

Reptile Review

December 2013

Issue 7, Volume 4

Important Dates

December 4-13
Candy grams on sale for \$1 and includes a Jingle Bell Spirit Stick!

December 5
Picture Retakes

December 5
National Elementary Honor Society Induction Ceremony
7 p.m.

December 6
All Pro Dad's
8:45 a.m.
Media Center

December 10
"Paint the Town December"
4th/5th Grade Concert
7 p.m.



December 12
Chorus and Orff Concert
7 p.m.

December 16
Reading Counts Reading Celebration

December 16
McDonald's Night
5-7 p.m.

Holiday Spirit Days

Join in the excitement of the season:

- Monday, Dec. 16 - Snowman Day - Wear white
- Tuesday, Dec. 17 - Polar Express Day - Wear pajamas
- Wednesday, Dec. 18 - Elf Day - Wear green
- Thursday, Dec. 19 - Candy Cane Day - Wear red and white
- Friday, Dec. 20 - Jingle Bell Day - Wear or bring bells

December 18
Shoppes of New River Mall

December 18-20
Winter "Wonder"land Rotations

December 19
School Advisory Council
7:30 a.m.

December 23--Jan. 6
No School
Winter Break

Principal's Message

It is December, the last month of 2013. This year at NRES has been a great one, lots of accomplishments and successes to celebrate! On December 16th we will be having our mid-year Reading Counts Celebration. This celebration recognizes the students who follow through with their Reading Goals through their independent reading.

Gifts are on everyone's mind during December as well. Our staff feels that working with your children is a wonderful gift! Their smiles, excitement for learning, and joy brightens every day at New River Elementary. May you and your family have a relaxing Winter Break! See you in 2014!

Lynn Pabst
spabst@pasco.k12.fl.us



Mid Year Reading Celebration

At New River reading is a priority for student success! All students need to read books at their independent level, complete reading logs, and respond as their teacher assigns. All students who fulfill independent reading requirements will attend the reading celebration events based on the amount of books they have read independently. Parent volunteers are needed. Please contact the front office at (813) 346-0500.

Reading Celebration Events:

- 10:00 - 10:30 - Candy Cane Run
- 10:30 - 11:00 - Sock Hop in Cafeteria
- 11:15 - 12:00 - Bingo in Media Center
- 12:00 - 12:45 - Picnic lunch and play Reindeer Games outside
- 12:45 - 1:30 - Candle Making
- 1:30 - 2:30 - Pillow Making

**Be sure to ask your student about his/her IRLA level and power goal!

Great Job

Congratulations to our 4th and 5th grade inductees into the New River Elementary chapter of the National Elementary Honor Society (NEHS) for 2013-14:

Dylan Adams

Calista Addison



Natalie Aponte
Stephanie Arana
Diego Arroyo-Green
Brooke Baldus
Noah Boyd

Nolan Boyd

Gavin Boyer

Hannah Butler

Jill Butler

Mitchell Byrn

Elijah Chappell

Ismael Coss

Makenzie Cox

Evan Drinkwater

Madison Dupre'

Jhamia Edwards



Sean Esquinaldo

Aubrey Folk

Jake Gallupo

Ketzia Garcia

Antonio Gonzalez



Brayden Griffin

Anna Harris

John Helms

Emma Holbrook

Rylee Humphries

Julia Jennings

Ondrasha Joel

Anastasia Krekic

Atheena Kuriakose

Tamiah Lawrence

Damien Lopez

Samantha Lowery

Ryan Ly

Nicholas Mackley

Jonathan Miller



Student Council News:



See you at Publix!

The Summertree Plaza Publix (located at Eiland Blvd.) is allowing New River Elementary to collect donations at the front of their store location on Saturday, December 7th from 10-2:00 p.m. and also on Saturday, December 14th from 10-2:00 p.m. The donations that are collected will be given to families at NRES in need. Please come out and show your support.



NEHS News cont.....

Kieran Milligan

Aylan Moss

Carys Mullins

Julia Nielson



Ta'nya Norton

Christopher Pagliuca

Jordan Parker

Alexandria Poulimenos

Lorelai Powers

Willie Queen

Zachary Reagan

Jadriel Rivera

Saige Rivera

Gabriel Rivera

Odette Rodriguez



Rylee Ruegger

Sarah Sims

Ellie Smith

Angelina Trader

Kimberleigh Velez

Davien Worrels

Dean Worrels

River Zemanek

Xandra Zemanek



Families, Please join us for the NEHS Induction ceremony on December 5th at 7 p.m.!

Music News



The 4th and 5th grade musical "Paint the Town December" is being performed Tuesday evening December, 10th at 7 p.m. All student performers should arrive at 6:30 p.m. to prepare for the concert. Students should wear festive colored clothing or something nice to the performance. If you opt not to wear festive colored clothing, then boys and girls can wear slacks and a polo or button down shirt/blouse, or a long dress/long skirt for girls is appropriate. Please refrain from wearing heels, as the students will be standing on the risers. All speaking parts have been assigned special costumes.

The Chorus and Orff concert is being performed on Tuesday evening December, 12th at 7 p.m. Once again all student performers should be at the school by 6:30 p.m. to prepare for the show. Dress for this event is black pants, black socks, black shoes, black belt and the navy colored Chorus or Orff polo which will be distributed prior to the concert date.

Both of our concerts are free and all are welcomed and encouraged to invite extended family. I will speak with Chorus and Orff families after the concert about a possible performance possibility at the end of the year.



P.E. News

The PE dept. would like to thank you for your support of our BRAX fundraiser. We earned \$300 to help pay for Reptile Run t-shirts!! We have another mall coming up, Dec. 18. Our Fuel Up to Play 60 Team will have mango salsa and regular salsa for the students to taste and vote for their favorite.

Thank you for sending your child to school on PE days, with the appropriate shoes and clothing. Remember to label jackets for the upcoming colder weather. Also, thanks for encouraging and keeping track of exercise your child takes part in outside of school. Exercise Logs are due December 5th.

We would like to continue to encourage all students to get on the Fuel Up to Play website. Choose New River Elementary School to show support for health and wellness in our community. We will continue to select students who have been active on the site for weekly prizes and recognition on the morning show.

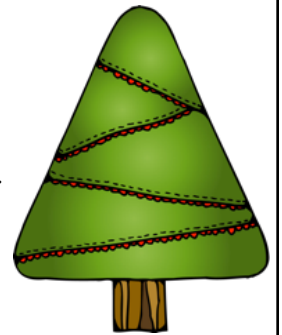
PTA News

NRES PTA would like to thank all of the families who participated in the coupon book fundraiser. There are still a few non returned books that we would like to have back as soon as possible so we can close out the fundraiser.

We would also like to wish all of our New River families a wonderful holiday season and hope that you get to spend lots of time together as that what it is really all about. We certainly enjoy each and every family that we have with PTA.

If you ever have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact April Ruegger at rueggera@yahoo.com. Again, I thank you so much for your support and look forward to ending 2013 and seeing what 2014 has in store for us!

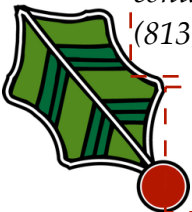
April Ruegger, NRES PTA President



5th Grade Math FCAT

All of our 5th grade students will take the FCAT math test on computers. Students will have the opportunity to practice computer testing before the FCAT in April. Please contact Mrs. Craig with any questions @ (813) 346-0503.

Remember: Be Respectful,
Be Safe, and Be Responsible



Thank You Rack Room Shoes!

We would like to thank manager, Kevin Torrey, and the staff at Rack Room Shoes at Wiregrass Mall for hosting the "Shoes That Fit" event for our students. The staff worked hard to help over 100 students get new athletic shoes. We also appreciate the Rack Room staff for the fundraising you do for the "Shoes That Fit" Program!

Traffic Safety On Our Campus

This year with the increase in students, that also brings an increase in cars and an increase in wait time. Our goal every morning and afternoon is to get all students dropped off and picked up safely. For this reason, we want to be sure that all families cooperate with the following reminders:

- **The speed limit on school property is 15 mph at all times.**
- Students may only get out of or into cars at the numbered spaces in front of the school (unless escorted to or from the parking lot by an adult). **No drop offs in the parking lot.**
- It is important to decide how your child is going home prior to coming to school (except in the case if an emergency). Discuss that with your child and be sure the teacher is informed. Changing frequently is confusing to your child and the staff. The choices are: CAR RIDER, WALK UP/PICK UP, BUS RIDER, WALKER/BIKE RIDER, PLACE.
- Please be sure to follow the arrows in the parking lanes of the parking lot.
- Remember our entry road is only two lanes, one entering and one leaving. It is a solid line, no pass zone.

Your patience is appreciated as we work together to make our campus safe for all students!



- Install smoke alarms on every level of your home, outside of each sleeping area, and in each bedroom.
- Replace smoke alarm batteries once a year even if alarms are hardwired. Ten-year lithium batteries do not need to be replaced.
- Make and practice a fire escape plan with at least two ways out of every room. Have a plan to help young children escape the home.
- Store matches and lighters in locked cabinets. Teach your child to never touch them.
- Make the stove area a “Kid-Free Zone”, three feet is a good distance.
- Never leave the kitchen unattended while cooking and never leave a child alone while cooking.
- Keep hot foods and liquids away from children.
- Place space heaters at least three feet from anything that can catch fire (curtains, furniture, papers). Always turn off space heaters when leaving the room or going to bed.
- Set your water heater to 120 degrees.
- Never leave young children alone in the bathtub — a child can burn or drown within seconds.



Media News: Parent Book Swap



We have an area behind the circulation desk in the media center where a parent or staff member can bring a book and take a book.



Box Top Recipe: Caramel Apple Cookies

INGREDIENTS:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 roll (16.5 oz) Pillsbury® refrigerated sugar cookies | 24 caramels, unwrapped (from 14-oz bag) |
| ¼ cup all-purpose flour | 2 tablespoons half-and-half |
| ¾ cup chopped peeled apple (1 medium) | 3 tablespoons chopped pecans |
| ½ teaspoon apple pie spice | |

DIRECTIONS:

1. Heat oven to 350°F. In large bowl, break up cookie dough. Stir or knead in flour, apple and apple pie spice until well blended. Drop by rounded tablespoonfuls onto ungreased cookie sheets.
2. Bake 14 to 16 minutes or until edges are golden brown. Cool 1 minute; remove from cookie sheets to cooling racks. Cool completely, about 20 minutes.
3. Meanwhile, in small microwavable bowl, microwave caramels and half-and-half uncovered on High 30 to 60 seconds, stirring once, until caramels are melted. Drizzle over tops of cookies; sprinkle with pecans. Store covered in refrigerator.
4. Remember to save your boxtops and send them to New River. Thank you and enjoy!



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**Kurt S. Browning
Superintendent**

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- Cynthia Armstrong- District 3**
- Alison Crumbley - District 4**
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