



ALACHUA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Alligator Times – September 2018

Principal: Heather Harbour ♦ Assistant Principal: Bonnie Bing

Important Dates

- Th. Aug. 30 Title I Annual Meeting 5:30-6:00pm in the Brain Bayou (computer lab)
- **Open House: 6:00-7:00pm**
- M. Sept. 3 No school – Labor Day
- W. Sept. 5 Boy Scout Sign Ups – Cafeteria 6:30 pm
- M. Sept. 10 Health Screening Day
- F. Sept 21 Progress reports go home
- W. Sept 26 Dad's Take Your Child to School Day

Dad's Take Your Child to School Day

Calling all Dads! On Wednesday, September 26, AES would like to invite you to join us for this annual event. Bring your child(ren) to school on this special day, share a few moments together over breakfast in our school cafeteria, then walk your child(ren) to class at 7:45 AM. There is no charge for this event. We hope to see you there!

From Nurse Weeks

Welcome back, students and parents!

Health Screening Day

All third grade students will participate in our annual Health Screening Day, which is scheduled for Monday, September 10, 2018. Height, weight, vision, and dental will all be screened.

Flu Mist Day:

The Alachua County Health Department will be administering the flu mist this year. They will not administer the flu shot. We will have our annual Flu Mist Day here at AES, which is scheduled for Wednesday, October 31st. Consent forms have been sent home. All consent forms **MUST** be returned to school whether your child will receive the flu mist or not (check YES or NO on the form). The flu mist will be administered by Health Department medical personnel.

Please feel free to contact Nurse Revo Weeks with any questions or concerns by calling the school at (386) 462-1841.

WELCOME BACK ALLIGATORS!

Welcome to the 2018-19 school year! The faculty and staff at AES have worked hard to provide our students with a welcoming transition to a new school year. The beginning of a new school year is an exciting time, and it is important that everyone who steps through our doors-staff, students, and parents-are excited to be here! This attitude enables us to meet the challenges of academic excellence in a positive, fun and nurturing environment.

Remember that some of our wonderful volunteers host free tutoring sessions at the public library in Alachua on Mondays from 2-5 pm and Wednesdays from 12:30-5 pm. They have helped to support many of our students.

Please check out our new website at www.sbac.edu/alachua for helpful information, school links, and important dates.

We look forward to seeing all of our families at our upcoming Open House, which is scheduled for Thursday, August 30th. Our Title I parent meeting is from 5:30 until 6:00 pm and Open House is from 6:00 until 7:00 pm.

~Mrs. Harbour & Mrs. Bing

Car Riders

We are greatly appreciative to our car-rider parents for having their car signs hanging from rearview mirrors! This helps to make the dismissal process safe and efficient.

If you do not have a car sign or need an extra, please see Lori Oliveira in our front office. We are happy to make you one!

Remember to take this sign down from your rear view mirror once you are through the car line so it does not obstruct your view.

Parents who do not have a blue car sign will be asked to go to the front office to show I.D. so we can ensure students are being picked up by individuals listed on their emergency card.

PTA News

Membership matters! Please join our AES PTA today to be informed, be active and be your child's biggest fan! We are not asking you to attend every meeting. Volunteer when you can. Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at the school from 3-4 pm. Membership is \$6 per family for the year. Contact Shama Johnson, PTA president, at sbattles77@gmail.com for more information.

Krispy Kreme Fundraiser: Please help the PTA with our first fundraiser of the 18-19 school year! This fundraiser will run from August 27th through October 5th. All information will be shared with your child's teacher to be sent home. The student who sells the most Krispy Kreme certificates will win a \$50 gift certificate!



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Welcome New Faculty & Staff!

We are so excited to have the following new teachers and staff members working at Alachua Elementary. They each bring talent and expertise to an already incredible group of educators. Please join us in welcoming them aboard!

- Kristina Rodriguez ♦ Third Grade
- Previn Moore ♦ Fifth Grade
- Kasey Norris ♦ Fifth Grade
- Ylmar Avila ♦ ESE
- Candace Davis ♦ BRT
- Ann Robles ♦ Art
- Dana Rudzitis ♦ Music
- Andrew Miller ♦ Paraprofessional

Third Grade News

Our third graders are off to an awesome start! We are already busy learning how to find evidence in our text, restating questions and learning to use context clues to understand the meanings of unfamiliar words. In math, we are tackling addition, subtraction, rounding, multiplication and division. We are studying what it takes to be a scientist as well as the Engineering Process in science. Social studies has us learning about our place in the world, building classroom communities, and all about the United States and its' regions. This year promises to be a busy and exciting year!

Fourth Grade News

Fourth grade is so happy to have such a fantastic start to the new school year! There is an emphasis on reading and writing in fourth grade. Checking your child's work for thoroughness is a great way to ensure they're on the right track this year. Multiplication fluency is also a major focus, so keep practicing those facts. Fourth grade will go on two field trips this fall: the Florida Museum of Natural History and Morningside Nature Center. If you're interested in chaperoning, please make sure you fill out a volunteer application online as soon as possible. The link is: Bit.ly/ACPSapp.

Fifth Grade News

Welcome back students and families! The Fifth Grade team is very excited for this upcoming school year. With such things as Safety Patrol, Spelling Bee, Camp Crystal and more we know that this will be an excellent year! Reading each night, as well as practicing multiplication and division drills, will be an important part of achieving success this year, so keep on practicing!

Box Tops

Every box top counts! We raised over \$1,000 from your contributions last year. Help us continue to raise money for our school by cutting those Box Tops off of food packages and turning them in! The winning class for the fall semester will receive a pizza party. You may send them in an envelope, Ziploc bag, or paste them onto the flyers that were previously sent out. Thank you for supporting our school!

Art, Music, Media, and PE News

Art News: In September, third graders will be starting a unit on Space and Form. They will be creating designs with positive and negative space, and will learn to use overlapping to create perspective. Fourth grade is working on a fall collage. Fifteen students will be chosen to display their artwork at City Hall on September 10th at 6:00pm. Students will also learn about the artist Joan Miro. Fifth graders are starting a unit on line and shape. They will be learning about the Pop artist, Roy Lichtenstien, and his use of line and shape to create emphasis. I look forward to continuing to work with all our Alachua artists!

Media News: Welcome back to school and back to the AES Media Center! By now your child(ren) has been to Media at least a couple of times, so they should have books to read! Please remind your students to read, read, read! There is a direct correlation between reading and academic achievement. As well, please encourage your child(ren) to complete Media assignments when they have a night with little to no homework from their classroom teacher. This year we are again working on our WBA activity, where students answer three questions about the book they are reading; one question comes from **Within** the Text, one comes from **Beyond** the Text, and one is **About** the text. Starting this month, we will also have a new Literacy Activities sheet for each new month; challenge your child(ren) to complete any or all of the different literacy activities for September! Not only do these Media activities help students grow as readers, writers, and critical thinkers, but students can also earn some fun prizes from the media center! In September we will also be celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month, National Read a Book Day, Banned Books Week, Roald Dahl's birthday, Constitution Day, Celebrate Freedom Week, and even National Comic Book Day! Finally, remember students do not have to wait until their next scheduled Media time to check-in and/or check-out books. The media center is open for Morning Media everyday from 7:15 to 7:40am and for Open Media everyday from 8:00 to 9:00am, 10:00 to 11:00am, and 1:45 to 2:45pm.

PE News: The **Alligator All-Stars** program is to recognize AES students who have excelled in the area of Physical Education and have displayed the **traits of 100% effort, listening, teamwork and sportsmanship** during PE class each month. At the end of each month, two students (1 girl & 1 boy) will be selected from each grade (3rd, 4th & 5th) as an Alligator All-Star and will be rewarded with an ice cream celebration party at the end of the school year. Encourage your child(ren) to be an **ALLIGATOR ALL-STAR!!!**

The **Morning Mile** program is held each morning on the PE soccer field (near the covered court) from 7:00-7:30 a.m. Morning mile will be held each morning (weather permitting) beginning on **Monday, August 20th**. Students have the opportunity to start their day "**on the right foot**" and will earn a necklace and shoe charms to represent the mileage milestones that they accumulate through daily participation. Come join the FUN!!! A permission slip is required to join this activity.

Yearbooks

Yearbooks are on sale NOW! The cost of a yearbook is \$20. You can purchase your yearbook online at swiphoto.com/yb.