Bulldog Blast

Weekly Newsletter



Welcome Bulldogs!

Mission:
We inspire students to love learning and empower them to become valuable community members.

Vision:
Everyone thriving on a personal journey to success

Upcoming Events

Conferences - November 13th (2 Hour Early Dismissal)
Thanksgiving Break - November 24th - 28th

TRANSPORTATION

Reminder

If you need to make a change to your child's transportation for the day, please contact the elementary office before 2:00 p.m. This ensures we have time to notify the appropriate staff and that all students arrive safely at their correct destinations.

Please remember that contacting your child's teacher is not sufficient, and students should not be responsible for relaying transportation changes themselves. Teachers will only dismiss students based on the information provided by the office.

Thank you for helping us keep our students safe and our dismissal process running smoothly!

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Week of November 3rd

Strong attendance is key to student success, and we're tracking our progress toward our school-wide goal of **96% average daily attendance**. Every day matters—and every minute counts! Thank you for helping your child arrive on time and ready to learn each day.

Here's where each grade level stands so far:

- Kindergarten - 88.7%
- 1st Grade - 92.4%
- 2nd Grade - 93%
- 3rd Grade - 91.7%
- 4th Grade - 92.5%
- 5th Grade - 94.3%

Our students really showed their Bulldog pride on Halloween with an outstanding **98.1% attendance rate — the most well-attended of the *entire* school year.** We love seeing so many smiling faces ready to learn and celebrate together.

While our daily average was exceptional that day, our overall attendance rate is currently *only* **92.1%**. Let's keep working together to make every day count. Consistent attendance helps students build strong learning habits, stay connected with friends, and make the most of each school day. Thank you for your continued support in helping our students show up and shine!

Car Riders - please remember to display your student name plate in your dashboard! Name plates on display will allow the process to run quick and efficient!

We had special visitors this week! Our 2nd graders attended an assembly sponsored by the PTO from the Dayton Preforming Arts. They listened to beautiful sounds of the woodwinds. Our 3rd graders had a special visit from the WHIO weatherman! They were able to learn cool facts about the weather and the ins and outs of being a weatherman!

Thank you to the families that attended our first conference night this past Thursday! We look forward to seeing the rest of our families next **Thursday, November 13th**.

LITERACY RESOURCES for Families

Skill	Definition & Explanation	Activities	Links to More Family Resources
Explicit instruction in **Fluency**	An important reading skill for children is to read like they speak in everyday conversations.	Things to try at home: Ask your child to read something out loud to you Read books more than once together Ask your child to read something at the same time as you (choral reading)	5 Fluency- building Activities for families from Reading Rockets for all ages
Explicit instruction in **Vocabulary**	Part of learning to read is knowing all the words to say what you want to say.	Things to try at home: "Kids need to hear new words many times to learn them well. We work on learning new words in school, and at home you help with this skill by having conversations with your child every day. Kids learn more words from conversations at mealtimes than they do from reading with you! For example, you can ask your child about what they enjoyed most about their school day, and what they enjoyed least. You can tell them about when you were in school, or talk about your favorite place to visit. We can't wait to learn more about your family and the conversations you're having as the school year goes on."	9 tips for families to build vocabulary from Iowa Reading Research Center, All ages Supporting Young English Learners at Home - 9 family activities from Institute of Educational Sciences Book Flix: Online Books to Develop Vocabulary Skills

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Explicit instruction in **Phonological Awareness**	Part of learning to read involves knowing the names of letters and the sounds they make. For example, "This is the letter A. It makes lots of different sounds, like ay and ah."	Things to try at home: • Make letter shapes in ketchup and talk about the different sounds they make. "We work on this skill at school. You can help your child with letter names and sounds every day as well! **Add pictures of letters around the house** (on the refrigerator, in their room, on a placemat at the kitchen table) and talk about the letters and sounds they make. Tell them they are doing a great job when they say the correct letter and sound. If you have questions about what to try at home, let us know."	Help families have fun learning letters 1st Grade Family Guide for Phonological and Phonemic Awareness from Reading Rockets Books such as Doodling Dragons
Explicit instruction in **Comprehension**	It's really important, when kids are learning to read, for them to understand how words work together to tell a story or explain something.	Things to try at home: Gently correct your child if they read a word incorrectly in a way that changes the meaning of a sentence. Encourage them to slow down and sound out the word. When you misread a word, show your child how you go back and read it again so that the sentence makes sense. Everyone makes mistakes!	Video with Older Brother Helping with Kindergarten Reading Comprehension Video of Mother Encouraging Kindergarten Child's Comprehension 3rd grade: Character Consideration Activity video (and accompanying worksheet: Comprehension Worksheets for families)

Skill	Definition & Explanation	Activities	Links to More Family Resources
Explicit Instruction in **Phonemic Awareness**	Young children don't hear the sounds within words. They hear "dog" but not "duh"-"aw"-"guh". To become readers, they have to learn to hear these sounds.	Things to try at home: Practice the sounds in the alphabet. Use a mirror to look and talk about the way your mouth, tongue, and face look when you make certain sounds.	YouTube Video with Fun Family Games to Learn Sounds 1st Grade Reading Rockets Family Guide

Activities and Videos Supporting All Areas of Early Literacy	• PreK-1st, Daily Literacy Calendar of Ideas for Families • Dolly Parton Imagination Library: Free Books Delivered Home, PK-5 yrs • Florida Center of Reading Research Family Videos (Brown Bag Phonics, Rime House/PA, Front or Back/Phonics, and Contraction BingoVocabulary) • Family Mealtime Conversation Starters • Audiobooks to Enjoy as a Family from Noodle • Worksheets and other activities, K-1st grade

