

Alafia Alligator Weekly

Oct 18-Oct 22, 2021



Alafia Elementary School Vision: *Alafia Elementary Students will be compassionate, connected, and contributing citizens in our ever-changing world.*

Alafia Elementary School Mission: *We will empower all students with the opportunity and support in order to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to reach their full potential.*

Hello Alafia Families!

Students in Kindergarten, 1st and 3rd grades will have health screenings this week on Thursday, October 21st. Kindergarten will have a vision screening and first and third grades will have vision, height, weight, and BMI screenings. The screenings are mandatory in the state of Florida. If you do not want your child to participate in the screenings, please notify your child's teacher or our school office in writing.

Please join me in welcoming Mrs. Garris to Alafia Elementary and our third grade team. We gained an additional unit in 3rd grade due to high student numbers and we were able to hire Mrs. Garris to join our school and help create smaller classes that are aligned to the class size amendment expectations. Welcome, Mrs. Garris! There may be more changes in student schedules in other grade levels as we work to meet the mandated class size amendment. We will keep you updated as such changes occur.

Please see an important message below from our fabulous school counselor, Ms. Carver:

Hello Parents,

On Wednesday, October 20th, 4th and 5th grade students will participate in the ACT NOW Presentation at separate times. ACT Now stands for Acknowledge, Show you Care and Tell an adult immediately if you or a friend are in need. This mental health program will help 4th and 5th grade students understand protective factors, warning signs and who can help in our schools and at home when a classmate or friend is in need. Brochures will go home with students following the program.

Thank you for your continued support for the mental health for all students.

Andrea Carver

School Counselor

Please be sure to read the attached important announcement from our wonderful Assistant Principal, Mrs. McGinnis.

Thank you and have a great week!

Mrs. Jackson

This Week:

Red Ribbon Week

10/18-10/22

- Monday-Early Release 12:55
- Friday-Spirit Day wear your Alafia Shirts

Next Week:

10/25-10/29

- Monday-Early Release 12:55
- Wednesday-Fall Picture Re-Takes
- Friday-Spirit Day wear your Alafia Shirts



Dear Alafia Family,

As Alafia family members, we have celebrated achievements and milestones as well as overcome recent challenges together. Without a doubt, our Alafia community encompasses an amazing group of students and families that remain resilient.

Some have known that I went through breast cancer and have thankfully been cancer free for six years. This status is my continued faith statement. However, life experience tends to adjust one's path within our journey in life. I have decided to step down from an administrative capacity. I have an opportunity which allows me to continue my service to support students and teachers while maintaining a healthier balance between my professional and personal life.

It is my hope with my departure, this will allow others to gain experience, and Alafia will continue to thrive successfully and professionally. I am confident, Alafia will continue to grow. Although my decision was not made hastily, but with much thought and prayer, this direction was the right decision for me and my family.

I am grateful for the past 10+ years at Alafia and, hopefully, my role as the Assistant Principal played a role in serving and supporting our students and staff to persevere and experience academic and personal success. I truly value the relationships that I have been fortunate to have built over the years.

Although saddened to leave you, I realize in my heart that this is something I must do. I trust you understand.

A Heartfelt Thank You. You have been instrumental in enriching my experiences both professionally and personally.

With Love and Respect,

Teresa McGinnis,

Assistant Principal Where Alafia Always Achieves!

