

WALHALLA ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER

<https://sites.google.com/a/g.oconee.k12.sc.us/walhalla-elementary/home>

The mission of Walhalla Elementary School, in cooperation with home and community, is to develop confident, responsible, productive lifelong learners, by providing a total educational experience in a positive environment.

January 2021

Principal's Points

Christi Hartsock

Happy New Year! I hope everyone enjoyed the Christmas break.

The next few months will continue to be very busy. Please continue to encourage your child to do his/her best at school. Your partnership with our school is crucial in the success of our students. I also encourage you to communicate regularly with your child's teacher(s) to ensure that good academic progress is being made. All students should be reading or being read to each night.

Please send students with long sleeve shirts, hoodies/sweatshirts, or jackets on these cold days for recess. If your child is missing a jacket or clothing item, check our lost and found. Please remember to put names or initials on clothing items.

Continue to check the Class Dojo for exciting things happening in your child's classroom! All staff members are connected and enjoy sharing pictures and videos with our families!

Remember that we are all taking safety measure to keep our students and faculty healthy. You must administer daily home wellness checks, and your child must arrive at school with a mask. Thank you once again for your continued support. As always, please feel free to contact me if you have questions or concerns. I look forward to a wonderful second half of the school year!

Just a friendly reminder

If a student owes fees (lunchroom, library, lost textbooks, lost computer / damages, etc.) to the School District of Oconee County, they may be ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities such as proms, dances, athletics, field trips, field day, etc.. If fees are owed and money is sent in for an extracurricular activity, that money may be applied to paying off the fees that the student owes.

Calendar of Events

January 2021

11 **Teacher Inservice-No Students Attend School**

18 **MLK Holiday-NO SCHOOL**



Curriculum for Students Emily Roberts

I hope that all of you have had a wonderful holiday season with your friends and family and are ready to be back to start the second half of our school year! It will continue to be busy and exciting!

Winter MAP Testing

Winter MAP testing was completed in December. Your child's teacher will be sending home reports and scheduling conferences to discuss your child's scores. Feel free to contact me if you'd like to discuss these in more detail.

GT Results

Gifted and Talented testing results will be sent home this month. If your child qualified for additional testing, it will take place at the end of February/beginning of March. Please contact me if you have any questions!

LOOKING AHEAD

1st-5th grade will finish up their Math and Reading mid-year benchmark this month. We will be Spring MAP testing and SC Ready testing (grades 3-5) all through the months of April and May. Please plan accordingly with attendance!

Star Students
December 2020

A.B. Phillips – Charlotte Roberts, Lyrix Walker; **Rochester** – Levi Cobb; **Bibb** – Hunter Cothran, Dahlia Martinez, Zeke Rochester; **Hollifield** – Mason Frasier, Edie McCall, Kahnan Webb; **Morgan** – Bryce Eller, Dakota Hester; **S. Phillips** – Abby Rogers, Isaac Suarez; **Land** – Waylon Brown, Cassidy Robinson; **Lusk** – Jase Hancox, Lilli Hyder; **Saxon** – Camila Ramirez, Charlotte Tennant; **Underwood** – Martha Kelley, Nora Miller; **Ward** – Andrea Mata, Jonah Wilson; **Chappell** – Ian Cromer, Natalya Cuevas; **Lusk** – Kayleigh Hendrix, Cole Suttles; **McCall** – Jennifer Hilario, Brantley Smith; **McGuffin** – Cylee Cliburn, Gracie Sanford; **Noe** – Emrie Sanders, Braxton Williams; **Beesley** – Rivers Miller, Peyton Williams; **Davis** – Jakob DuBose, Brilee Eller; **Foster** – Briana Barrett, Avett-Davis Jones; **Laye** – Chloe Collins, Colton Fuller; **Anderson** – Karla Celiz, Blake Medlin; **Barnett** – Emily Gilliland, Westin Watson; **Campbell** – Trey Fransisco, Abbi Hendrix; **T. Phillips** – Brenley Duncan, Cole Ward; **Abbott** – Daniel Hilario; **O'Connor** – Iris Bunch; **Shepherd** – Jesus Heller, Shaela McAlister; **Westbrook** – Cade McCall; **Melton** – Jayden Cantrell; **Walden** – Noah Humphrey

**IMPORTANT ATTENDANCE
INFORMATION**

Regular daily attendance is imperative for students to excel in the classroom. It is critical for your student to be in class whenever possible, but we understand occasional absences are sometimes necessary. In order for accurate records to be maintained, excuses for absences must be submitted to the school in writing. According to school board policy, lawful absences shall be granted for the following reasons, **but must be verified in writing within three (3) days after the student returns to school:**

1. Illness
2. Appointments with doctor or dentist
3. Death in the family
4. Required court appearance
5. Recognized national religious holiday

A total of only five parent notes will be accepted for the 2020-2021 school year. After the fifth parent note, the school's administration reserves the right to ask the parent for a doctor's statement for their student's absence. The school will send a letter to the parent stating that no more parent notes will be accepted.

As a reminder, federal chronic absenteeism law requires that a student be at school for at least 50% of the school day in order to be counted as present for the school day. **If your student is not at school for at least 50% of the school day, they will be counted absent for the school day.**

Math Moments

Math is all around us! Math isn't just for the classroom. Take time this month to talk to your child about math as it happens in your family time.

For early elementary students: Simple tasks such as baking cookies use measurements. Ask your child to help you measure out the ingredients. Also think about measurements when you ask your child to help you at the store, "Grab a **gallon** of milk" or "Can you get **three** potatoes?" It's the little things that help your child to grow in their math skills.

For upper elementary students: Cooking is a great way to reinforce those measurement skills. Invite them to help you make dinner one night. Older children are great at measuring out rice, reading ounces on a can, or simply cutting brownies into **equal** pieces (this is a fraction concept). Telling time is a concept that we overlook sometimes. Ask your child to tell you the time. If you are planning to leave at a certain time (say 4pm) and it is currently 12 noon, ask your child to figure out how long it is until you leave. **Elapsed time** is a hard concept, but when it is used in common activities it becomes more meaningful.

For everyone: Practice those fast facts. Whether they are addition or subtraction, multiplication or division, take time every day to simply review. Five minutes in a car on the way to school is the perfect amount of time.

Remember.... Practice doesn't make perfect...
practice makes it permanent!

Literacy Coach's Corner

By Linda Smith

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a joyful holiday season with the ones you love! The winter months are a great time to curl up with a good book. I encourage you to read to and with your child, as well as listen to him/her read aloud to you. Research shows that the most important skills students need to develop are thinking, talking, and writing about what they have read. It is important that they can analyze the information and explain what they think about that information. Here is a link to a Scholastic parent page that will help you prepare to talk with your children about what they have read or heard. Notice that there are points to discuss before, during and after reading.

<https://www.scholastic.com/parents/books-and-reading/raise-a-reader-blog/story-time-questions.html>

Stay warm and Happy Reading!!



SchoolPay

The School District of Oconee County has partnered with SchoolPay to assist families in paying for school-related fees with a debit or credit card. SchoolPay allows parents to pay for school lunches, yearbooks, field trips, and any other related cost that may occur throughout the school year.

SchoolPay is also accessible through your child's Powerschool account.

To create an account with SchoolPay, go to: www.schoolpay.com. You will need your child's student identification number and the name of the school he/she attends in order to register.

Coke Rewards Program

Thank you for continuing to send in your Coke brand products caps and box ends with rewards codes! We are earning money for our school just by entering those codes. We will continue to accept codes that you send in, but I also wanted to let you know that you can enter them to donate to our school from your own computers as well. If you are interested in helping in this way, please go to <https://us.coca-cola.com/give/schools/>. Create an account and then search for Walhalla Elementary. You enter the code and money is donated to our account! It's that simple!



When should sick children stay home from school?

If your child feels too sick to go to school or childcare, please keep him or her home. The DHEC School and Childcare Exclusion List has been updated this year to include COVID-19. Students or staff must stay home from school when they have new or worsening cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, or new loss of taste or smell, with or without fever, or if they test positive for COVID-19 even if they do not have symptoms. Children with a positive COVID-19 test or monitoring symptoms at home should stay home until they have had no fever for 24 hours without use of fever-reducing medication AND have had improvement of symptoms AND at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared. If the child tested positive but never developed symptoms, they must stay home until 10 days have passed since they were tested. Siblings, household members and close contacts should also stay home for the recommended length of quarantine

Don't forget to shop for points at Ingles!

If you shop at Ingles, please make sure our school is listed on your Ingles Advantage Card. Please go to the Ingles website, www.ingles-markets.com/advantage_card, to register your card. This has to be renewed each school year!

Orders are now being taken for the 2020-2021 Yearbook. The cost of each yearbook is \$18.00. If you are interested in purchasing a yearbook for your child, then complete the form below and send it in to your child's teacher. **MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: WALHALLA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.**

To order online, visit www.inter-state.com/yearbook and enter the code: 52726J

**DEADLINE IS
January 22, 2021**



EARN CASH FOR WALHALLA ELEMENTARY

NO MORE CLIPPINGS JUST SCAN YOUR RECEIPT!

THE **NEW** AND **IMPROVED** Box Tops MOBILE APP USES STATE-OF-THE-ART TECHNOLOGY TO SCAN YOUR STORE RECEIPT, FIND PARTICIPATING PRODUCTS AND INSTANTLY ADD BOX TOPS TO OUR SCHOOL'S EARNINGS ONLINE.

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THE APP TO YOUR SMARTPHONE
& SELECT WALHALLA ELEMENTARY DURING SETUP

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HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

BUY
BOX TOPS PRODUCTS
You can find Box Tops on hundreds of products throughout the store.

SCAN
YOUR RECEIPT
Use the app to snap a photo of your receipt within 14 days of purchase.

EARN
CASH FOR OUR SCHOOL
Box Tops earnings are identified and automatically updated at BTFE.com.

SEE THIS... SCAN IT **NO MORE CLIPPING** **SEE THIS... CLIP IT**

You can still send clippings to school. Physical Box Top clips are being phased out of production, but may continue to be found on many products throughout the store. Send your clipped Box Tops, along with any unexpired clips you may have at home, to school.

Student's Name _____

Teacher's name: _____

Grade: _____

Number of Books: _____

Total: _____

Cash or Check# _____

The cost for each yearbook is \$18.00. Please make checks payable to Walhalla Elementary School.