



# ALACHUA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



## Alligator Times – December 2019

Principal: Heather Harbour ♦ Assistant Principal: Kelitha Rainer

### Important Dates

- Th. Dec 5 Picture Retakes
- F. Dec 6 EDEP Holiday Performance
- T. Dec 10 District Robotics Competition
- F. Dec 13 Third Grade Winter Show
- W-F. Dec 18-20 Camp Crystal – 5<sup>th</sup> grade
- M. Dec 23 First day of Winter Holidays
- T. Jan 7 Classes resume

### Citizen of the Month

The **November** Citizen of the Month for Alachua Elementary is **Madison Payne** in Ms. Young’s class.

### EDEP

The EDEP Holiday performance “Elfis and the Sleigh Riders” will be held on Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm. All teachers, staff and families are welcome to attend.

### Santa’s Store

Santa’s Store is coming soon! You’ll be able to create a wish list on our preview day on Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. The store will be open Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup> through Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup> from 7:15 am to 3:00 pm. You will be able to purchase gifts for family members, friends, and even teachers. Items are priced from 30 cents to 13 dollars. All funds raised will be put towards the Safety Patrol Washington D.C. trip at the end of the year.

*Happy Holidays from everyone at AES!*

### Media News

It is hard to believe that it is already December! Time flies when you are reading great books! As the holidays approach (and we have all of those days away from school), please continue to read to and with your child(ren). Also, be sure that students are still reading on their own over the holidays as well! During time away from school, you can also remind your child(ren) to be working on Media activities, like the WBA activity (ask your student what it is) and our monthly literacy activities. Not only do these assignments benefit student literacy, but they also allow students to earn points and prizes in the media center!

There is more information about both activities on the media center website. During December, the media center will be celebrating Read a New Book Month and Dewey Decimal Day!

Remember, you can always find circulation updates, student literacy activities, and even a slide show at the AES Media Center website (<https://www.sbac.edu/domain/577>).

### SAC Parent Nomination Needed

We are in need of a parent to serve on our School Advisory Council! We are most grateful to our parents who have worked so diligently each school year. If you know of a parent who might be willing to serve this year, please write their name on the line below and return to your child’s teacher. You may also email their name to [harbourh@gm.sbac.edu](mailto:harbourh@gm.sbac.edu). The role of the SAC is to advise the principal on matters of school improvement. Meetings are held 4-5 times per school year. Parent members will be asked to commit to a two-year term.

### SAC Nominee

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### Third Grade News

Third grade is excited to attend the play “The Nutcracker” at the Center for Performing Arts in Gainesville on December 19<sup>th</sup>. We also look forward to learning and relaxing during our annual Pajama Day on December 20<sup>th</sup>. We are working hard on all our concepts like finding the main idea and supporting details, different text features in literature, and understanding informational texts. In math, we are still working on multiplication and division and really learning our facts! We are also studying physical science and matter in Science and culture and diversity in social studies.

Please make sure you are checking our clear communication folders, agendas and binders for notes, graded work, homework and updates. Please also encourage your child to use the planner regularly to stay informed and prepared. We are very busy but we are having fun. Continue to practice multiplication facts and read over the winter break. Enjoy a safe holiday and see you next year!

### Fourth Grade News

Fourth grade recently had a visit from an archaeologist! He shared information about his job and what has been learned about early people living in Florida by studying the artifacts they left behind. It was a great experience for our students! In writing, we are reading informational texts about different countries. Students will be working with a partner to research and write an informational essay about a country of their choice. In ELA, we have finished up our unit on poetry elements and themes in poetry. We are currently working on learning how authors use reasons and evidence to support their point on a topic and practicing how to read technical texts. In math, we have finished our unit on division and are now learning about factors, multiples, and patterns. We will be studying fractions next!

### Fifth Grade News

Greetings from Fifth Grade! It is hard to believe that we are already winding down 2019 and approaching the winter holidays! With that being said, please encourage your child to continue following school rules and expectations and to set a good example for their peers. This month we have two exciting field trips to look forward to. On December 11<sup>th</sup>, we will be visiting the Priest Theater to see the movie Frozen 2 and dive deep into character and plot analysis. Then, on December 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> we have our annual Camp Crystal field trip! We will be learning so much during those 3 days and having a great time while doing it. We are sure that December is going to be full of learning, fun, and memories for our students. Happy Holidays from all of us in Fifth Grade!

### Music and PE News

#### Music News:

All are invited to Third Grade’s winter show, “Caroling Through Time,” on Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the cafeteria. The students have been working hard to perform these timeless classics and get the audience in the holiday spirit! Third grade parents, please make sure your students return their forms to let me know whether or not they can come to the evening performance. Concert attire is all black (or black and white) with red accessories (ribbons, Santa hats, etc.). Please email me at [likamwamf@gm.sbac.edu](mailto:likamwamf@gm.sbac.edu) if you have questions or need another copy of the form. Fifth grade parents, a letter will be sent out in early January with information about ordering recorders so your child can practice at home. The class who wins the competition will earn a treat!

#### 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 great effort, listening, teamwork and sportsmanship** during PE class for the month of **November**. This month winners are:

- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade: **Trinity Barnes** (Proud) & **Caleb Freeman** (Norris)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade: **Zophiah Gomez-Rosario** (Rudtke) & **Travis Hayes** (Long)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade: **Karri Cole** (Sanders) & **Matthew Rivera** (Heissenberg)

Great Job! Keep up the positive attitudes and excellent effort.

**Morning Mile** is off and running! Bring your sneakers and join friends and Coach Pigott as we get our day started on “**the right foot**”! The Morning Mile is held daily from 7:00-7:30 a.m. each morning on the soccer field.

Our current student Morning Mile leaders are:

- River Jacobi** (Campbell): **Overall & 4<sup>th</sup> grade leader with 30 miles**
- Carlos Martinez** (Proud): **5<sup>th</sup> grade leader with 26 miles**
- Kamarion Young** (Ward): **3<sup>rd</sup> grade leader with 22 miles**

#### Members of the 25 Mile Club

- Kaiden Curtis** (Dallaportas)
- Connor Deasey** (Campbell)
- Demetrus Johnson** (Hamm)

#### Members of the 15 Mile Club

- Ryleigh Bush** (Campbell)
- Ed Curry** (Long)
- Darrell Merriex, Jr** (Long)
- Brandon Mulberry** (Cole)

#### Members of the 10 Mile Club

- Caleb Freeman** (Norris)
- Charlie Halbrook** (Cole)
- Hugh Paz** (Boukari)
- Hadley Romfh** (Ward)
- Gabrielle Williams** (Campbell)