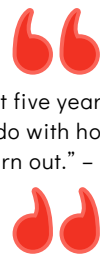


October 2025

Alexander Elementary



"The first five years have so much to do with how the next eighty turn out." – Bill Gates

It is hard to believe we are already a month into the school year! The first weeks have been full of energy, learning, and growth as students and staff settle into routines and build new connections. I am so proud of the way our students have adjusted, shown kindness to one another, and demonstrated curiosity in the classroom.

During this first month, our focus has been on building strong classroom communities and setting high expectations for learning. Teachers have worked hard to establish routines that help students feel safe, supported, and ready to learn. We've also emphasized our school-wide expectations of respect, empathy, and determination, which will guide us throughout the year.

Looking ahead, we are excited about the opportunities the fall months will bring. From upcoming special events like the Halloween parade and community activities, we hope you will join us in celebrating and supporting our students. Your partnership makes a tremendous difference, and we are grateful for the encouragement and support you provide at home.

Thank you for sharing your children with us each day. It is a privilege to watch them learn and grow. If you ever have questions or concerns, please know that my door is always open.

Mrs. Megan Karr
Principal

MEET OUR READING INTERVENTION TEAM



Mrs. Kostival
Literacy Specialist

Fallon Murray
Reading Fellow



Megan Marvich
Reading Fellow

Sydney Smith
Reading Fellow



Ally Ward
Reading Fellow

OCTOBER

- 10/1 - PTO Meeting (3:15)
- 10/8 - Parent Teacher Conferences
- 10/10 - No School
- 10/16 - Parent Teacher Conferences
- 10/17 - End of 1st Quarter, Early Dismissal
- 10/20-10/24 - 3rd Grade Fall State Test
- 10/31 - Halloween Parade



Kindergarten Little Red Hen Making Pizza!



5th Grade Field Trip to the Wahkeena Nature Preserve

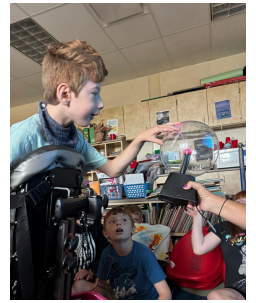
UPCOMING 3RD GRADE STATE TESTING

This fall, all third-grade students will take Ohio's English Language Arts assessment as part of the Third Grade Reading Guarantee (TGRG). This program is designed to ensure that every child is reading at grade level by the end of third grade, which is a key milestone for future academic success.

We will administer our third grade fall English Language Arts state test the week of October 20th. The assessment has two parts that will be administered over two separate days. All third grade students will be required to take the assessment. All other state assessments are administered only once in the spring.

The results from this assessment help teachers identify students who may need extra support in reading. If a student does not meet the required reading benchmarks, our school will provide targeted interventions, such as small group instruction or specialized reading programs, to help them catch up. Students will have multiple opportunities throughout the year to show growth and meet grade-level expectations.

We encourage families to support reading at home by reading together, discussing stories, and fostering a love of books. Partnering with families is essential to helping every student become a confident, successful reader.



HALLOWEEN PARADE



This year, we will continue our tradition of celebrating Halloween with an outdoor parade! For safety reasons, families will not be permitted to attend classroom parties, but we are excited to share this fun event with our students and community.

The Halloween Parade will take place on Friday, October 31, beginning at 12:15 PM, with classroom parties immediately following.

Families and spectators are welcome to watch around the front parking lot or along Ayers Road in front of the school.

Costume Reminder: Please make sure students wear school-appropriate costumes—no weapons, violence, hairspray, or face paint should be sent to school.

We look forward to a safe and festive celebration with our students!

TRANSPORTATION CHANGES

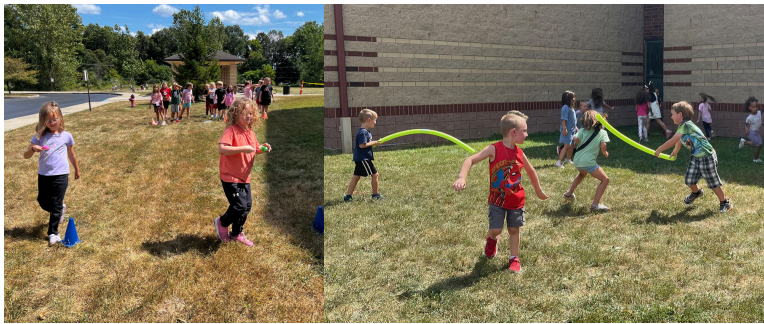
If your child's transportation will be different from their normal routine—either for one day or on a permanent basis—please send a note or call the office. This helps us ensure your child's safety.

READ OHIO LITERACY COACH

The Ohio Department of Education & Workforce is working to increase student achievement in language and literacy by implementing a coaching model across the entire state. Our district was one of the fortunate 125 districts in Ohio awarded a literacy coach for this school year and next school year. This was part of Governor DeWine's biennial budget bill allowing districts to have this resource without any additional local expenses. We are very excited to have Ellie Lee with us to support our teachers and students for the next two years. Mrs. Lee comes to us with an extensive background in teaching and literacy. She will be supporting our classroom teachers with curriculum implementation, planning and supporting instruction, modeling, data analysis, and professional development.



Mrs. Ellie Lee



KIDS HEART CHALLENGE!



Our elementary P.E. teachers are excited to celebrate the 10th year of participating in the annual Kids Heart Challenge with the American Heart Association! The kickoff will take place on October 17, 2025, and families can expect paperwork to come home soon. We encourage all students to join in this fun and meaningful event. The schoolwide jumping event is scheduled for November 25, 2025.



LEARNING SPOTLIGHT!

Our first graders completed their unit on fables by celebrating with the Fable Olympics! Students participated in activities inspired by the plots of the fables they had read, bringing the stories to life in creative and engaging ways. It was a fun and memorable way to wrap up the unit while celebrating the many lessons they learned along the way.





BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH POSITIVE BEHAVIORS



This year, we're recognizing positive behavior in two ways:

- **Puff Balls:** Students earn puff balls for everyday positive choices (helping others, working hard, following routines). When a class fills its jar, they celebrate with a small reward. Filled jars also contribute to a grade-level tube, which can earn the entire grade a special quarterly reward. This system helps students see how their individual choices contribute to the success of their class and grade level while promoting teamwork, responsibility, and community.
- **Live R.E.D. Nominations:** These honor students who go above and beyond in modeling positive behaviors. Nominated students receive weekly recognition, with opportunities for end-of-year awards.



LOOKING AHEAD

November

- 11 -No School
- 12 -Veteran's Day Assembly
- 26 -No School

CELEBRATING ODELIA WANG NATIONAL MATH STAR HONOREE

We are proud to share that Odelia Wang has been recognized as a National Math Star by the National Math Stars organization. This honor is awarded to students who demonstrate exceptional talent, creativity, and perseverance in mathematics.

Being named a National Math Star places Odelia among a select group of students from across the country who are recognized for their outstanding potential in STEM fields. This recognition highlights the dedication she has put into her studies and the encouragement she has received from her family and teachers.

Please join us in congratulating Odelia on this impressive accomplishment! We are excited to see the opportunities this recognition will open for her as she continues to grow as a mathematician and leader.

SUPER SPARTAN AND SERVICE LEARNING PROJECTS

Alexander Elementary students in grades K-5 are encouraged to complete two service learning projects during the school year. Any student who receives nominations for EACH of the three words (Respect, Empathy, and Determination) AND completes two service learning projects will earn a Super Spartan Award at our end-of-year assembly.

Projects should be community-oriented. Examples include:

- Raking leaves for a neighbor without pay
- Visiting a nursing home or hospital
- Volunteering at an animal shelter
- Cleaning up trash around a park

Once a project is completed, students should fill out a one-page form describing their project. Forms can be requested through your child's classroom teacher.

We look forward to celebrating our students' efforts to make a positive impact in their community!