

Monthly Newsletter

DECEMBER 1, 2021

FINS UP WITH MRS. FINNEGAN

Dear Beachland Families,

What a wonderful month November was being able to welcome back families on campus. Our kick-off for the Read-A-Thon was a great turnout. Thank you to Vero Beach Disney for sending over their Superheroes to welcome families and encourage our students to read. A huge thank you to our sponsors and all the families and friends who have donated. We raised **\$32,410 and read 201,358 minutes!** Also, I want to thank our WONDERFUL PTA and all the parents who took time to organize and facilitate the Read-A-Thon. Every student will have a chance to vend a book from the vending machine! Our FIN-tastic sharks LOVE to read.



We only have three weeks left before we leave for winter break and end quarter 2. Can you believe our school year is almost half way complete? While maintaining a safe environment, we will continue to maintain a strong academic focus with standards-based instruction and time on task. Please ensure your child attends school daily when he or she feels well and is healthy. Our school goal is 95% for attendance. For the month of November 11/1-11/30 our school average daily attendance rate was **93.62%** and **none of our grade levels met with 95%** goal. I hope we can meet our goal in every grade for December.

Kindergarten through fifth grade students are taking their iReady winter diagnostic. Please talk to your child about the importance of taking time, reviewing selected answer choices, and trying his/her best! Also, third-fifth grade are completing unit assessments in ELA and math. Their scores support interventions and enrichment opportunities for the coming weeks. Please encourage your child to try their best.

Coach Fielder has been offering "HOMEWORK HELP" every Wednesday morning from 8:15-8:45 in the cafeteria. Students can enjoy breakfast and get assistance from Coach Fielder!

We will be opening the computer lab every morning from 8:15-8:45 with Mrs. Whelan. Third, fourth, and fifth grade students will receive a special invitation later this week about this opportunity. The computer lab time will first serve students who are having trouble completing minutes during the week on iReady, need extra support on Lexia, or Reflex.

Some of our fifth grade Safety Patrols have been selected to have a STUDY BUDDY. Study buddies will be working with our kindergarten and first grade students every morning on math

facts, sight words, and letter names and sounds.

Parents of fourth grade students, next month information will be sent out to fourth grade students about becoming a "Safety Patrol in Training" during second semester. We will start by having our interested fourth graders support second graders in the morning between 8:15-8:45.

As we begin the month of December, I hope you keep this quote in mind, "The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched - they must be felt with the heart."
-Helen Keller

Thank you for allowing us to be part of your child's educational journey!

Rachel Finnegan



CASUAL FOR A CAUSE – SALVATION ARMY

During the month of December we will be collecting monetary donations for the Salvation Army. For two weeks, we will have teachers and staff dressing up to ring the bell and pass out little treats to those who donate. Last year our school community raised the most money and

we have been displaying our trophy for the year. We hope to continue to be one of the top contributors for those less fortunate during the holiday season.

On Monday, December 6th students, teachers and staff can wear red and white for a suggested monetary donation of \$1 for Casual for a Cause for the Salvation Army.



The Salvation Army provides many services to our community, some of which are: emergency assistance, homeless services, food distribution centers, transitional housing, domestic violence shelters, and Christmas cheer programs. They minister to the whole person – body, mind and spirit – the hallmark of the services offered by The Salvation Army.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

December 4th - Annual Christmas Parade on Ocean Drive at 6:00PM

December 6th - Red and White Day (suggested \$1 donation for the Salvation Army)

December 9th - Science Fair Awards Night, ***more information forthcoming***

December 10th - PBIS Popcorn and Extra Recess Event

December 10th - School Advisory Council Meeting, Media Center 8:00AM

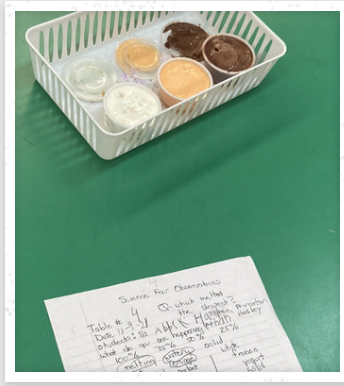
December 13th - Holiday Attire (10 surf)

December 14th - Student of the Month Celebration at 2:30PM

December 17th - End of Quarter 2, Last Day of School before Winter Break

January 5th - Students Return from Winter Break

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



SCIENCE IN FIRST GRADE

Mrs. Wynn's students discovered which frozen treat melted the slowest.. chocolate ice cream, orange sorbet, or vanilla frozen yogurt.



ELA IN FOURTH GRADE

Mrs. Riley's fourth graders created thinking maps with text evidence to generate paragraphs about different aspects of the Islamic Civilization.



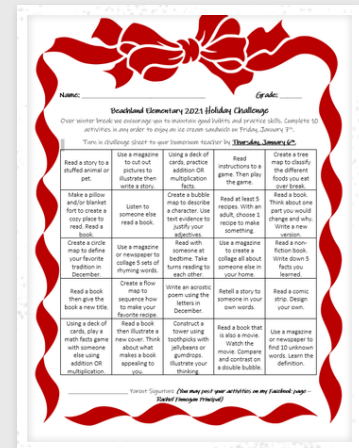
SCIENCE IN THIRD GRADE

Mrs. Jeffries' science classes discovered which types of liquids will reflect (bounce), refract (bend), or absorb light.

PRINCIPAL'S HOLIDAY CHALLENGE

Download the PDF file below to complete the Holiday Challenge and submit to your homeroom teacher by Thursday, January 6th. All students who complete the Principal's Holiday Challenge will join Mrs. Finnegan and Mrs. Banack for ice cream sandwiches on January 7th.

*Mrs. Finnegan will be sharing her selected 10 activities on Facebook and Twitter.



Winter Break Challenge December 2021.pdf

[Download](#)
144.4 KB



MS. MITCHELL'S MONTHLY IDEA

Ms. Mitchell, our School Counselor, shares a great way to engage the entire family in communication.

Of all language-arts skills (speaking, reading, listening, and writing), we develop listening and speaking first. As your child develops as a speaker and listener, he or she becomes a better reader and writer as well. To develop your child's speaking skills, hold a "Family News Hour."

How You Can Support a Family News Hour

1. Once a week, each family member describes a recent experience, demonstrates a new skill, talks about a new hobby, discusses a book, or shares any other information. Have adults and older children speak first to model for younger children.
2. Add some extra excitement by providing younger children with props or music. Have younger children stand behind a cutout box to create a pretend television. Invite your child to use a microphone to pretend to be a news reporter.
3. Vary Family News Hour by having a family member be an "anchor person" and introduce or interview guest speakers.
4. If your child wishes, help him or her write a presentation to read or share a thinking map about their topic.

(Creative Teaching Press, 97)



BEACHLAND ELEMENTARY

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