Attendance Updates

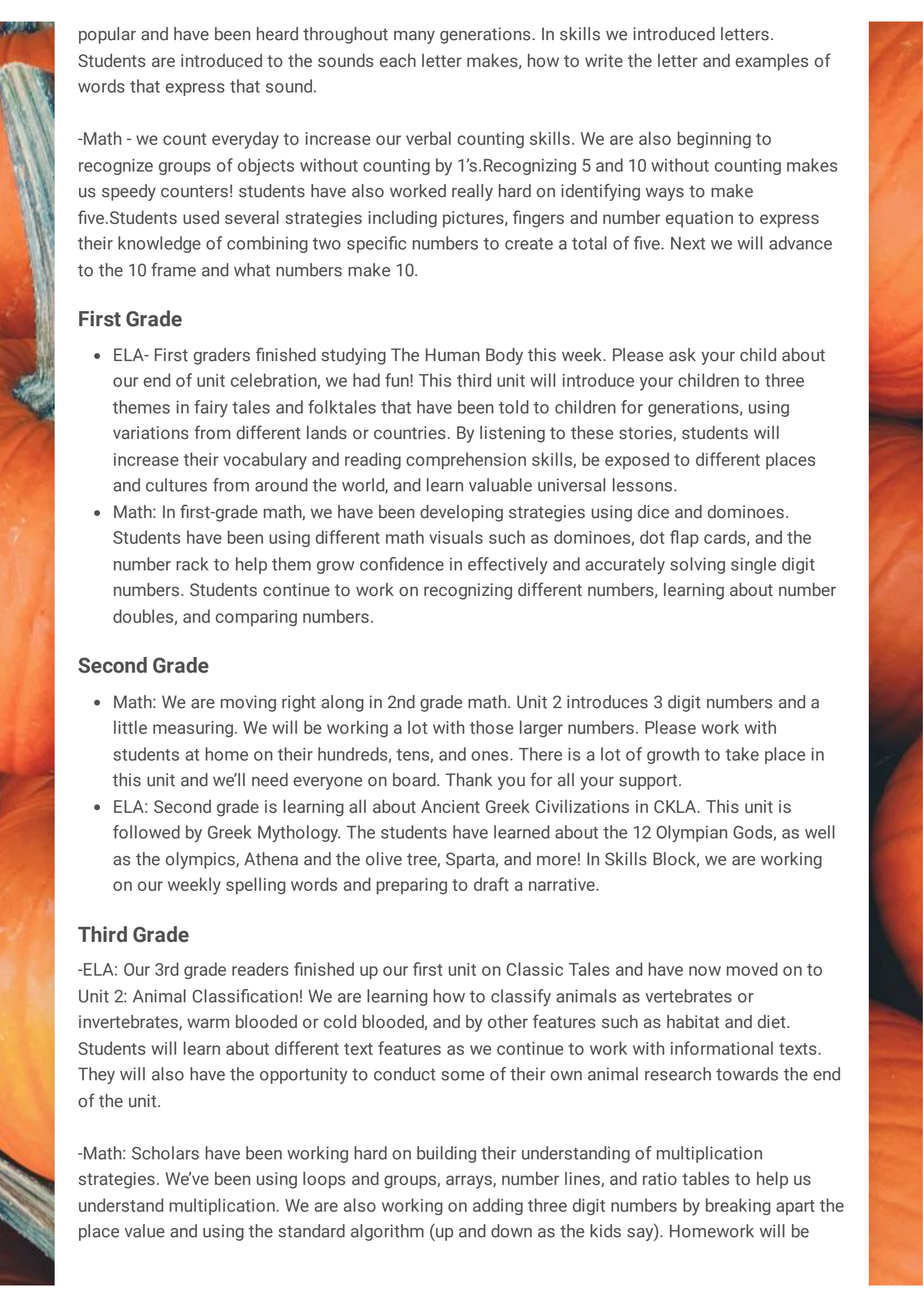
Our WIG goal for attendance is 92% or better each day. Please help us by ensuring you send in a parent note if your scholar has to be absent. **Remember only 10 Parent Notes count.** Let's work together to ensure that scholars are here every day! Please reach out if you need any assistance.

CD

The CD Team is so excited to have our crew growing as learners and friends every day. Continue to reinforce our main behavior choices at home– being SAFE, HONEST, AMBITIOUS, RESPECTFUL, and KIND. We have the most FABULOUS communication with our families- please continue to check your child's purple folder and ClassDojo page daily for new assignments, the wonderfulness happening at school, or a peek at the great stories we read. We are looking forward to continuing our First Nine Weeks Conferences with each of you. Please sign up for a conference with your child's teacher ASAP if you haven't already done so. Make sure you send in a snack (for 20 kids) for the new month. We know that we are going to continue to have the most AMAZING year!

Kindergarten

-ELA: In Kindergarten, we completed our unit about the five senses. We are now able to not only identify the five senses, but also identify which part of our body is used and how it helps people in day to day activities. Our favorite activity was to use our ears to listen to music created by an artist that had no sense of sight!! Next week we will start unit three. Students will get to hear traditional classic stories and a few new stories that are unfamiliar to them. We will identify the characters, plot, sequence and vocabulary. We will also discuss why these classic stories are so

The background of the page is a close-up photograph of several pumpkins, showing their orange skin and green stems. The pumpkins are arranged in a way that creates a sense of depth and texture.

popular and have been heard throughout many generations. In skills we introduced letters. Students are introduced to the sounds each letter makes, how to write the letter and examples of words that express that sound.

-Math - we count everyday to increase our verbal counting skills. We are also beginning to recognize groups of objects without counting by 1's. Recognizing 5 and 10 without counting makes us speedy counters! students have also worked really hard on identifying ways to make five. Students used several strategies including pictures, fingers and number equation to express their knowledge of combining two specific numbers to create a total of five. Next we will advance to the 10 frame and what numbers make 10.

First Grade

- ELA- First graders finished studying The Human Body this week. Please ask your child about our end of unit celebration, we had fun! This third unit will introduce your children to three themes in fairy tales and folktales that have been told to children for generations, using variations from different lands or countries. By listening to these stories, students will increase their vocabulary and reading comprehension skills, be exposed to different places and cultures from around the world, and learn valuable universal lessons.
- Math: In first-grade math, we have been developing strategies using dice and dominoes. Students have been using different math visuals such as dominoes, dot flap cards, and the number rack to help them grow confidence in effectively and accurately solving single digit numbers. Students continue to work on recognizing different numbers, learning about number doubles, and comparing numbers.

Second Grade

- Math: We are moving right along in 2nd grade math. Unit 2 introduces 3 digit numbers and a little measuring. We will be working a lot with those larger numbers. Please work with students at home on their hundreds, tens, and ones. There is a lot of growth to take place in this unit and we'll need everyone on board. Thank you for all your support.
- ELA: Second grade is learning all about Ancient Greek Civilizations in CKLA. This unit is followed by Greek Mythology. The students have learned about the 12 Olympian Gods, as well as the olympics, Athena and the olive tree, Sparta, and more! In Skills Block, we are working on our weekly spelling words and preparing to draft a narrative.

Third Grade

-ELA: Our 3rd grade readers finished up our first unit on Classic Tales and have now moved on to Unit 2: Animal Classification! We are learning how to classify animals as vertebrates or invertebrates, warm blooded or cold blooded, and by other features such as habitat and diet. Students will learn about different text features as we continue to work with informational texts. They will also have the opportunity to conduct some of their own animal research towards the end of the unit.

-Math: Scholars have been working hard on building their understanding of multiplication strategies. We've been using loops and groups, arrays, number lines, and ratio tables to help us understand multiplication. We are also working on adding three digit numbers by breaking apart the place value and using the standard algorithm (up and down as the kids say). Homework will be

given Monday through Thursday every week unless stated otherwise. Reach out if you need anything!

Fourth Grade

- **ELA:** In reading scholars are just about to finish up Unit 1, wrapping up their personal narrative writing. We are about to start unit 2, students will be learning about the middle ages, they will be introduced to new vocabulary and background knowledge of the history of the middle ages! They will be looking at new texts and learning how to paraphrase those texts.
- **Math-** Students have been working hard on unit 2 in the Bridges curriculum. This unit covers multiplying a whole number by a fraction, dividing fractions, dividing decimals by friendly numbers, and adding and subtracting fractions with unlike decominators (including mixed numbers).

Fifth Grade

- **ELA:** We will be working on early American civilization including the Maya, Inca and Aztec civilizations! We will be learning lots about each of the civilizations and how they were similar and different.
- **Math-** We have had a great month of school and have just taken our unit assessment on Derivita. The unit that we just completed included doubling and halving strategies, expressions and equations, a slight bit of division, and solving for the volume of a rectangular prism. We will be looking at adding and subtracting fractions with unlike denominators using the money model as well as finding common denominators.



Reading Intervention

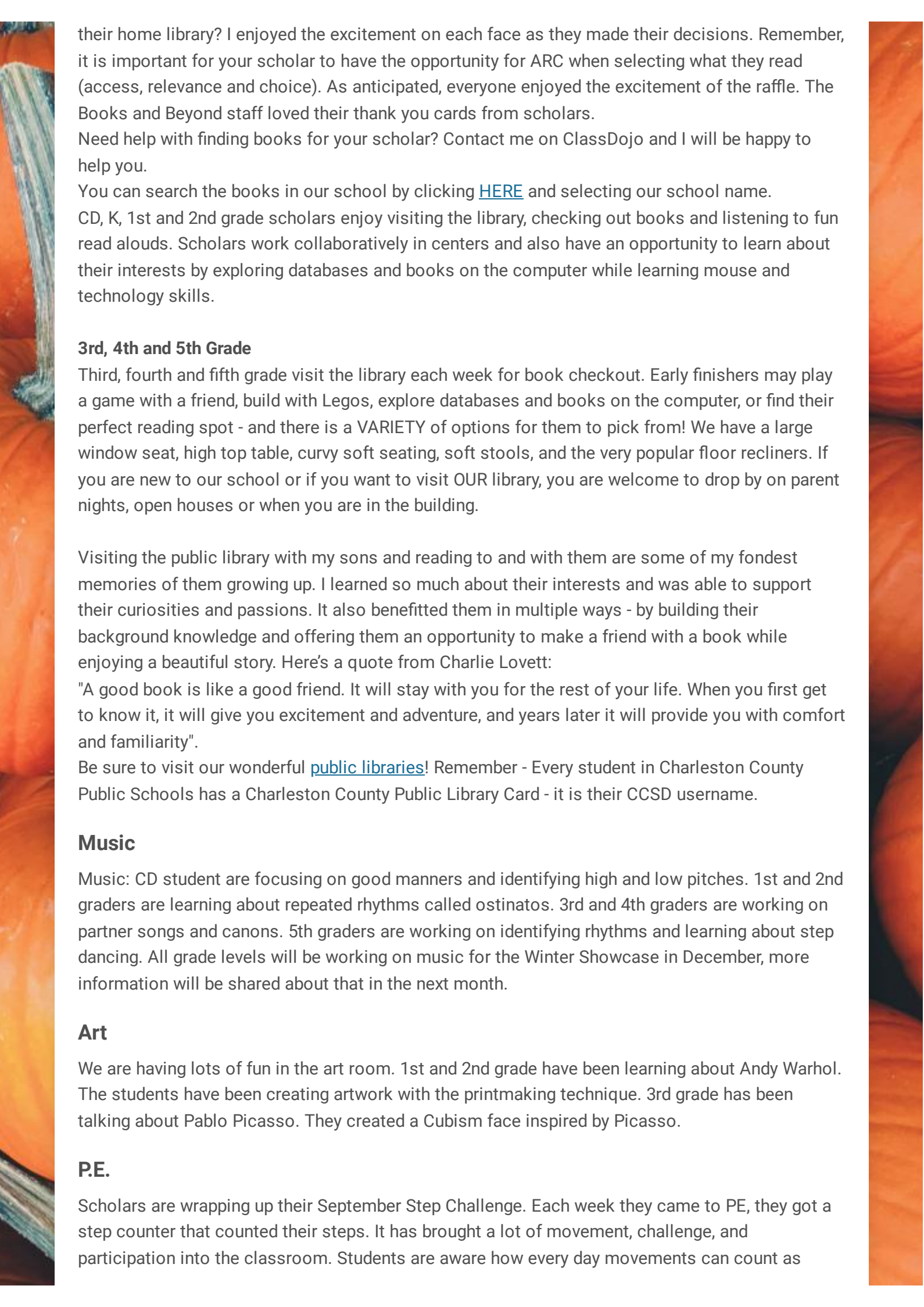
During our reading group time, primary grade scholars are practicing their foundational phonics skills as well as building up their reading fluency using the SPIRE reading program. Upper grade students are working on expanding their vocabularies and developing comprehension strategies using the iReady Magnetic Reading program. We are excited to see our readers so engaged with their learning and making steps towards reaching their learning goals.

Math Intervention

Scholars are working diligently in math intervention! We are building foundational skills using IReady Lessons and Bridges Intervention Kit to ensure that our scholars are ready to conquer grade level standards and skills!

Library

One of the many highlights this month from the library was our FREE bookfair with Books and Beyond. How happy was your scholar about the two (2) books they were able to select to add to

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their home library? I enjoyed the excitement on each face as they made their decisions. Remember, it is important for your scholar to have the opportunity for ARC when selecting what they read (access, relevance and choice). As anticipated, everyone enjoyed the excitement of the raffle. The Books and Beyond staff loved their thank you cards from scholars.

Need help with finding books for your scholar? Contact me on ClassDojo and I will be happy to help you.

You can search the books in our school by clicking [HERE](#) and selecting our school name.

CD, K, 1st and 2nd grade scholars enjoy visiting the library, checking out books and listening to fun read alouds. Scholars work collaboratively in centers and also have an opportunity to learn about their interests by exploring databases and books on the computer while learning mouse and technology skills.

3rd, 4th and 5th Grade

Third, fourth and fifth grade visit the library each week for book checkout. Early finishers may play a game with a friend, build with Legos, explore databases and books on the computer, or find their perfect reading spot - and there is a VARIETY of options for them to pick from! We have a large window seat, high top table, curvy soft seating, soft stools, and the very popular floor recliners. If you are new to our school or if you want to visit OUR library, you are welcome to drop by on parent nights, open houses or when you are in the building.

Visiting the public library with my sons and reading to and with them are some of my fondest memories of them growing up. I learned so much about their interests and was able to support their curiosities and passions. It also benefitted them in multiple ways - by building their background knowledge and offering them an opportunity to make a friend with a book while enjoying a beautiful story. Here's a quote from Charlie Lovett:

"A good book is like a good friend. It will stay with you for the rest of your life. When you first get to know it, it will give you excitement and adventure, and years later it will provide you with comfort and familiarity".

Be sure to visit our wonderful [public libraries](#)! Remember - Every student in Charleston County Public Schools has a Charleston County Public Library Card - it is their CCSD username.

Music

Music: CD student are focusing on good manners and identifying high and low pitches. 1st and 2nd graders are learning about repeated rhythms called ostinatos. 3rd and 4th graders are working on partner songs and canons. 5th graders are working on identifying rhythms and learning about step dancing. All grade levels will be working on music for the Winter Showcase in December, more information will be shared about that in the next month.

Art

We are having lots of fun in the art room. 1st and 2nd grade have been learning about Andy Warhol. The students have been creating artwork with the printmaking technique. 3rd grade has been talking about Pablo Picasso. They created a Cubism face inspired by Picasso.

P.E.

Scholars are wrapping up their September Step Challenge. Each week they came to PE, they got a step counter that counted their steps. It has brought a lot of movement, challenge, and participation into the classroom. Students are aware how every day movements can count as

exercise, even if it is just by walking! CD students are working on fundamental movements such as tossing and catching a scarf and/or beanbag. K-5 Students are in their throwing/catching unit where they learn how to underhand throw, overhand throw and the proper way to catch. This is done through different games and activities!

Guidance

October is bullying prevention month! We are asking scholars and staff to wear orange for Unity Day October 16th to send a visible message of our commitment to kindness, acceptance, and inclusion. Scholars will also get a chance to decorate their leaf for our Leader in Me Tree!

-Red Ribbon Week is October 21st-25th! This is a week to celebrate making healthy choices and living a drug free life! We will have quick lessons, activities, and a spirit week!

-This month's Guidance lessons focus on setting boundaries and safe touches (Erin's Law).

In 2014 the South Carolina Legislation passed Erin's Law, as part of the [Comprehensive Health Education Act](#). Districts annually shall provide age-appropriate instruction in sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention to all students in four-year-old kindergarten, where offered, through twelfth grade. The objective of the program is to educate all ages of children about what to do when confronted with abusive behavior such as safe and unsafe touches and other physical and emotional abuse. Every video in the various series emphasizes the importance of going to a parent or another trusted adult when confronted with an unsafe situation.

GT/Sail

GT/SAIL: All CCSD students in grades 2 and 4 will take the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAt) in October. This test has 3 parts- Verbal, Nonverbal, and Quantitative. The test results will help teachers identify a student's cognitive development and reasoning abilities. This will then allow teachers to help students achieve instructional goals within the classroom.



About Us

Mitchell Elementary

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Mr. Mark Sokolowski-Assistant Principal

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Amber Sainz

Amber is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

