



Anderson Elementary School

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(813) 272-3075

Website: <http://anderson.mysdhc.org>

Twitter: https://twitter.com/Anderson_Eagles

A Hillsborough County Public School

Dear Anderson Families,

We have a very busy academic second semester. We ask for your assistance in making sure students arrive to school on time and are not signed out early, as well as attend school regularly. I will continue to monitor and notify families of students with excessive absences, tardies and/or sign out early from school. As the second semester approaches, we do not want students missing instruction.

Families will be invited to attend the Awards Assembly on Feb. 2. All visitors will need to have valid photo ID when visiting our campus, as this is a HCPS Policy. **Without a valid photo ID, visitors will not be able to be on our campus.**

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. With all of us working together, we can ensure that our students are successful! See school grade article.

Lydia G. Sierra, Principal

Dear Anderson Family,

Happy New Year! As we start the new grading period, students are goal setting as they aim to be successful. Teachers are conferencing with students and guiding students as they work on individual goals. In December, we finished PM2 FAST and STAR testing, and students will begin additional progress monitoring assessments (iReady) starting the week of January 16th. I am sure your child's teacher has communicated your child's progress with you, however, you can also access your student's FAST reports through the Parent Report Card portal. Report cards for Quarter 2 will also be available online on January 24th. Here is the website to access this information. <https://reportcards.sdhc.k12.fl.us/>

We value and appreciate your support, and we look forward to continuing to work together.

Mrs. Kim,
Assistant Principal



Upcoming Events*

Dec. 12-Winter Concert
Dec. 22-End of 2nd Quarter,
Student of the Month, Freestyle
Friday
Dec. 25-Jan5-Winter Holidays
Jan. 8-Students return
Jan. 15-No School MLK Day
Jan. 18-Science Night
Jan 24-Report Card post
Jan. 26-Student of the Month,
Freestyle Friday, 100th Day
Feb. 2-Awards Assembly
Feb. 8-Class Picture Day
Feb. 12-Progress Alerts Sent
Feb. 16-No School
Feb. 23-Student of the Month,
Freestyle Friday
March 7-Conference Night
tentative and subject to change

Anderson Elementary School



Kindergarten

Happy New Year Kindergarten Families! We hope everyone had a wonderful time with family and friends. A lot of events are happening in Kindergarten. Jan. 16 we will be going to see The Frog Prince at the STRAZ Theater! We will eat lunch back at school. Jan. 20th is the Gasparilla Childrens Parade! Jan. 26th is the 100th day of school!! Your child may dress up! We will be doing a lot of fun activities! Half of the school year has flown by. I am sure you see the progress in your child. Please continue to read each night with your child and sign the reading log, and continue to work on sight words as well. Also have your child retell the story, and tell you the setting of the story, who the characters were, what the story was mainly about. We are writing more, so have your child write their sight words, write a letter to a family member. Have your child draw, color, and use playdoh. These all help to build strong small motor skills in their hands and fingers. Lastly, have your child do more on their own. We are encouraging more independence. Give your child more responsibilities. Some day they will be running our world, we need to teach them now not to depend on us so much. They have our support, but let them know you believe they can do it!!

Sincerely,
Ms. James, Ms. Dougherty & Mrs. Parks

First Grade

First Grade Families,

We are halfway through the school year! The students have been working hard and are showing growth in their academics! In Reading, we are learning to identify the Topic and Key Details using informational texts and Identifying & Describing the main story elements in a fiction text. In Math, we are learning how to solve comparison problems within 20. We will also be learning Equality and Equations to 20. In Science, we have completed our LTI. using the "Under the Dome" Data Tracker for our plant. At the present time, we are working on our class STEM project. In Social Studies, we will be studying Martin Luther King, Jr. upon our return from the holiday break. Wishing all of our families Happy Holidays!

Mrs. Zaritsky, Mrs. Corr and Ms. DiGiangi

Staff Spotlight

I am Mrs. Angela Zaritsky. I have been a Hillsborough County School teacher for 28 years. I have taught Sixth Grade and Fourth Grade, but my true love is First Grade. This is my first year teaching at Anderson Elementary and I truly love it here! My goal for the year is for my students to leave First Grade with confidence and a growth mindset...AND ready to take on Second Grade!

Second Grade

Hello to our wonderful 2nd Grade families! We have already conquered half of the school year. We conducted many assessments before the winter break and we are so proud of the growth that we have seen! Going forward, we still have our iReady mid-year testing to complete, which will take place on the week of January 22nd. While we will continue our phonics instruction through UFLI, we will also have an increased focus on reading comprehension during the third quarter. Students will be in the transition phase between learning to read and reading to learn! At home, please consider asking them questions about books they've read and even movies or videos they've watched. In Math, we are jumping into our place value unit. This is the first time our students will be working in the hundreds place! When talking to students at home, please consider breaking down numbers with them and talking about what place they are in and what the value of each digit would be! We are looking forward to Stem Night on January 18th! As always, thank you for your continued support with your students!

Mr. Behrens, Ms. Holtrup, & Ms. Vadala

Third Grade

Hi all you terrific Third Graders and families! We welcome back Ms. Embry! We are doing a lot of learning this school year already! In Reading, we are learning about the author's claim/author's perspective, character development/character perspective, comparing/contrasting texts, and text features/structures! In Writing, we are really focusing on how to form an opinion and respond to a prompt here opinions are stated and supported by text evidence. In Math, we are building our fact fluency with facts 0-12s. As well as building our understanding of fractions, plotting/ordering/ comparing fractions, and finding equivalent fractions! In science, we have been leaning about different physical properties and various ways that we can measure/describe objects. We will be learning about the law of gravity and outer space!

Important dates coming up:

January 8th- Students return to school- full day

January 15th- No School

January 26th- Free Style Friday/ Student of the Month Awards

February 16th- Non-Student Day

February 23rd- Free Style Friday/ Student of the Month Awards

If you haven't already, it is not too late to join PTA! Be sure and join today!

Ms. Schulz, Mrs. Gray-Flint & Ms. Embry

Fourth Grade

Welcome back! We have missed our students and are excited to get the second half of the year off to an amazing start! The second half of the year students will be starting to prepare and to get ready for 5th grade. It will be here before we know it!

In Math, students are working on equalities and are now using their skills of multiplication and division to balance equations as well as find unknown variables in equations to make the equation true. Coming up, we will be working on angles, and then we will step into the world of fractions and decomposing fractions and mixed numbers. It is the expectation that students are completing and passing 2 lessons AND 45 minutes of iReady during the week. Please make sure students are continuing to practice their multiplication facts!

In Science, students are working on Earth science. We are working with landforms and processes that shape the Earth. We will be looking at different types of maps and their features. After that, we will be working with Weathering and Erosion. After that, we will be working with rocks and minerals and the different ways that scientists can identify rocks and minerals.

In Reading, students are working on plot and authors perspective as well as features and text structures. Students should be reading for 30 minutes EACH night to help build stamina in literacy. Students are expected to have 2 lessons passed and completed along with 45 minutes done per week. This is to help make sure that students are on track and making appropriate growth. Students also need to make sure that they have their reading logs completed weekly.

Coming up-we have iReady diagnostic testing, and we will be starting the second round of ELP so be on the lookout! If you ever have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to us on Class Dojo! Thank you for all that you do!
Mr. Forsythe and Mr. Iwanicki

PTA

The PTA works hard to support the staff and all Anderson students, but we can't do it without your help. Please join our Facebook page at Anderson PTA to keep up-to-date with relevant school information!

2023-2024 PTA Board:

President – Valerie DiVecchio
Vice President of Ways and Means – Michael Ulsh
Vice President of Membership – Paige Darrigo
Treasurer – Megan Jacobs
Recording Secretary – Crissy Troutman



Please support our PTA by becoming a member for only \$7 per individual or \$12.00 per family (2 adults). You can join on-line at: <https://anderson.memberhub.com/store>.

Make sure your child arrives to school on time.



Students look great in their school uniforms!

PTA/SCHOOL EVENTS

PTA will be sending a tentative list of event dates for Spring semester (subject to change).

Please Like Us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/AndersonPTA>. Keep up to date on all the details throughout the year, including changes to the calendar, upcoming events and shoutouts to our staff and students on doing great things!



**Anderson Elementary.....
Growing & Soaring Together!**




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Visit our Website: <http://anderson.mysdhc.org/>

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2022-2023 Informational Baseline School Grades

Schoolwide, our goal is to be in the "green." Anderson's Push Plan also known as "Show Time," where each Gr. 3-5 student had individual content area goals and staff pulled additional learning groups based on student need during the day and after school in ELP. Last year, students attended a pep rally where the Leadership Team explained our push plan and Gr. 3-5 individual goals were on green paper. We progress monitored our primary students (K-2) as well. All students were given a green bracelet and staff often wore the color green. And we celebrated our unofficial success with an end of the year K-5 dance party with our families.

On December 11, Baseline School Grades were released by the FI DOE based on Gr. 3-5 FAST. "A" is for Anderson! Our goal was 60% proficiency in each of the content areas. Proficiency is as follows: 63% ELA, 63% Math and 59% Science. (Learning Gains and Bottom Quartile (BQ) were not part of the baseline, however, for this year 2023-2024 these will be part of school grade calculations.) We credit our Anderson Push Plan/"Show Time" where all hands were are on deck!

Currently, our 2023-2024 Push Plan is underway! We hope to maintain proficiency, make learning gains and move our BQ. We want all of our students to be successful.

Way to go "A"nderson! I am so proud of all our students and all of our staff! Thank you parents for your support of our school! This a great accomplishment to be celebrated by all!

Proud Principal,
Ms. Sierra



Phonics

Phonics is important in reading, because it helps children to recognize and associate letters of the alphabet and their corresponding sounds in the words that they read. This improves their reading skills and efficiency. Phonics also helps a child to read and speak fluently. Phonics instruction is the foundation needed to build up reading and writing abilities. Here are some ways to help your child with phonics at home:

- Listen to your child read daily.
- Play a game with your child where you take turns coming up with words that begin with the same sound.
- Spend time on each letter separately.
- Create flashcards with words that begin with the same sounds.
- Make or buy small flashcards with the speech sounds on them.
- Using the timer on your mobile phone, select the sounds and letters your child has been taught so far. Place them in a pile. Start the timer (set to whatever time you wish - for example, 30 seconds).

Mrs. Tasso, Reading Coach

Thank you to the following business partners for supporting our school:

Palazzo Pizza
Tijuana Flats
Little Caesar's Pizza
Astro Skate
Pin Chasers
Carrabba's
Applebee's
Chuck E. Cheese
Florida Aquarium
Moe's
Wright's Gourmet



We're Making It Gifted in 2024!

Anderson's AGP students will be representing our school in the District Science Fair at the Tampa Convention Center on February 7, 2024! 100% of our gifted students completed a STEM Project and MOST of them (11 out of 13) will be participating in the district finals! Some students will share their project using Flip (virtual video) and others will present face to face at the Tampa Convention Center. ALL participants will have the opportunity to win a categorical and/or special award from the District's Science Department. This is an amazing experience and recognition for our scientist at Anderson! We love STEM projects!

As a TEAM, we worked with your child's Science teacher to complete our STEM projects. We would like to thank Ms. Corr, Mrs. Flint, Mr. Forsythe and Mr. Becker for their collaboration, flexibility and continuous support with our AGP students. Selected students from their class partnered with our AGP students to complete their STEM projects! Ms. Corr and I worked together and every student in her 1st Grade participated in the STEM project-What hide does Speedy like the most? Now that's being a T.E.A.M.-Together, Everyone Achieves MORE!

Ms. Hope
AGP Teacher



Ms. Corr's 1st Grade scientists are recording their data!!

Students working hard on their STEM projects.

Guidance Events

Upcoming Events for December and January

Students of the Month Assemblies: December 22 and January 26
Students will be recognized at an assembly in our Reading Courtyard.

Character Trait of the Month (December): Live to Give

Character Trait of the Month (January): Attitude of Gratitude



MEDIA MINUTE

Newsletter



MyOn Fall and Winter Reading Challenges

Fall Top Readers: K-Layla I., 1st-Elvina M., 2nd-Bella M., 3rd-Isaac M., 4th-Matthew H., 5th-Mason D.

Winter Top Readers: K-Nde A., 1st-Destiny M., 2nd-Eila T., 3rd-Isaac M., 4th-Zoha Z., 5th-Gabriella M.

Congratulations to Isaac M. for being the top reader for both the Fall and Winter Challenge!!

Keep your eyes open for the Spring Challenge in March

FREE BOOKS!

That's right, free books. Visit newworldsreading.com to sign up.



BELIEVE IN YOUR "SHELF"

BUILDING RESILIENCY THROUGH READING

January 22nd-26th
is Celebrate Literacy Week
Teachers will be invited to do
activities daily with students

Digital books can be
checked out in Axis
360

Go to the virtual
library for link

VIRTUAL LIBRARY

Go to:
<https://www.hillsboroughschools.org/library>
to access amazing resources

Scholastic Book Fair

04/15/24-04/19/24