

## IMPORTANT DATES

February 4<sup>th</sup>- Schools Closed for Congressional Election  
February 12<sup>th</sup>- 100<sup>th</sup> Day of School Celebration  
February 17<sup>th</sup>- SCHOOLS OPENED  
February 17-21- Kindness Week

### Highlight on Kindergarten!

Kindergarten is excited for the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school! We are working hard to count to 100 by 1s and 10s. We are looking forward to celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> day with fun activities. We've been practicing adding and subtracting when listening to story problems. We have learned how to write equations and draw pictures to solve problems. We are about to start our shapes unit, where we will be exploring and building 2 dimensional and 3 dimensional shapes! In reading, we are also learning all letters and letter sounds. It is helping us read and write sentences. We are even beginning to read books on our own! We have been doing many activities to help us learn our sight words. With all our projects, we are quickly running out of supplies. If you can donate glue sticks, markers, Ziplock bags, we would greatly appreciate it! Thank you for all of your support!

### Highlight from Special Areas!

#### This month's focus: Physical Education

Mr. Asher and Mr. Jirsa have been working hard at Oakleigh Elementary in their first year. They introduced the students to cooperative and team-building skills to create an environment of community in the gymnasium. The K-2 students learned of the basic locomotor and manipulative skills which they will use throughout their lifetime and have begun their tumbling/gymnastics unit. The 3-5 grade students began with soccer skills, moved onto basketball skills, completed the nationwide Fitness Gram tests and are currently in their tumbling/gymnastics unit as well. The road map for the rest of the year is very promising; the students will participate in units such as football, dance, lacrosse, kickball and other exciting endeavors. We are continuing to learn about our students and give our 110% throughout the rest of the school year!

# OAKLEIGH OWL NEWS

Volume 5, February 2020



## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Oakleigh Families,

Happy February! If the groundhog is correct, we will have an early spring! The weather certainly seems to indicate this will happen.

As we move into the second half of the school year, we still have much to accomplish. This month students will be involved in MAP testing. This is an online test that measures student achievement and progress. All students in kindergarten through fifth grade will be tested. Hearing and vision screenings will take place for our pre-k and kindergarten students new to Oakleigh. In addition, any students new to Oakleigh in 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade will also be screened.

Report cards went home on February 6<sup>th</sup>. Please take time to review your child's report card with them. If they are reading below grade level their level is marked on the first page of the report card. Reading levels can be confusing as there are many different measures. BCPS uses Fountas & Pinnell system to determine a reading level. The following are the **end of year** reading level expectations for each grade:

- Kindergarten - level C/D By the end of the year
- First Grade - level J by the end of the year
- Second Grade - level M by the end of the year
- Third Grade - level P by the end of the year
- Fourth Grade - level S by the end of the year
- Fifth Grade - level U by the end of the year

Daily reading at home for 20 minutes with an adult has shown to drastically improve a student's reading. In addition, good school attendance is an indicator of academic success. Your child's attendance rate is also indicated on the first page of the report card at the top. The attendance expectation is 94%. If your child is below this rate, please consider ways to improve their attendance.

The PTA has many fun events they plan throughout the year. If you have not joined the PTA, I encourage you to do so. You can find information on their Oakleigh PTA Facebook page.

Many classes will be taking field trips in the spring. If you are interested in chaperoning a field trip please be sure to complete the volunteer form. This is required by BCPS and must be done at least three days prior to the trip.










This is a reminder that school will be in session on President's Day. This is to make up for the snow day we had in December and so it does not extend the school beyond June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Our lost and found continues to grow with hats, jackets, lunchboxes and hoodies. If your child is missing clothing, please stop in and check our lost and found.

As always, thank you for all you do to support Oakleigh and our students.

Mrs. Metheny

# FEBRUARY CALENDAR

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
Virtue of the Month: Kindness 				
3	4 	5	6 Report Cards Distributed 	7
10	11	12 	13	14
17 Team Kindness Day 	18 Powered by Kindness 	19 Tied Together by Kindness 	20 Words that Hurt Can't be taken back 	21 Dream of Kindness 
24	25	26	27	28

The Virtue of the Month for February is **Kindness**. **Kindness** is showing you care, doing some good to make life better for others. It is being thoughtful about people's needs. **Kindness** is showing love and compassion to someone who is sad or needs your help. **Kindness** is treating yourself and others gently. It is caring about the earth and all living things.

### Kindness Affirmation:

I am kind. I look for ways to help others. I show kindness to any person or animal I see. I do all I can to take care of the earth.