

# Mustang Minutes



Concord Elementary School

Here are important dates for the month May 2023:

MCAP Testing ends May 12, 2023

Monday May 29, 2023 Memorial Day Holiday

This spring, all students in the state of Maryland enrolled in grades three through eight as well as students taking English 10, English 11, Algebra 1, Algebra 2 and Geometry will participate in Maryland's Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP) English Language Arts and Mathematics tests. Federal guidelines require Maryland to test in both English/Language Arts and Mathematics each year in grades 3-8 and by selected high school content courses. The Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program (MCAP) test will help measure students' mastery of English Language Arts, Literacy, and Mathematics.

Our testing window at Concord Elementary School begins on Tuesday, April 26th and ends on Friday, May 20th. Students needing to participate in make-up testing may test through Friday, May 27th. During this testing window, your student will participate in both ELA and Math testing using a computer device to access the test. Different grade levels will participate in the tests over the course of the testing window, according to our school's testing schedule.

Our attendance percentage for the month of April was 91.06%. Parents, we need your support ensuring that your child reports to school daily and arrives on time! In addition, please refrain from taking your child out of school for early dismissal.

On Wednesday, May 17, 2022, Concord Elementary School will be hosting our Parent and Family Preventing Summer Slide/Transition Night from 5:00 – 7:30 PM. This will be an in-person event and we look forward to your presence. This will also be our last parent and family engagement activity for this school year.

Please continue to have your child complete his/her homework every night; this includes Reading and Math logs as well. Our school newsletter will be available monthly on our school's website along with all information. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at (301) 817-0488 and/or at [Dana.Doggett@pgcps.org](mailto:Dana.Doggett@pgcps.org) and [Tracie.Connelly@pgcps.org](mailto:Tracie.Connelly@pgcps.org).



# Primary News

## Pre-K

The month of May, the children will have to look back over the year and recognize how much they have grown, changed, learned and developed. They will revisit some of their favorite books, games, and activities and look forward to what comes next- kindergarten!

**Reading** – Read and Write CVC and Basic Sight Words, Build on Concepts of Letters and Sounds; Medial and Ending Sounds, Recognition of Rhyming Words, Initial Sound of Letters (focus letters) and Concepts of Print and Parts of the Book, Letter Formation and Creating the Letters of the Alphabet Using Different Materials; Sequencing of Events in a Story/Book

**Math** – Comparing Groups using More/Greater Than, Few/Less Than and Equal To/The Same, Solving Simple Addition and Subtraction, Counting Forward and Backward, Subitizing, Counting Using the One-to-One Correspondence, Identifying Patterns, Duplicating and Extending Patterns and Grouping/Sorting Different Manipulatives, Pictures or Real Objects at Home, 2-D and 3-D Shapes Around US

## Second grade

In class, we are **reading** the "Blend it" books in the curriculum to practice reading blends and words in small group instruction and in centers. We will continue to work on blending, decoding, and working with prefixes/suffixes and inflectional endings. In **Math**, we will continue to add and subtract within 100 with regrouping. We will learn different vocabulary to help us solve word problems and equations. In Science, students will learn about matter. Please make sure your child is reading for at least 20 minutes each and every night.

## Kindergarten

We are winding down to the end of the school year. Our scholars have learned and made so much progress since the beginning of the school year. We will continue working on sight words, digraphs and reading CVC words. In math, we will learn about measurement. We will cover weight, length, height and capacity. Soon, we will begin our final round of testing. PLEASE make sure your student comes to school with a fully charged device and also with a charger. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

### **Mrs. Harley's email:**

Indica.Harley@pgcps.org

### **Ms. Taylor's email:**

Lisa.Taylor@pgcps.org

## First Grade Rocks!

As we begin the new year, our students will continue to learn the foundational skills focusing on blending and segmenting phonemes, fluency, and comprehension. S-blends, contractions, features of a sentence, text features to locate key facts, personal and possessive pronouns are introduced in Reading. In Math, they will use different strategies to solve subtraction problems with unknown numbers using Math tools, visual representations/pictures and writing equal expressions. They will continue to explore length and time measurements. In Science, they will plan and investigate the relationship of vibrations and sound using materials and gather evidence of how sound and vibration are related. In Social Studies, they will explain how technologies and communities shape people's lives and affect the way people live. In Health, they will develop respect for people who have speaking and hearing problems as well as discover the value of good communication skills. Please try to motivate your child to read 20 minutes everyday and learn addition and subtraction facts up to 20

# Intermediate News

## Third Grade

In reading, our focus will be reviewing MCAP Practice Assessment. Students will recognize the characteristics of tales in Modules 6 and Module 10. In writing, the teacher will review opinionated, narrative, and expository forms of writing with evidence of students typing a clear beginning, middle, and conclusion independently. In social studies, students will learn about how to create a business as a producer as well as meet the needs of consumers. Students will explore goods and services as well.

## 6th Grade

In the month of May in Reading, we will begin with an exploration of the theme through the analysis of a dramatic adaptation of The Phantom Tollbooth. Students closely analyze the drama and consider the plot, structure, and development of characters. Students will also consider how a scene fits into the overall structure of the text and contributes to the development of the theme, setting, and/or plot.

Quarter 4 in math begins our last unit: Space and Spread. In the month of May, we will focus on the area of polygons and surface area.

## 4th Grade

In **Math**, we are continuing our unit on Decimals and Fractions. It is important for students to continue studying their multiplication facts. In **Science**, we are in our Energy unit, learning about potential and kinetic energy and different types of energy. In **Health**, we will move into our unit titled, It's My Body. Please ensure your child completes any missing assignments on Google Classroom and be sure to turn in any make up work from an absence.

## 5th Grade

For the month of May, **Math** covers lessons on Patterns and Coordinate Plane and 2-D Figures. Our scholars will be interpreting expressions and analyzing patterns. They too will create and label coordinate planes and plot and locate points on the plane. **In Science**, our scholars will use models to describe that energy in animals' food was once energy from the sun. They will also learn more about the properties and types of soil. **Health** focuses on the Circulatory System.

## News from our Specialists

### Special Education Department

By Sonia D. Bobis

Psychologists, doctors, and mental health providers believe that extracurricular activities are important in developing the potential, health and wellness of Children with disabilities.

Providing the children with disabilities opportunities to join sports, performing arts, reading, and hobbies clubs will greatly improve their Social skills such as taking turns, assuming responsibilities, and be friendly, cooperative and respectful. Let them choose the activities or clubs they find appealing or interesting regardless of the level of their skills.

Children with disabilities Usually do their best if they love and enjoy the activities. As these children engage in the activities, they are refining their skills, improving their attitudes and behaviors, and building their resilience and

tenacity to engage in challenging tasks. As a result, positive self-image and self-esteem are fostered, which directly impact improved academic performance.

### Media

#### Summer Reading Incentives Click on the link:

[https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1UQFcL19oMr3K2Wj5GfJRx3ab1S41Ulr4kinS21H1XoY/edit - slide=id.p](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1UQFcL19oMr3K2Wj5GfJRx3ab1S41Ulr4kinS21H1XoY/edit-slide=id.p)

### PE

During the first two weeks of January, students in all grade will participate in activities that require them to work cooperatively with one another to achieve a certain goal. During the last two weeks of January, all students will participate in a variety of dances from different cultures. These dances will include the use of previously learned locomotor skills, rhythm, and patterns.



### Guidance

We are focusing on the character trait fairness in Guidance this month.

**Fairness** is the act of giving people what they need in an effort to treat all people equally and with respect.

How can you show fairness?

You can show fairness if you...

- \* take turns regularly when playing with other children
- \* share toys when playing with other children.
- \* listen to another person's point of view.
- \* accept consequences of your behavior

\* tell the truth