

MONTHLY REPORT

The latest news and updates from W.W. Irby Elementary School



IMPORTANT DATES

November 1

PTA Skate Station Fundraiser 5:30pm

November 3

Daylight savings time-Turn clocks back 1 hour

November 5

First Grade Filed Trip- Coon Hollo

November 6

PTA Meeting 6pm at Conestogas

November 11

Holiday - Veterans Day/No School

November 15

Picture Retakes

November 21

Kindergarten Feast
Interim Progress Reports go home

November 25-29

Thanksgiving Break/No School

December 2-6

Book Fair

From the Principal's Desk:

Parents and Guardians,

As we move into the fall season, our school-wide character trait focus for this month is **being Thankful**. This time of the year it is important to reflect on all of the joys and successes in our lives.

The Irby family has provided many times for me to reflect on why I am thankful. Through the collaboration with you and your child's teacher, I have seen your child grow so much over the first nine-weeks of school. I am excited for the opportunities that lie ahead and recognize that this success is due to a combined collaboration of our parents and teachers.

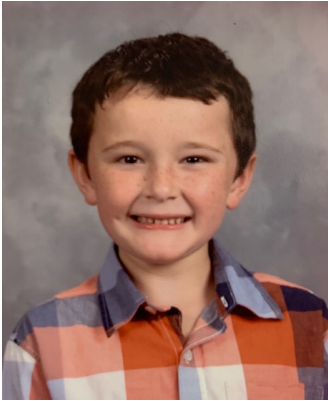
As always, if you have any questions, concerns or ideas, please be sure to share with me at floydtm@gm.sbac.edu or by calling (386) 462-5002.

Mrs. Floyd
Principal

TODAY I AM
thankful

Congratulations to our September Citizen of the Month!

For the month of September we recognized Rhett Little. We are extremely proud of Rhett representing Irby Elementary this month. Keep up the hard work!



School Success Goes Hand in Hand With A Good Attendance

School attendance is essential to successful progress. Students who are in class on time, everyday are more likely to do well in school. Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, everyday is important. Parents are responsible for students attendance as defined by Florida's Compulsory Attendance Laws (F.S. 1003.24 and F.S. 1003.21.) Under Florida's compulsory education law, every child between the ages of 6 and 18 must attend school. Parents are legally responsible for making sure that their children go to school. A school will contact a parent if a student has more than five unexcused absences or excessives tardies within a 30 days period. Six unexcused tardies or early check-outs from school are treated as one unexcused absence for truancy purposes. Under state law, students with more than 15 unexcused absences within 90 calendar days will be considered habitually truant.

As a parent, What you can do?

- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- Layout clothes and backpack the night before.
- Don't let your children stay home unless your kid is truly sick
- Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay at home.
- Develop back up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor, or another parent.
- Avoid medical appointments and extended trips when school is in session.

When students improve their attendance rates, they improve their academic prospects and chances for graduating. Good attendance will help children do well in high school, college and work. Every day counts, attendance matters.

Tips to Help Parents Prevent Bullying

Parents and guardians are among a school's best allies in bullying prevention. It is important to talk with and listen to your child everyday. Ask questions about their school day, including experiences on the way to and from school, lunch, and recess. Children who feel comfortable talking to their parents about these matters before.

(These tips were adapted from materials by the National PTA and Education.com.)



***Thank you to Mrs. Zimmerman for representing Irby Elementary as a participant on the Parents Focused on Equity Committee.

***Thank you to the Kiawnis Club for their assistance during the first 9-week PBIS Celebration. It was a huge success!!

5 things to ask your kids instead of "How was school"?

1. What made you smile today?
2. Who did you sit with at lunch?
3. If you could change one thing about today what would that be?
4. What was the hardest rule to follow today?
5. Tell me something you know today that you didn't know yesterday.



ATTENDANCE MATTERS