

River Oaks
Elementary School
Dolphin Gazette

April 2024



Dear River Oaks Families,

April is Autism Awareness Month and Month of the Military Child, The Military Interstate Children's Commission (MIC 3) has selected Wednesday, April 17, 2024 as "Purple Up" Day. On April 17th we are asking all students and staff to wear purple. The 3rd quarter will end on April 8, 2024 and the 3rd report cards will be posted on ParentVue on April 19, 2024. April 11, 2024 will be the start of the 4th quarter.

Friendly Reminders for the End of March

- March 25-29, 2024- Spring Break- Schools Closed
- March 29, 2024- PTO is sponsoring a fundraiser at Chuck E. Cheese- 140835 Shoppers Best Way Dale City, VA 22192 from 3:00pm-9:00pm. Please see the attached flyers for more information and coupons for the event.

Autism Awareness Month

Activities for Autism Awareness Month:

- April 1-5, 2024- Autism Spirit Week- please see the attached flyer for each days event
- April 11, 2024- Sensory Night from 6pm-7pm- Families please enter through door 9. See attached flyer.
- April 18, 2024- Special Education Panel Discussion @ 6:00pm- Families please enter through door 9. See attached flyer.

Picture Day

Picture Day is April 15, 2024. No cash will be accepted, only online purchases through vendor Life Touch. More information (pricing, how to purchase pictures, etc.) will be sent out after Spring Break.

Math Spirit Week

Math Spirit Week is April 22-26, 2024. Please see the attached flyer for detailed information for each day of the week

Science Technology Engineering Math (STEM) Family Engagement Night

On Thursday April 25, 2024 from 5:30pm-7:00pm come out and enjoy math games and STEM activities for all grade levels. Families please enter through door 9. If you are planning to attend please RSVP by Tuesday, April 23, 2024. Use the link below or QR code on the attached flyer to RSVP.

<https://forms.office.com/r/zmDeYJanFF>

Watch D.O.G.S (Dads of Great Students) Sign-up

Father and father-figures please use this below link to sign up to volunteer for a full day as WATCH D.O.G.S.

<https://ss.ly/RA0ih2>

Prior to your scheduled date, additional information will be emailed to you. Please contact Cindell Santos at santoscm1@pwcs.edu with any questions. Thank you for volunteering!

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River Oaks Got Talent

We want to display the talents of our River Oaks students. On May 29, 2024, we will be presenting “River Oaks Got Talent” on May 29, 2024. There will be try-outs in April and early May. More information will be forthcoming about try-outs and more specific information on River Oaks Got Talent.

Standards Of Learning (SOL) Preparation for Students in- Grades 3rd-5th

Below are some skills by grade level that you can work with students at home and reinforce to ensure that the students are prepared for success on the SOL.

➤ **Grade 3**

Math

- Math fact fluency- basic addition, subtraction, and multiplication facts
- Add and subtract with and without regrouping
- Place value
- Rounding
- Fraction number sense and fraction conversions

ELA

- Build up reading stamina by reading for at least 10 minutes each day Monday- Thursday.
- Identification of main idea and supporting details in text
- Comprehension of non-fiction text
- Identification of character traits of characters in non-fiction text.
- Use information in text and what already know to make predictions

➤ **Grade 4**

Math

- Math fact fluency- - basic addition, subtraction, and multiplication facts
- Add and subtract with and without regrouping
- Long division
- Decimal and fraction equivalence and conversions
- Breaking down word problems- what is the word problem asking me to do, what operation/s (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and/or division), what information is in the problem to help solve, and what strategy will help solve the problem
- Multiplication and division computation

ELA

- Build up reading stamina by reading for at least 10-15 minutes each day Monday- Thursday.
- Identification of main idea and supporting details in text
- Comprehension of non-fiction text
- Identification of character traits of characters in non-fiction text.
- Use information from text and what already know to make predictions.

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➤ **Grade 5**

Math

- Decimal and fraction equivalence and conversions
- Measurement
- Math fact fluency- multiplication facts
- Long division
- Breaking down word problems- what is the word problem asking me to do, what operation/s (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and/or division), what information is in the problem to help solve, and what strategy will help solve the problem

ELA

- Build up reading stamina by reading for at least 20 minutes each day Monday- Thursday.
- Identification of main idea and supporting details in text
- Comprehension of non-fiction text
- Identification of character traits of characters in non-fiction text.
- Use information from text and what already know to make predictions
- Be able to write in complete sentences with correct punctuation and grammar to respond to questions about text. Use information from text in writing to support answer.
- Be able to write multi-paragraphs in response to a writing prompt using complete sentences, correction grammar, and proper punctuation.

SOL Scheduled Testing Dates

Please review the schedule below. Ensure that students have a good night's sleep. We need students at school every day on time. If appointments have to be scheduled please carefully review the schedule below to attempt to schedule appointments on non-testing days for your student(s) particular grade level.

- 5th Grade Integrated Reading Writing (IRW) Testing – April 17th- students will do a short constructed response about a text read and will have to use evidence from the text in response to support answer
- SOL Testing Window – April 22nd – May 15th
 - Autism 4th Grade Math April 23rd & April 24th
 - 4th Grade VA Studies – May 1st
 - 5th Grade Reading – May 1st & May 2nd
 - 3rd Grade Math – May 1st & May 2nd
 - Autism 4th Grade Reading – May 2nd & May 3rd
 - 3rd Grade Reading – May 7th & 8th
 - Autism 4th Grade VA Studies – May 7th
 - 5th Grade Math – May 8th & May 9th
 - 4th Grade Reading – May 8th & May 9th
 - 4th Grade Math – May 13th & 14th
 - 5th Grade Science – May 14th

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- Retakes Window – May 22nd – June 3rd
 - Reading – May 22nd & 23rd
 - Math – May 28th & May 29th
 - VA Studies – May 30th
 - Science – May 31st

Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) General Body Meeting

The April PTO General Body meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 17, 2024 at 6:00pm via Zoom. Please see the zoom link information below to access the meeting. Any parent/guardian of a River Oaks' student(s) is encouraged to attend the PTO General Body meetings.

Topic: PTO General Body Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://pwcs-zm-edu.zoom.us/j/85880651071?pwd=bjE1aJJOVTFodlPnTUd4MkRtQ3JmQT09>

Meeting ID: 858 8065 1071

Passcode: 432024

One tap mobile

+16469313860,,85880651071#,,,,*432024# US

+13017158592,,85880651071#,,,,*432024# US (Washington DC)

PTO Website and Email

To keep up to date with what is going on with River Oaks PTO or volunteer opportunities please be sure to visit their website at <https://roespto.ptboard.com/>. If you want to contact the PTO you may contact them via email at riveroakselementarypto@gmail.com,

Upcoming Events/Dates to Remember:

- April 1st-5th- Autism Awareness Spirit Week
- Thurs., April 4th- SOL Parent Information Night (for parents of students in grades 3rd-5th). The event time is 5:30pm-6:30pm. Families can enter through the main entrance (door 1). Each grade level will be in a different location- 3rd- cafeteria, 4th- auxiliary gym, 5th- library)
- Mon., April 8th- End of 3rd Quarter Marking Period
- April 8th-May 10th- VKRP Testing Window for Kindergarten Students
- Tues., April 9th- No School for Students- Professional Development Day for Staff
- Wed., April 10th- School and Offices Closed

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Upcoming Events/Dates to Remember:

- Thurs., April 11th- Sensory Night @6pm- Families enter through door 9
- Mon., April 15th- Picture Day & Purple Up Day- Wear Purple to Support Military Children's Month
- Wed., April 17th- 5th grade students will take the SOL for Integrated Reading and Writing (IRW)
- Thurs., April 18th- Special Education Panel Discussion @6:00pm. Families enter through door 9.
- Fri., April 19th -Earth Day Project- collaborative project with River Oaks Garden Club and PTO
- April 22nd-26th- Math Spirit Week
- Tues., April 23rd- 3rd Quarter Awards Assembly
 - 3rd-5th grades @ 9:30am. Doors will open at 9:00am. Families please enter through door 9. Teachers will send out notices for students who will be receiving awards after April 8th.
 - 1st-2nd grades @ 1:30pm. Doors will open at 1:00pm. Families please enter through door 9. Teachers will send out notices for students who will be receiving awards after April 8th.
- Wed., April 24th- 3rd Quarter Awards Assembly
 - Kindergarten @9:30am. Doors will open at 9:00am. Families please enter through door 9. Teachers will send out notices for students who will be receiving awards after April 8th.
- Thurs., April 25th- Title I STEM Family Night @ 5:30pm- Families please enter through door 9.
- April 23rd - May 30th- SOL Testing Window for students in grades 3rd-5th

Prohibited Parking

This is just a friendly that parking is prohibited in the reserved spaces of the Community Club House. If you park there, then they will tow your vehicle. That area is not the school's property, and no one can park in the reserved spots because that is for their employees. There is parking in the Community Club House that is open to the public and not reserved spaces. Also, please do not park in homeowner's driveways or in front of their driveways. Thank you for your cooperation.

Safety First

Safety is our number one priority. Please remember the following for entry into the building, arrival, and dismissal.

- Photo ID (government issued) must be presented to enter the building and dismissal of students. The physical photo ID must be presented to staff and cannot be accepted on a cell phone.
- No cars are permitted in the bus loop from 8:00am-9:00am and from 3:00pm-4:00pm. We have late buses and cars cannot be in the bus loop while students are boarding or exiting the bus. Parents should not pass any buses that have red lights flashing.
- We know that everyone wants to drop off or pick-up students but please slowdown in the school area and do not go around other vehicles. Thank you for your understanding and patience.
- Parents are strongly encouraged to utilize the established Kiss and Ride line for student drop-off and pick-up. By doing so, we can maintain a smooth flow of traffic and minimize risks.
- While we understand that some parents may choose to use the community association lot, please be aware that doing so is at your own risk. If you decide to use this lot, please remember to yield to pedestrians.
- Parking in areas marked as fire lanes or no parking zones poses serious safety risks. Violators may be ticketed by law enforcement.
- We kindly request that parents refrain from parking or stopping vehicles in the cul-de-sac area. Such practices lead to additional traffic congestion and make it challenging for school buses to enter and exit the school premises.

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- Do not make illegal u-turns in the middle of the streets

Transportation Late Bus Notification Link

Transportation's Late Bus Notification web page is now available for parents and schools. The page will list buses that will be late 15 minutes or more to start their run. Please see the link below,

https://www.pwcs.edu/departments/transportation/bus_delays

Transportation Changes

PWCS has made changes to their policy of when parents/guardians need to inform the school of any student transportation changes. Effective January 5, 2024, parents/guardians must call the front office at 703-441-0050 by 2:00pm to make transportation changes. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Communication

Effective communication is important for the home-school connection. When contacting a staff member please be aware that staff have 24 - 48 hours (Mon.- Fri.) to respond to all messages (phone, School Status, email). If there is an emergency, please contact the front office. During the school day staff members are engaged with students and are not always accessible to their emails or phone.

Attendance Matters: Every Student, Every Day

Having students in school every day is very important, but we know that things happen such as students getting sick, family emergencies, etc. Please be sure to report the reason for the student's absence to the school. If your child is ever absent from school, please report the absence by using the following:

- ParentVue, for day of and future absences- can only put in one absence at a time through ParentVue
- Provide Doctor's note and/or Parent letter
- Call the front office at 703-441-0050
- Absences must be reported within 5 days of the student's return to school.

Informational Items:

- School Hours – 8:45AM-3:25 PM. Tardy Bell rings at 8:45AM.
- Office Hours- 8:00AM- 4:00PM.
- Doors open for student entry at 8:30am, so please do not drop off your children before 8:30AM.
- A parent or guardian must accompany and sign in children arriving at school after 8:45AM.
- **If you need to pick up your children during school hours, you must present a Government Issued Photo Identification Card and sign them out from the office.** The office staff will call for the children to meet you in the office after your arrival and check out. The purpose of this procedure is to reduce disruptions to classroom instruction, as well as for safety reasons. All dismissal changes must be made in writing before 2:00PM. If you are picking up students for early dismissal, you must pick them up by 2:30PM. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

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Warm regards,

Dr. Gibson
Principal

Mrs. Herrera
Assistant Principal

Ms. Burton
Administrative Intern