



ALACHUA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Alligator Times – March 2020

Principal: Heather Harbour ♦ Assistant Principal: Kelitha Rainer

Important Dates

- F. Mar. 6 4th grade – Dudley Farm
- M. Mar. 9 Flu Vaccinations – 2nd round
- T. Mar. 10 PTA Domino's Night
- F. Mar. 13 5th grade – JA Biz Town
- T. Mar. 17 PTA Meeting 3:00 pm
- W. Mar. 18 End of Third Nine Weeks
- Th. Mar. 19 4th grade – St. Augustine
- Th. Mar. 19 5th grade Fun Day Citizen's Field
- F. Mar. 20 Student Holiday – NO SCHOOL
- M. Mar. 23 Spring Break – March 23-27

PTA News

Please join our Facebook page, Alachua Elementary PTA. Find out what is going on! Our next meeting is Tuesday, March 17th at 3:00 pm. Come wearing the green! Domino's night is Tuesday, March 10th. Krispy Kreme order forms will go home on March 18th so you can collect over Spring Break and have yummy donuts for Easter! We now have cheer bows and pony-o's for sale through the PTA. A new order for t-shirts will be arriving soon! Please sign up to volunteer for the Spring Carnival on April 16 to support our school!

EDEP News

Alachua EDEP Summer Camp registration is in full swing! Spaces are limited and are filling up fast. We are offering a six week discovery camp from June 1 – July 10, 7:30 am – 5:30 pm. Scholarship rates are available. Camp includes FREE breakfast, lunch and all snacks! We have lots of fun field trips planned this summer! Please call Brooke Gainey at 352-262-7933 for more information.

Citizen of the Month

The **February** Citizen of the Month for Alachua Elementary is **Isabella Bryant** in Ms. Hartley's class.

Media News

It is March and that means Women's History Month! This month read books by and about women to your child(ren) and with your child(ren). Remember, there is a direct correlation between reading and student achievement; students who read just 30 minutes per day, score, on average, in the 90th percentile on standardized tests. Please continue to 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 March, the media center will be celebrating Women's History Month, as well as Dr. Seuss Day and International Women's 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>).

Alligator Attributes

This month our Alligator Attributes for Alligator of the week are:

- 3/2-3/6 – Self-Discipline
- 3/9-3/13 – Assertiveness
- 3/16-3/20 - Humbleness

Yearbooks

Yearbooks for the 2019-2020 school year are on sale now! For only \$20 you can purchase a copy of the yearbook and have memories to cherish forever. Yearbooks can be purchased with check or cash or you can visit www.swiphoto.com/yb to purchase one online. Reserve your yearbook today!



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Third Grade News

Third grade is in final preparations as we quickly approach our FSA dates. We will be taking our ELA FSA beginning on April 1st, just two days after returning from Spring Break! You can help your child prepare by having them read at least 20 minutes every evening so they can build their vocabulary knowledge, and by having them to school on time every day. The 3rd grade Math FSA is scheduled for Tuesday, May 5th and Wednesday, May 6th. Continue practicing their math facts, and use the available online resources such as Istation (Reading and Math), IXL (Reading and Math), and Achieve 3000 (Reading). Another good resource in preparing for the FSA is to visit <https://fsassessments.org/students-and-families/practice-tests/paper-based-materials/paper-based-practice-test-materials.stml> to take a practice 3rd Grade ELA and Math FSA. Answer keys are available for both tests.

Fourth Grade News

Fourth grade is heading to Dudley Farm State Park on Friday, March 6th. **Reminder:** All payments for our St. Augustine field trip are due on Tuesday, March 3rd. We will be heading to St. Augustine on Thursday, March 19th. Additional information about specific times and what students can bring with them will be coming home soon. Please check your child's backpack. Have a great Spring Break!

Fifth Grade News

This month is full of exciting events for fifth grade, and with it being a short month due to Spring Break, we will be as busy as ever. As you are aware, the field trip to the Cade Museum was postponed until March 13th. This will be a wonderful opportunity for students to work in a business simulation called JA BizTown. This trip allows students to practice balancing a checkbook, paying taxes, and other practical life skills. On March 19th, students will be going to Citizen's Field in Gainesville for Fun Day (a.k.a. Field Day). On this trip, students will participate in physical activities such as tug-of-war, relay races, and a mile run. They have been practicing these activities during P.E. As we approach the end of the school year, standardized testing begins. It is extremely important that students are in school, on time, every day. The week students come back from Spring Break, they will be given the Writing portion of the FSA. Students have been working hard on writing essays and will be well prepared. In Reading, students are continuing to practice and enhance skills that they have learned. In Math, students are beginning a new unit on Coordinate Planes. In Science, students will be studying Human Growth and Development. Thank you for your continued support!

Music and PE News

Music News:

March is "Music in Our Schools Month," during which we raise our voices (literally) around the school district in all sorts of performances to show how important music education is in our students' lives. The Alachua Elementary after-school choir will be joining Lawton Chiles and Archer Elementary schools to put on one of these concerts. It will be at Lawton Chiles Elementary on March 12th at 7:00 pm. Come and show your support for our school and for music education!

Fifth graders are using recorders in music. They may buy either a blue or purple recorder for \$2. They will use it in music class and at home to practice. We have already been reviewing music-rhythms, tone quality, and more using the instruments!

Third graders are using Orff instruments to review rhythms and dynamics, as well as to learn new concepts such as ostinato.

Fourth graders have been working on posters for different music genres, and will be honing in on concepts they need to know for their district end of course test in music.

PE News:

The **Alligator All-Stars program** recognizes 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 **February**. This month's winners are:

5th Grade: **Celena Gainey** (Hartley) & **Everett Banner** (Thomas)

4th Grade: **Catherine Bell** (Campbell) & **Devin Murabito** (Dallaportas)

3rd Grade: **Marialita Jimenez-Andres** (Heissenberg) & **Ky'lan Walker** (Rudzitis)

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

Bring your sneakers and join friends and Coach Pigott as we get our day started on "**the right foot**" at the **Morning Mile!** 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 & 4th grade leader with 60-1/4 miles**

Carlos Martinez (Proud): **5th grade leader with 31-1/2 miles**

Kamarion Young (Ward): **3rd grade leader with 32-3/4 miles**

Members of the 55 Mile Club
Demetrus Johnson (Hamm)

Members of the 25 Mile Club
Kaiden Curtis (Dallaportas)

Members of the 20 Mile Club
Ed Curry (Long)

Darrell Merriex, Jr. (Long)

Colton Roberts (Rudzitis)