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| **MCES Pirate News** | |
| **Miller County Elementary School September 2024** | |
| **NEWS FLASH**  **Tuesday, Sept. 3rd to Friday, September 13th:** School Council Nominations  **Wednesday, Sept. 4th:** Progress Reports go home  **Friday, Sept. 6th:** Grandparent Day Parade: Times will be posted on DOJO  **Wednesday, Sept. 11th:** “Istation Lunch and Learn” from 11:30 to 12:30 (**\*\*RSVP - Invitation deadline is Sept. 4th**) seating is very limited.  **Monday, Sept. 16th:** Beginning of Otis Spunkmeyer sales  **Thursday, Sept. 19th:** School Council Election (Cast votes from 9:00 to 2:00 in front office.)  **Thursday, Sept. 19th**: Fall Pictures for PreK-2nd Grade  **Friday, Sept. 20th:** Fall Pictures for 3rd-5th Grade  **Friday, Sept. 27th:** Wendy Martin Awards @ 2:30 | **Want to stay informed?? Here are ways you can keep track of what is happening at Miller County Elementary!**  **Follow Us on Facebook!**  **Miller County Elementary Pirate News**    **Join Class Dojo today! Ask your child’s teacher for more information.**    **Check out our website!**  **https://mes.miller.k12.ga.us/** |
| **Importance of School Attendance**  What can you do to help your child experience academic success at school? Quite simply, send your child to school every day that he or she is able to attend! Research has shown that your child’s attendance record may be the single greatest influence on how well he or she succeeds academically.  Since attendance is so important, we have decided to reward students for having perfect attendance each month. At the end of the month, your child will receive special recognition just for being here each day! Additionally, for each month your child has perfect attendance he or she will earn a ticket for a “big prize” in December and again in May!  Please help us help your child and our school community by having him or her at school on time each and every day so he or she may experience academic success. Trust me when I tell you that your child will thank you for it in the not too distant future. |
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| **NOTES REGARDING CHANGE IN TRANSPORTATION** | |
| If your child has a change in the way he or she goes home in the afternoon, you must send a written note with a parent signature, including instructions on how to go home. **Your child’s safety and well-being is of great importance to us, so we will only accept phone calls changing transportation in the case of an absolute emergency by 1:45 PM. This should NOT be a daily occurrence.**  **If we do not get a note we will send your child home the way he or she normally goes home.** We will not take a child’s word for how he or she will go home. | |
| **McKinney-Vento Act** | |
| If your family lacks a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence and is forced to live in any of the following situations:  · Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason (example: evicted from home, etc.).  · In a motel.  · In an emergency or transitional shelter.  · Have a primary nighttime residence that is not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for humans  ( car, park, or campsite)  Then your children may have the right to:   * Enroll in school without proof of residency, immunization, school records, or other documents. * Choose between their school of origin or the school zoned for where you are currently living, when feasible. * Receive transportation to school. * Attend school and participate in school programs with children who are not homeless. Children cannot be separated from the regular school program because they are homeless. * Receive all the school services available to other students. * For more information you may contact Amber Hamilton at 229-758-4140. | |
| **PRP NEWS**  We thank everyone who supported our PRP snow cone fundraiser at Open House.  PRP hosted a Glow Party for the 3rd – 5th grade students in August. Thank you for all the ways you support us. Your support is always appreciated!  We are in the process of planning our Fall Festival, and we need volunteers who are willing to help with the Fall Festival.  If you are interested in becoming a volunteer or helping in any way, please contact us at millercountyprpevents@gmail.com. We are always welcoming new volunteers!  Be sure to join our Facebook group: Miller County Elementary Pirates Reaching Potential Organization.  Thank you for your continued support. We appreciate it! | **Nurse News**  We hope everyone is having a good year so far. There are many different viruses out there right now. If your child is running a fever, please keep them home. They may return to school when they have been fever-free for 24 hours without medication. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the Nurse's office.  This is just a reminder that if your child has medication that needs to be administered at school, please be sure that it is in the original **prescription** bottle/container and brought to the school nurse by a parent or guardian.  Medication should not be sent in with the student.  We also ask that, if any of your contact information has changed or does change in the future, please let us know so that we can keep your child's information up to date. It is crucial that we have the correct phone numbers in order to contact you if your child becomes sick. Thank you in advance for your cooperation, and we hope everyone continues to have a great year. |

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| **Drop Off and Pick-Up Guidelines** | |
| For your child’s safety, please do not drop students off at school prior to 7:30. Please contact Mrs. Temika in writing or through e-mail regarding any circumstances (i.e. work hours) that would create a need for you to drop your child prior to 7:30. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter. | Please abide by the following pick-up guidelines each day:  \* **Please never walk up to pick up your student. Please remain in your car and allow staff members to load.**  \* No early sign-outs after 2:30 p.m.  \* Please do not use your cell phone while waiting to pick up. That creates an unsafe situation for the students, staff, and other drivers.  \* Be courteous to other drivers in the line. Please treat others as you wish to be treated.  \* Please put your child’s name on paper on the dash of your vehicle.  \* Tobacco usage on campus is not allowed at any time (including during pick-up). |
| **Grade Level News** | |
| **Pre-K News**  We have started off the school year with so much excitement. Both classes have danced, played, sung, explored, cut, colored, and glued their way into September. Students are becoming more familiar with routines and procedures. They are enjoying getting to know each other and opening up the different center areas in the classroom.  **REMINDERS:**  \*Don’t forget to check your child’s folder daily.  \*Please send all notes and money in your child’s folder.  \*Blankets go home on Fridays to be washed. Please return them on Mondays.  **PRACTICE AT HOME**  -Practice writing first name.  -Practice naming uppercase and lowercase letters  -Practice recognizing numbers 0 to 10.  *Starfall.com is a fun, free, and interactive site. It reviews letters, letter sounds, and so much more. Check it out at* [*www.starfall.com*](http://www.starfall.com)  **Kindergarten News**  The First Month Is Behind Us!  The students, as well as the teachers, are getting settled down and falling into a structured daily routine. This month, since rules have been taught and practiced, following classroom rules will strictly be enforced. Please make sure you are initialing your child’s daily  behavior sheet nightly and reviewing all classwork, and word lists. Please help your child practice handwriting skills. Many Kindergarten students need one-on-one assistance with writing skills to be sure they are using correct pencil grasp and forming the letters correctly.  In order for your child to be successful this year, it is very important for you to be active in your child’s educational experience. If a need or concern about your child’s progress or behavior arises, you will be notified.  IMPORTANT  Instruction begins at 8:00. It is imperative that students arrive at school on time! If your child is eating breakfast at school, please have them here around 7:40 so they can eat breakfast, clean up, and have time to go to the restroom before instruction begins. In Kindergarten, phonics instruction is taught first as it is an essential part of the instructional day that provides the foundation for the other subjects taught. Please realize that students who are tardy may have to complete work missed for extra homework.  Please review all uppercase and lowercase letter names with your child daily. Although our phonics program focuses on one letter/sound each week, all letters are reviewed daily. Knowing the names of the letters is essential to using the Say/Spell/Say strategy used to teach Sight Words in class. Students are not assessed on spelling the sight words; however, many games and activities introduced in the classroom involve this skill.  Many students are struggling with recognizing the “teen” numbers. Remind them that “Numbers in the Teens” start with one. Jack Hartmann Songs are excellent for teaching number strategies. Please go over this skill daily until they can recognize numbers 0-30 consistently.  Jack Hartmann – Count by 1’s and Have Fun 1-30  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zHlnqLO0wTw>  Jack Hartmann - Numbers in the Teens Start with a 1  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1W5aYi3lkho>  Jack Hartmann - Numbers in the Teens Have a Group of Ten <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uedvwH6Ay18>  **2nd Grade News**    **It’s been a great start in 2nd grade! Let’s continue to work hard and make it a great success!**  This month in **Reading/Language Arts**, we will focus on oral reading fluency. We will be reading realistic fiction and non-fiction stories. We will also work on identifying the text evidence in fiction and non-fiction texts to build comprehension skills. In grammar, we will be identifying the subject and predicate in sentences. We will also continue to work on capitalization and punctuation.  **Accelerated Reader** (AR) goals have been set for the first 9 weeks. We will also be working on reaching our monthly goal which is to read and test over at least 5 books with at least an 80% per test.  In **Math,** our focus will be to continue working with tables, graphs, and charts. Students will be adding and subtracting while working with data. Students will collect data, create graphs, and interpret data using several types of graphs and tables. Students will add two-digit numbers to the sum of 100. The students will relate addition to subtraction to build fact fluency.  In **Science**, students will be studying the appearance of the moon and how it changes over time in a pattern. We will study what causes the seasons.  In **Social Studies**, students will be learning about elected officials. We will then begin studying about Jimmy Carter and how he demonstrated positive citizenship traits when he was president.  Our second grade team members are:  Kem Earnest kem.earnest@miller.k12.ga.us  Jacki King jking@miller.k12.ga.us  Michelle Brunson mbrunson@miller.k12.ga.us | **1st Grade News**  Hello everyone. We have had a great first month of school! We want to remind everyone that reading with your child nightly is an important part of helping him or her become successful readers. Please read library books with your child so he or she will be successful with AR testing. Also, study those sight words because they help build reading fluency.  In Reading, the students will continue to work on writing complete sentences and learning to find key details in texts. This month we will continue to learn about addition in Math. Please practice math facts fluency with your child. We will be learning about being a good leader, maps and globes and landforms in Social Studies. Please let us know if there is anything that we can help you with.  Thank you,  First Grade Teachers  April Brown abrown@miller.k12.ga.us  Bridget Peterson [bridget.peterson@miller.k12.ga.us](mailto:bridget.peterson@miller.k12.ga.us)  Annabelle Spooner [anna.spooner@miller.k12.ga.us](mailto:anna.spooner@miller.k12.ga.us)  **3rd Grade News**  **MATH:** In Math this month, students will finish learning how to represent and solve multiplication problems through the context of picture and bar graphs that represent categorical data. Students will then learn about area concepts and relate area to multiplication and to addition. If you ever have any questions, please contact me on Class Dojo or email me at [dana.durden@miller.k12.ga.us](mailto:dnewsome@miller.k12.ga.us).  **ELA:** In Reading/ELA this month**,** students will learn about character perspective and development, context clues, author’s purpose, central idea, and text features. We will also cover spelling and vocabulary words. Please make sure your child is reading at least 20 minutes each day. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me on Class Dojo or email me at kdepriest@[miller.k12.ga.us](mailto:mandy.griffin@miller.k12.ga.us).  **SCIENCE/SOCIAL STUDIES:** We will kick off September with Social Studies. Students will learn about the major rivers and mountain ranges in the United States and where they are located. They will also learn about lines of latitude, lines of longitude, the prime meridian, and the equator. Then, we will begin our study on American Indians. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me on Class Dojo or email me at [mandy.griffin@miller.k12.ga.us](mailto:mandy.griffin@miller.k12.ga.us). |
| **4th Grade News**  We have had a wonderful first month of school!  In reading, students have taken the STAR test and have their Lexile levels. Students are bringing home books every night and should be reading at least twenty minutes. The comprehension skills that we will be working on are main idea and key details, sequence, and making predictions. Wonders study guides can be found in your child’s red folder. It will include test dates, vocabulary words, and spelling words.  In Math, we are working on place value and operations with numbers up to the hundred thousands place. Students should practice their multiplication facts each night in order to prepare for fluency tests each Friday.  In Science, we have completed our Solar System Unit. We will be moving into Social Studies for four and a half weeks. We will begin our Social Studies unit learning about the thirteen original colonies and early European settlement in America. | **5th Grade News**  We had a very successful first month of school in 5th Grade at MCES.    Please remind your child to follow all school rules daily. Please continue to encourage your child to read at least twenty minutes each day. Students should be bringing home an AR book daily. Reading each night will help increase your child’s fluency level as well as their Lexile score. They should be taking at least 5 AR tests each month with an average of at least 80%. Please check your child’s red communication folder each night for important information and weekly study guides.  We also encourage you to review basic multiplication facts with your child each night.  **We will continue to utilize Class Dojo on a daily basis. If you have not already, please make sure that you have connected to Class Dojo.**  The following units will be covered this month:  Reading/ELA: Continue Unit 1: Text Set 2 and 3  (Plot:Conflict and Resolution, Events, Text Structure: Chronology, Context Clues, Headings and Graphs, Author's Claim, Author's Purpose, Greek and Latin Prefixes)  Math: We will be learning about place value and decimals.    Science/ Social Studies: This month we will be switching our focus to Science! We will start by learning about surface features on the Earth caused by constructive and/or destructive processes. Specifically, we will learn how land features such as mountains, valleys, and islands as well as seafloor features such as trenches, ridges, and seamounts are affected by erosion, depo deposition, weathering, faults, and volcanism. I will also be sending home a lab safety contract in the following weeks for some of our hands-on labs we will do. I am excited to get the kids up and running with Science! |
| **Please remember: No dresses or skirts, sandals, boots, or anything with a heel on P.E. days. Please wear tennis shoes on P.E. days!** | |

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| **School Council Nomination Form** |

We are accepting nominations for a parent representative for our School Council. Nominations will be accepted from September 3rd until September 13th. We will have an election for those nominated on Thursday, September 19th. Please either return this form with your student to turn in to his or her teacher, come by and drop off the document with Ms. Pam, or you may scan and email it to Temika Brown at [tbrown@miller.k12.ga.us](mailto:tbrown@miller.k12.ga.us)

I nominate \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for School Council Representative.

Name of person nominating: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*Person being nominated MUST have a student attending Miller County Elementary in order to serve on the School Council.\*\***