



**Whatever it takes, our  
children are worth it!**

Volume 7

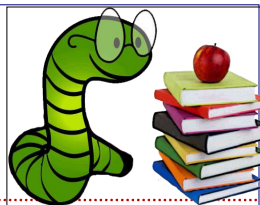
May 2015



**Pungoteague Elementary School**

**Paw Tracks**

**May 2015**



**Your link to Pungoteague's Late Breaking News :**

**<http://www.pes.accomack.k12.va.us/public/>**

Dear Parents/ Guardians:

This is the time of year when teachers are assessing students' areas of strengths and weakness to be considered for promotion to the next grade level or retention in the current grade level. It is very important that you stay in contact with your child's teacher so that you are informed of ways to increase and improve study habits at home.

This is also the time of year when our third, fourth, and fifth grade students are reviewing taught SOL objectives and concepts in preparation for the SOL tests in May. As parents/families, you can help us by reinforcing school/class rules at home. As the weather gets warmer, students will tend to challenge the classroom rules/ expectations set forth by the teacher. All students need to be cooperative and compliant with these rules and expectations so that there are no disruptions to the learning environment. Teachers are immersed in intense review activities and students need to be fully engaged. For your reference, here is the schedule of the upcoming SOL assessments in grades 3, 4, and 5.

Thanks so much for all you do, each day, for our students at PES!

Ms. McCray

## **2015 SOL**

### **TEST SCHEDULE**

Thursday, May 14 Grade 5 Reading

Friday, May 15 - Grade 4 Reading

Monday, May 18- Grade 3 Reading, Part I

Tuesday, May 19- Grade 3 Reading, Part II

Wednesday, May 20- Grade 5 Math, Part I

Thursday, May 21 - Grade 5 Math, Part II

Friday, May 22- Grade 4 Virginia Studies

Monday, May 25—NO SCHOOL, Memorial Day

Tuesday, May 26- No Tests

Wednesday, May 27- Grade 5 Science

Thursday, May 28 - Grade 3 Math, Part I

Friday, May 29- Grade 3 Math, Part II

Monday, June 1 - Grade 4 Math, Part I

Tuesday, June 2- Grade 4 Math, Part II

## **Bobcat News**

**May 29**

**DARE DAY NHS**

**May 14-June 4**

**SOL Testing**

**May 2 @ 9am**

**Pastries for Parents**

**May 20 @6:30pm**

**Kindergarten**

**Graduation at**

**Nandua Middle School**

**May 26**

**Memorial Day**

**No School**

**June 8 @ 2:00 pm**

**Pre-Kindergarten**

**Graduation**

**June 6 @9am**

**5th Grade Graduation**

**June 10**

**FUN DAY!**

**June 11 & 12**

**Early Dismissal**

**1 hour 45 min.**

**June 12**

**Last Day for students**

## **Kind Kindergarten     Mrs. Elizabeth Johnson**

Spring is in full swing and summer is not far away! The end of the school year is very close. We are down to our last full month of school. Even though our time is winding down, we continue to work very hard and learn new things. This month in our Reading Street we are reading stories about "Putting It Together". We encourage you to read stories at home with your student about building things. Talk about the different characters of the story as well as what happened in the beginning, middle, and end.

Last month we learned about measurement using various tools. This month we are working on subtracting objects from groups. Encourage your student to practice at home. During our Science time we will be learning about recycling and how magnets work. Social Studies will have us learning about jobs people can do, how we make money, and why we have to make choices about spending our money. Graduation date is set for May 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at Nandua Middle School. More information will be forthcoming. Thank you for all of your support and help throughout the year. Our goal is to send your student to First Grade with the proper tools to be successful!

## **Fabulous First Grade     Ms. Jessie Perkins**

Spring is here and flowers are not the only things blooming brightly! Our first grade students have made many gains since the fall. We are no longer just first graders but almost second graders! Please continue to praise your student as they show you daily the skills they have learned. We will continue to work through our Reading series. Unit 4 is about "What Do We Treasure?". We will be talking about things that are important to us as well as working on skills to be better Reading detectives. Excuse me but do you know what time it is? Don't worry because your first grader does! We are finishing up telling time and moving on to fractions. Watch out parents because your first grader will know if you're not really sharing half of that piece of cake! While our first graders have been working very hard and learning many new skills it is still very important to be practicing these skills at home. We ask that you please continue to read with your student nightly. Encourage them to sound out the words they don't know, use the pictures and other clues to figure it out! We are striving to be more independent!

## **Super Second Grade     Ms. Williams**

May is calling for a potential chance of upcoming third graders. The future forecast predicts that the second grade will have a front of third grade preparation to be prepared for what they will encounter next year. Students will be learning about fractions and measurements as well as reviewing past skills. They will also be learning about China and Egypt in Social Studies and the butterfly life cycle in Science.

Remember to always read, read, read, READ! A student can become a stronger reader by keeping a nose in a book keeps the student's interest. Your student should spend at least 15 minutes reading a good story and tell you what they read. For the AR program, it is encouraged for the students to take and pass a minimum of 2 tests.

## **Terrific Third Grade      Mrs. Elliott**

Third graders presented science projects to their class and many presented in front of guest judges. It was a good experience and we look forward to seeing our scientists make new discoveries in the future using the scientific methods that they demonstrated this year.

Reading is still an important focus in class and for homework. Studies prove over and over that the amount of time a child spends reading is directly correlated to his academic success. Reading is not just another subject. Reading is a life skill and relates to every academic area. Math has become particularly dependent upon reading as students are called upon to solve written problems with multiple steps and extraneous information.

AR tests provide a quick check of reading comprehension and are a fun way to compete for prizes at school. Students are required to take at least two each month but there is no limit to the number of books and tests that can be taken.

## **Fantastic Fourth Grade      Ms. Schutschkow**

Fourth Grade had a fantastic time visiting Jamestown recently. After learning 400 years of history and studying about Jamestown for 7 months, it was wonderful to finally experience the Jamestown Settlement for ourselves. We had a beautiful day and lots of hands-on activities to explore. A big THANK YOU to all of the chaperones that joined us on our trip! We look forward to carrying our knowledge forward and performing well on the Virginia Studies SOL Test in May. We have also been reviewing skills for our upcoming Reading and Math SOL Test. Parents, please help review all three of these subject areas at home with your child in order for them to be successful on the tests. Suggestions for how to do this were sent home with a letter telling you how your student performed on their 3rd quarter benchmark. As always, please encourage your student to try their best in class, come to school prepared, and follow the classroom rules. Thank you for your support!

## **Fabulous Fifth Grade      Mr. George Tucker**

The fifth grade has a very busy month ahead of us. The students are very well-prepared for their upcoming SOL tests and we're going to do great! We will continue to review and stay focused as the weather warms up and the end of the year approaches. We are looking forward to visiting the middle school, the fitness meet, DARE day, and fifth grade graduation. More information will be sent home as each event approaches.

## **Reminders from the Clinic      Michelle Taylor, RN**

- ♦ Pre-K students need new physicals before the new school year starts.
- ♦ 5<sup>th</sup> grade students need to have their Tdap vaccines and bring in documentation to the nurse to update records. This is mandatory for all rising 6<sup>th</sup> grade students.
- ♦ All medication orders need to be updated for the new school year. All medications are to be picked up from the clinic by the last day of the school year.

Also, I hope all of you have a great rest of the school year and a wonderful summer break.

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Elementary School**

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**Whatever it takes, our  
children are worth it!**

**Yours in education,  
Marlo Fontaine**



This month's character trait is honesty.

Classroom guidance lessons will focus on Integrity-Telling the Truth.

May 7, 2015 we will be celebrating Career Day. Letters will be sent home.

The importance of career exploration is vital.

Career exploration helps students identify personal strengths, characteristics, and preferences that may influence their career choices later in life.

SOL testing will take place during the month of May.

Test Taking Tips for Parents:

Encourage your child to do well but don't pressure.

It is important to stay relaxed for the test.

Make sure that your child gets enough sleep on the night before the test.

Let's not forget Memorial Day in remembrance of men and women in the military who died while serving our country.

**Marlo Fontaine**

**Guidance**

**Shining Stars Mrs. Ida Nedab**

Pungoteague Elementary Pre-K and ECSE have been very busy this spring. We learned about Earth Day and how to save our planet by reducing, reusing, and recycling. We will travel to NASA on April 24, 2015 to visit the Space Center. Everyone is excited to see what goes on in space. Time is rapidly passing and graduation will be here before you know it. We are working hard to master the skills taught throughout this school year. Our boys and girls have really grown over the year and are ready for next school year. This is our last article and we wish everyone a fun and safe summer!



**Assistant Principal's Message.....**

**Ms. Belinda Rippon**

Welcome May! It is time to stay focused in the 4th Quarter and finish the year strong. Even though we are beginning to think about warmer weather and summer plans, we need to remind our students we still have high expectations and goals for the remainder of the year. Remember to remind your student of appropriate school behaviors, listening to teachers, completing homework, and studying to prepare for classes. With the school and home working together, our Bobcats will go "Above and Beyond"!