



Griffin Elementary

#OneteamOneDream

EAGLE WISE



Principal Dr. Melissa Durrance

ADMINISTRATION



Assistant Principal, Roberta Stinson

9/5/18	Community Assessment Team Meeting 6:00 PM
9/12/18	Early Release @ 12:30 PM
9/17/18	No School
9/18/18	Open House / Title I Meeting Promptly @ 6 PM—7:30 PM
9/25/18	McTeacher's Night McDonalds's 98 N (By Wal-Mart) 4PM—7PM
9/26/18	Dads Take Your Child to School Day 7:30 AM—8:30 AM (Must RSVP by 9/16/18)

Dear Griffin Families,

As you may have heard, school grades were announced this summer and Griffin has increased a whole letter grade to a "D". We had a 17% increase in learning gains in reading, and a 14% increase in learning gains in math! We are very proud of this incredible increase and can't wait to see how much we improve this year.

This year we are off to an amazing start. Teachers have been hard at work setting up the routines and procedures in their classrooms to create an optimal learning environment. Our school wide focus this year is on improving literacy in all grade levels. All students in grades 2-5 have an Accelerated Reader (AR) goal that we are encouraging them to meet each month. Students that meet their monthly goal will receive an incentive. Please help build literacy by encouraging your student to read each night for at least 20 minutes.

Please consider attending our first School Advisory Council (SAC) meeting which will be held at 2:00 in the media center. You can park your car in carline, attend the meeting, and be back in your car before dismissal. The SAC meetings are a great way to learn more about the progress the school is making and to provide guidance on school issues.

I am looking forward to sharing a wonderful year full of learning with your student.

Sincerely,
Dr. Durrance

CONGRATULATIONS!

Angie Acevedo- School Related Employee of the Year

Anne McCallum- Teacher of the Year



ATTENDANCE

- School attendance is DIRECTLY related to school achievement.
- Parents have the responsibility to make sure students attend school every day, arrive promptly, and remain throughout the scheduled day.

Check Out Policy

All students must be checked out through the front office. Adults must present a photo ID and be listed on the student's emergency card to check out a student. We DO NOT allow students to be checked out after 2:15 PM.

CAMPUS SAFETY

There is **no** supervision for students before 7:30 AM. Therefore, students **CANNOT** be dropped off nor walk to school before 7:30 AM. Any student that is late to school **MUST** report to the office and be accompanied by a parent or guardian before the student will be allowed to report to class.

Morning Drop Off

Please drive through the car line & only unload at the the walkway next to the school. REMEMBER... students **CANNOT** be unloaded before 7:30AM. Students who arrive after 8AM **MUST** be accompanied to the front office by a parent and/or guardian. ***Reminder for afternoon pickup-when leaving the school- it is a right hand turn only! ***



School Hours 7:55 - 3:00

7:55 First Bell

8:00 Tardy Bell

Afternoon Dismissal: 3:00 Car Riders, After School/Day Care Riders, Walkers, & Buses on Campus.

3:10 Remaining bus students dismissed to the Cafeteria until bus arrives on campus.

Griffin Eagles Website:
<http://griffin.polk-fl.net/>

2nd Grade: What a great start of the year for Second grade! We really appreciate all our parents helping us out and making sure your student reads at least 20 minutes at night. In Reading we are looking how characters change throughout a story as well as answering basic who, what, where, why, when and how questions of a text. Don't forget that illustrations can also hold lots of information about the story, they're not just pretty pictures. In math we are learning base ten and looking how those numbers translate into hundreds, tens and ones. Thank You again for your continuing support!

Kindergarten:

We are off and running. In the 15 days, we can already see the changes in your child. We are excited to get the year started and get your child excited about learning. Students will be learning many skills, the most important one at this time is independence. Allow students to solve their problems first without your assistance, then offer help. At school, they will be working with partners and they need to learn to communicate, work together and follow directions.

3rd Grade :

We are pushing very hard for Literacy, reading for comprehension. Continue to practice reading at home. We are working on writing mechanics, such as the "Words Their Way" program. Continue working on word sounds, blends, and letter sounds. In Math, we are rounding to the nearest 10's and 100's. We will be going into adding and subtracting numbers within a thousand this week.

Please practice, practice, practice, reading with your child at home!

ESE K-5:

In Mr. Reinhardt's /Ms. Henderson's class we are studying our science safety rules and the need to repeat our experiments as well as sharing our data and having others replicate what we have done in order to validate our results. We have erupted volcanoes, made rock candy and will make slime while studying chemical reactions and states of matter.

ATTENTION
PARENTS:
RED COMMUNICATOR
FOLDERS WILL NOW
BE COMING HOME
ON WEDNESDAYS!

5th Grade: Our 5th grade students are working so hard on fluency and vocabulary development to assist with their reading comprehension. During September we are reading Informational Text to explain relationships. Please encourage your child to read for at least 30 minutes a day as well as write about what they read!!

1st Grade: Happy August from 1st grade! We are off to a fantastic start and are excited to be moving forward! In reading, we have been working on key details within a story. We have also been working on short vowel sounds and our first grade sight words. In math, we are working on adding/subtracting numbers and understanding the meaning of the equal sign. In the coming weeks, we will be doing a bullying lesson during our science block. In order to work as a team (One Team, One Dream), Please read with your child each night and use I-Station at home if you are able to!

Reading:

Accelerated Reader (AR) has started! Please encourage your students to read 30 minutes every night. Our AR goals include:

- * Monthly student goals to earn a free pizza ticket and their picture in the Hall of Fame.
- * A class level contest to see which class has the most points
- * A school goal of reading over 11,000 books this school

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Mindful Schools: Below is a link to a survey that we are asking for you to complete as part of the Florida AWARE grant (Advancing Wellness and Resiliency in Education). This grant helps us promote mental health awareness, increase our ability to identify students with mental health needs and improve our students' access to mental health services. The data from this survey will be used to direct future awareness and support activities related to mental health and mental health awareness within your school. Deadline to complete the survey is **September 15th!**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BGRSL7S?d=3&rt=2>

4th Grade: Greetings from 4th grade. We are excitedly getting back into the swing of things here at Griffin. We are beginning to dig deeper in Math, learn different science safety rules, and focusing on many reading skills and strategies. We are looking forward to a great year at Griffin and cannot wait to see what our future holds.

Media: Welcome Back Students and Staff! I am excited to share this school year with you conducting daily classes for each grade level, promoting children's literacy and sponsoring special events like the Scholastic Book Fair. Stay tuned for more information regarding the upcoming book fairs in September 2018 and January & March 2019.

* Keith Lawrence Roman is the Author of more than 20 books for children and he will be visiting Griffin Elementary to read to our students on September 14th. Please look for an order form that will be coming home with instructions on how to order his books.

Guidance: This is Mrs. Snell's 3rd grade class showing how a good team learns. Every month we will be featuring a class or students that are displaying the 'One Team-One Dream' vision. Mrs. Snell's Class are the role models for August 2018.

