

March 2021

Volume 21, Issue 8



Cougar News

3501 N. Cork Road, Plant City, FL 33565

(813) 757-9353 <http://cork.mysdhc.org>
Hillsborough County Public School

Cork Elementary School

Sherri Black, Principal
Rosemarie Manhertz, AP

Important Dates

MARCH	5	Storytelling 2nd Grade
	8	NO SCHOOL Non-Student Day
	14	Daylight Savings Time Change—Spring Forward!
	15-19	NO SCHOOL Spring Break
	26	End of Quarter 3
	APRIL 1	Sprit Night-Fred's Market Specials
	2	NO SCHOOL Non-Student Day
	16	Drive-Thru Cougar Pawloozza Information coming soon
	19	Report Cards Online
	22	ZOOM Conference Night 3:00-6:00 p.m.
MAY	6	Spirit Night-Fred's Market 5th Grade
	10	NO Early Release—pickup at 1:55
	17	NO Early Release—pickup at 1:55
	24	NO Early Release—pickup at 1:55
	28	Last Day of School - Early Release at 11:25.

Letter from the Principal

Spring has sprung... not officially as that will take place on March 20th, but I think everyone is ready for some warmer weather, time with friends and family, and just time to relax! Spring break is March 15th-19th with **students and staff returning on Monday, March 22nd**. Please note this was originally scheduled as a non-student day, but the school calendar was adjusted at the beginning of the school year.

Testing season is about to begin and for students to be less stressed, it is still vitally important that they arrive on time every day. Students should be in their seats and ready to learn at 7:40, not just arriving on campus at this time. If your child needs to take advantage of the free breakfast, he or she needs to arrive before 7:30 in order to make it to the cafeteria, grab a bag breakfast, and make it to class before the tardy bell rings at 7:40. Thank you for helping your child be successful by arriving at school on time.

Thank you for all that you are doing to keep the COVID virus from spreading within our school. Parents are proactively keeping sick children home, getting testing done when necessary, and contacting us for next steps when a positive case is contracted or exposure to a positive case has happened. We truly appreciate the team effort! Keep in mind that if anyone in the home gets tested, your child should not come to school until you get the results back. If they are positive, please call the school.

With Cougar Pride,

Sherri Black

**Instruction begins promptly at
7:40.**

**Your child is marked tardy if
they arrive at 7:40.**

Arrival time is 7:10-7:35.



**FOLLOW US ON TWITTER @
HCPSCorkES**

We will tweet what's
happening at Cork.

Kindergarten

This month in kindergarten we are gearing up to succeed. We are learning new math strategies and new skills. We are using our new strategies in making tens using a ten frame and a part-part whole model.

In Reading, we are sounding out and blending words. We are also, decoding words and changing the beginning sounds to create new words.

In Science, we are investigating how Day and Night happens.

Finally, in Social Studies we are reading a Biography on Grace Hopper and what she has accomplished. There are no words to express how much we appreciate you, as parents, for working with your child at home to help them succeed. Please continue reading with your child every day for 15-20 minutes and practicing sight words. Sight words help your child read and give them the confidence to continue growing.

Grade 5

Our 5th graders are learning a lot about decimals (adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing). Please allow your child the opportunity to work with money to help strengthen these skills. They can find out how much 2 bags of chips will cost, or estimate how much it may cost to fill your gas tank. Anything to help reinforce these skills in the real world. For reading, students need to be reading each night to help build their stamina. The FSA Writing test is right around the corner. Look out for more information coming home.

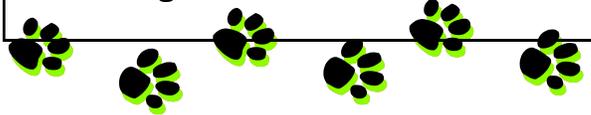
We LOVE to teach your child, but we can only do that if they are here. Please help us by making sure your child is at school and on time. We are planning for some great end of year events. If you have not signed up for Remind with your child's teacher, please do so in order for you to stay informed.

Grade 2

We can hardly believe that we've finished the first half of the school year! Second grade students continue to make progress toward readiness for third grade.

Reading is fundamental! To become lifelong readers, children in second grade and up need experience with a wide variety of engaging texts. Read and enjoy books with your child. Children benefit from being read to even if they can read on their own. Reading to your child will expand vocabulary and foster a love for reading.

In math, the children are learning 3-digit addition and subtraction and will soon be moving on to measurement. In science, they are learning about weather.



Grade 3

Happy March! We are so "lucky" to be teaching these future fourth graders! Even during a pandemic! Here is what is going on in the third grade world...

Reading- Students are comparing and contrasting pictures in stories. Next week, they will begin comparing and contrasting two stories!

Writing- Students are working on opinion writing in class. Please have a conversation with your child about what an opinion is.

Math- Students are learning about shapes and their attributes! They will start comparing and contrasting shapes next week!

Science- Students are learning about the Sun and what type of energy that it emits.

Reading FSA will be in April and Math FSA will be in May. Teachers will send out the dates once they are closer, thank you so much for your support at home! We couldn't do it without you!!!

Grade 1

First grade is hard at work.

Our mathematicians have been working on two-dimensional and three-dimensional shapes; identifying them by their attributes. They will begin our unit on Data soon.

The scientists have been studying living and nonliving things. We have studied what all living things need to survive. We are learning about different habitats and the living and nonliving things found in them.

Our readers are working on reading comprehension, characters, and retelling the story. They are learning to identify who is telling the story.



AGP

March is here already and the following will be our math focus in Gifted.

2nd grade – We will be working on extending subtraction with larger numbers. This will include subtraction with numbers over 1000.

3rd grade – We will be learning to understand and describe shapes based on their attributes and then move onto measurement.

Measurement will include learning about perimeter and area.

4th grade – Students will be learning about angles. Not only will they learn about their attributes, but also where you might find them in nature.

5th grade - Understanding place value and it's importance and how to extend place value in all areas of math.

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Speech and Language

Like all public schools in Hillsborough County, Cork Elementary has Speech and Language Impaired Programs for our students who require therapy and consultation services for their speech and/or language skills. There are several requirements for students to meet and be staffed into the program that offers additional support to develop and maintain these skills in the educational setting. A speech and/or language screening, hearing and vision screenings, a standardized evaluation, classroom observations, and teacher and parent input are all part of the extensive process in qualifying for these programs.

Speech includes articulation, which is how your child produces sounds. For example, we've all heard children say "wed" for red or "yeyyoh" for yellow. These are normal developmental speech patterns for a young child; however, if that persists or if your child makes several speech sound errors to where other people find it difficult to understand him/her, there may be a speech delay or disorder present. Speech therapy also addresses consistent and impactful stuttering in children. Language impairments include receptive (what your child *understands*) and expressive (what you child *says*) components, such as answering wh- questions, reading comprehension, using/understanding grammar, and following multi-step directions, to name a few. Language therapy can also address pragmatic (social) skill deficits in children with trauma, congenital, or developmental disabilities such as Autism.

If you are concerned about your child's speech, language, or pragmatic development, please feel free to contact our Speech-Language Pathologist, Kerri Snavelly, at (813) 757-9353 or send her an email at kerri.coons@sdhc.k12.fl.us.

Grade 4

Fourth graders have been working hard on Achieve, I-Ready, and many skills that are helping us grow in Reading. We have been practicing with our Writing prompts and will be ready for all our FSA tests that are coming up. That includes Math as well. We have been multiplying fractions. In Science, we have been learning about rocks and minerals. We can name them and describe them.

Our Tropicana Speech contest was a huge success and we can't wait to see how Avery Pierce does in the district competition.



Continuous Notification of Nondiscrimination

Pursuant to Title VI, Title IX, Section 504/Title II and other civil rights regulations, the School District of Hillsborough County does not discriminate nor tolerate harassment on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, disability, marital status, genetic information or pregnancy in its educational programs, services or activities, or in its hiring or employment practices; and it will take immediate action to eliminate such harassment, prevent its recurrence, and address its effects. The District also provides equal access to its facilities to the Boy Scouts and other patriotic youth groups, as required by the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act.

The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies:

Dr. Pansy Houghton, Executive Officer, Compliance

901 East Kennedy Boulevard

Tampa, FL 33602

(813) 272-4000

pansy.houghton@sdhc.k12.fl.us



PLEASE DO NOT SEND SODA CANS IN LUNCH-BOXES! We are trying to teach students to make healthy choices and hope this can be modeled at home as well as school!




School Website:
CORK.MYSDHC.ORG



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Absence Line

Please let us know of your child's absence by 10:00 am.

Call 757-9353 and press #1 during the greeting. Leave your child's name, teacher's name, date and reason for the absence.



Transportation Changes

If your child will be changing the method of his or her transportation home, please send in a note to your child's teacher. We must have all transportation changes in writing.



Estimados Padres

Si necesitan esta información en español, por favor avisan a la oficina, 757-9353. *Gracias*