



SPCAS NEWS

February 2018



Sunset Park Center for Accelerated Studies

1036 Ogden Road
Rock Hill, SC 29730
803-981-1260
Fax: 803-981-1269

Principal

Dr. Tammy White
Assist. Principal
Keri Beth Brown

Mission

We will create a child-centered learning environment where ALL children will learn at high levels.

Vision

- At SPCAS the faculty and staff will...
- Purposefully collaborate.
 - Empower students to discover, develop, and accelerate academically, creatively, and socially.
 - Use practices that are research based and responsive to the needs of our students.
 - Collaborate and communicate with all stakeholders to ensure student success.

Upcoming Events

Feb. 3rd- Back the Pack Basketball Game 2pm
Feb. 6th- 1st Grade Math Night 5:30pm
Feb. 6th- Chorus sings at Winthrop 7pm
Feb. 7- School of Choice Tours 9am
Feb. 7th- Papa John's Spirit Night 5-8pm
Feb. 8th- Progress Reports sent home
Feb. 8th- PTO Meeting 6pm
Feb. 15th- 3rd Grade Field Study
Feb. 15th- School of Choice Tour 3:30pm
Feb. 16th- Inclement Weather Make-Up Day
Feb. 19th- Inclement Weather Make-Up Day
Feb. 21st-23rd- 5th Grade Camp Thunderbird
Feb. 21st- Terrific Kid program 9am
Feb. 22nd- School of Choice Tour 6pm
Feb. 26th-March 2nd- Read Across America
Feb. 28th- School of Choice Application window
Feb. 28th- "Seussical Jr." by 2nd grade 9:45am

Inclement Weather Make-Up Days:

Feb. 16th, Feb. 19th, and March 30th



PTO News:

February 7th- Papa John's spirit night at the Main Street location from 5-8 pm.

Message from Our Leader: Dr. White

Hello! I hope that everyone is continuing to have a fantastic 2018. Now that we are all firmly back in our routines after the Winter Break I wanted to share a few reminders that will help keep our students on the path to success:

- 1.) Remain involved in your child's life in and out of school.** Know who your child's friends are and where they are throughout the day. Contact your child's teacher or principal if you are concerned about his/her social interactions. Let your child know what your expectations are with respect to social behavior and study habits.
- 2.) Help your child set realistic academic goals.** Most children need help organizing their time to complete homework assignments or school projects. Without doing the work for them, help them find quiet places to work without disruptions and check in to see that students are staying on task. Often student errors can be corrected if parents check in before the work is completed.
- 3.) Establish good communication with your child's teacher and school office.** Do not be afraid to call or email a teacher to inquiry about assignments, behaviors, or other questions. Not only does an email or call help you become more informed, but it ultimately lets your child know that you care and that you are concerned.
- 4.) Create a network of school-based contacts.** Often parents feel more comfortable approaching other parents about school related issues. Get to know other parents in your child's class. If you have on-going questions about homework, upcoming school events, or class projects, contact other parents. This is often a good place to start.
- 5.) Become involved in school events.** The school has several parent groups that exist to provide support and direction for the school community. The meetings are always open and we encourage new parents to join us. The PTO (Parent-Teacher Organization) meets the first Thursday of every month at 6:00pm. Please contact a PTO member or visit the school office for more information. Strong PTO participation leads to a stronger school community. Our School Improvement Council (SIC) is another great way to engage parents in our school. Feel free to contact me at 803-981-1260 if you would like to become involved in our SIC.

Yours in education,
Tammy T. White, *Ph.D.*
Principal



Message from Mrs. Brown:

Students in 3rd-5th grade will take the South Carolina State Assessments (SCREADY & SCPASS) this spring. The information below will provide important dates and information regarding the assessments. The more parents know, the more you can help teachers prepare students!

Assessment Dates:

SCREADY ELA (2 days): May 8-9, 2018
SCREADY Math: May 15, 2018
SCPASS Science: May 16, 2018 (Only 4th grade students)
SCPASS Social Studies: May 16, 2018 (Only 5th grade students)

Assessment Formats:

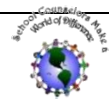
SCREADY ELA (3rd & 4th): Traditional "paper/pencil" method (Students will have a test booklet & answer document.)
SCREADY ELA (5th): Computer based assessment (Students will be asked to leave their school assigned computer (& charger) at school prior to testing.)
SCREADY Math: (3rd- 5th): Computer based assessment for all students.
SCPASS Science (4th) & Social Studies (5th): Computer based assessment for all students.

Please visit the SC Department of Education's website for more information regarding SCREADY & SCPASS. In particular, please review the SCREADY Parent Brochure at <https://ed.sc.gov/tests/tests-files/sc-ready-files/sc-ready-spring-2017-brochure/>

Please feel free to contact me at 803-981-1260 if you have any questions or concerns regarding state assessments!

ART NEWS from Mrs. Gifford:

Big news from the art room! The fifth graders are painting a huge mural at the end of A hall to celebrate the winter Olympics. Be sure to check it out. Also make sure you see the Indian Blanket pictures between D and E halls. The fourth graders did an outstanding job. Look out for Cardinals in the snow coming next month. The second graders are almost finished and excited to show off their amazing art.

**Parents/ Guardians:**

Your child will be participating in an abuse prevention curriculum during classroom guidance over the next few weeks. Some of the topics your child will learn about are: body boundaries, respecting themselves and others, listening to their Guiding Voice and telling a trusted adult when a situation makes them feel confused or uncomfortable. If you have any questions about the curriculum, please feel free to contact me.

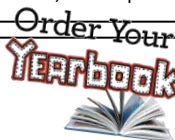
Also, please note that SPCAS will be having a Career Day on Thursday, March 15, 2018. We are inviting parents, community members and professionals from various fields to volunteer their time to speak with students about their career choices. If you are interested, or know someone who may be interested in participating in this event, please contact me to express your interest and learn more about our upcoming event.

Finally, during the month of January we covered the following topics: Goal Setting and Team Building. Please speak with your children about our guidance lessons and allow them to share with you what they've learned. Also, when you notice your child acting as a team player and/ or trying to set goals for themselves; please let them know that you've noticed these actions. Your words and attention will encourage him/her to continue these characteristics in the future.

As always, please know that I am available should you wish to speak with me regarding your child's needs at Sunset Park. Have a Fabulous February!

Media Center News from Mrs. Gray:

SAVE the dates: February 26th – March 2nd is the Annual Read Across America Week celebrating the birthday of the beloved children's author Dr. Seuss (Theodor Seuss Geisel). While celebrating Dr. Seuss' birthday our main focus is on reading. We have planned many exciting activities (i.e. special attire days, performances, and guest readers) to encourage students and their families to read. Dr. Seuss said it best "The more you read, the more you know. The more you know, the smarter you grow. The smarter you grow, the stronger your voice, when speaking your mind or making your choice."

**A Note from Mrs. Hartgrove:**

It's time! Yearbooks are now officially on sale.

You may order two ways.

Order forms were sent home last week. You may pay by cash or check with this method. Simply complete the order form, enclose your payment and return to your child's classroom teacher. Be sure to include the child's name as well as the teacher.

You may also order online at:

Ybpay.lifetouch.com Our ID code is 5972118

All orders should be completed by March 9, 2018.

You will also be able to include a shout out to your child in the yearbook. Information on this will be sent home later. This will be available only through school, not online.

Message from Mrs. Dieguez:

Just a few reminders...

Our drop off/pickup line has not changed due to construction, however, the door in the car loop locks at 7:45am. If your child is tardy, please do not drop them in the car loop. We need for the students to be driven around to the temporary office. You will need to come in and sign them in so we know they have arrived safely. Our January tardy rate has increased greatly, please make every effort to have your child to school on time. Drop off begins at 7 am. First bell at 7:40 and tardy bell at 7:45.

If your child is absent please remember to send an excuse regarding the absence. You may send 5 parent notes during the school year if your child does not go to the doctor for the illness. In the afternoon, if you do not have a car tag, please come directly to the temporary office to have one made for you. You will need to park in visitor parking outside of the office.

Please call me if you have any questions regarding attendance.
Dana Dieguez 803-981-1263

**MUSIC NOTES FROM MR. SIMON:**

The Stars at Sunset Chorus will perform the National Anthem on Tuesday, February 6th at the Winthrop Coliseum for the Women's Basketball game. The choristers will perform just before game time, which is at 7:00PM.

As a part of Read-Across-America week, the 2nd graders will be performing "Seussical Jr.", a mini musical presentation that incorporates some of the works of the infamous Dr. Seuss. Parents are invited to attend this daytime performance on Wednesday, February 28 at 9:45AM in the SPCAS Café.

On the night of Tuesday, March 20th at 6:00PM, in the SPCAS café, the kindergarteners will perform an original mini-musical called "Spring is Here!" Please come join us and help us bring in the spring season!

We are excited about adding a wealth of new instruments to the music classroom in order to expand our studies of various music genres from around the world. We were fortunate to have this grant funded by the RH Teacher Foundation. The students are excited!

Finally, IT'S RECORDER KARATE TIME!! The 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders will begin their units on playing the recorder soon. I ask that each student bring \$5 for the purchase of their own personal recorder. Please send the money with your child by Friday, February 16th. We will accept cash or check (check should be made out to Sunset Park CAS). If your child purchased a recorder previously and still has it, they do not need to purchase another one, but bring it to class.

Thanks your support of music and the arts at SPCAS!

Physical Education Update from Ms. Bundy:**Fourth Grade Swimming Make-Up Dates:**

Make-up dates for SPCAS for the fourth grade students' swimming program @the Rock Hill Aquatic Center have been scheduled for the following dates: March 12, 13,14. You will receive a reminder about the swim lessons closer to these swim dates.

Save the Date for Field Day!

Our SPCAS field day is a day filled with fun and fellowship to celebrate our school year. In order for our field day to be successful we need many volunteers. Please save the date Friday, May 18, 2018 so that you may join us for our field day.

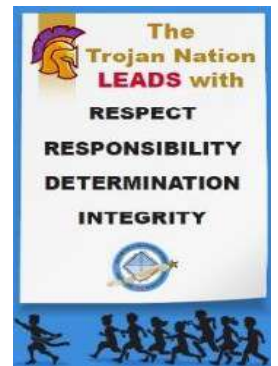
News from Mrs. Blackwell:

Congratulations to the following students that were selected as student leaders for the month of February. These students were chosen for exhibiting characteristics of Integrity!

Omarion Stewart
Jacob Tedder
Landon Hyman
Jestine Foster
Jaelyn Foster
Benjamin Notarangelo
Essence Morrison
Da'Jorin McGriff Agurs
Sydnie Rae Meredith
Andrew Fincher
Skyla Jones
Jaelyn Shehan
Chloe Hudson
Wesley Hane

Grayden Hovis
Zyrielle Hardy
Ja'Nyia Cunningham
Sophia Hargett
Hannah Andrychowski
Cooper Sweet
Anna Erwin
Tyler Reid
Marley Wilcox
Malachi McCray
Hope Gaston
Ailema Land
Maddox Moss
Mackenzie Thomas
Wyatt Guss

Cayden Cathcart
Carson Moore
Kensley Martin
Corey White
Caiya Mercer
Avery Robinson
TJ Scott Agdaca
Sophia Gonzalez
Glen Lea
Savanna Wade
Joe Chisolm
Chloe Styles
Mackenzie Leonard
Gracie Walborn
Tedy Rios Cruz



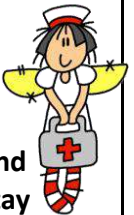
News From the Nurse:

WHEN TO KEEP CHILDREN HOME FROM SCHOOL

Deciding when to keep a sick child at home from school is not always easy. It's important for children to attend school and for some parents staying home means missing work. But when a child is truly sick, they need to stay home in the care of an adult to get well and to prevent spreading illness to others.

Please keep the school office up to date with current phone numbers so you or an alternate contact can be reached if your child becomes ill or injured at school.

The following information may help you decide when to keep your child at home. This information does not take the place of consulting a medical provider.



DIFFERENCES BETWEEN COMMON COLDS and THE FLU

COMMON COLD

The common cold is a contagious upper respiratory infection caused by cold viruses. It is the most frequent childhood illness. Symptoms can last 7 to 14 days. A child with no fever, mild symptoms and otherwise feeling well may be fine at school.

WHEN TO KEEP A CHILD HOME FROM SCHOOL:

A child with heavy cold symptoms such as deep or uncontrollable coughing or significant lack of energy belongs at home even without a fever. **They should not come to school if they have fever!**

FLU (INFLUENZA)

The flu is a **highly contagious** respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses and can cause mild to severe illness. Children are one of the biggest sources for spreading the flu

WHEN TO KEEP A CHILD HOME FROM SCHOOL:

A child with flu-like illness (fever and cough) must stay home from school for at least 24 hours after they no longer have a fever or signs of a fever, WITHOUT the use of fever-reducing medicine. A fever is defined as a temperature of 100°F or higher. If symptoms occur while at school, the student must be picked up as soon as possible to go home.

Symptoms Usually come on gradually

Fever Rare in adults and older children, but can be as high as 102°F in infants and small children

Cough Mild, hacking cough

Headache Rare

Muscle aches Mild

Tiredness/weakness Mild

Extreme exhaustion Never

Vomiting/diarrhea Never

Runny Nose Often

Sneezing Often

Sore throat Often

Symptoms Usually come on quickly

Fever Typically as high as 102°F, but can rise to 104°F and usually lasts 3 to 4 days

Cough Often, can be severe

Headache Sudden onset, can be severe

Muscle aches Usual, can be severe

Tiredness/weakness Can last 2 or more weeks

Extreme exhaustion Sudden onset, can be severe

Vomiting/diarrhea Sometimes

Runny Nose Sometimes

Sneezing Sometimes

Sore throat Sometimes

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Thank you Back the Pack program volunteers:



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Eta Alpha Omega Chapter



Back the Pack is a Rock Hill School District program, supported through the Rock Hill Schools Education Foundation. Back the Pack provides food on weekends to identified students. Just \$3 will provide one student food for a weekend. For more information visit rhsdfoundation.org

7th Annual **Back the Pack** **Winthrop Basketball** with **February 3, 2018**

On February 3rd Winthrop Basketball will partner with elementary schools in the Rock Hill School District to support Back the Pack and schools in our community.

Winthrop vs. Radford 2 p.m.

Winthrop Coliseum 1162 Eden Terrace Rock Hill, SC 29731

YOU can help your school WIN

The school with the most supporters at the Winthrop Basketball game on February 3rd will win **\$1000** from our generous sponsors - 2nd and 3rd place schools will win **\$500** each.

Ticket stubs from all schools will be collected to determine winners.
Counting ends at the 10 minute mark of the game.

Additionally, one lucky school will win
\$1000
at the halftime random drawing.



2 ways to attend and help kids...

1 Donate individually packaged **snack crackers** or **juice boxes** and receive general admission.

2 Donate **\$3 per person** to Back the Pack and receive general admission.

or

Can't make it? Donate any amount via text message
Text the word **BACKPACK**
to **444999**

