



The Principal's Corner

Dear Wayman Parents,

Spring has arrived with the promise of warmer temperatures, open windows, and outdoor activities. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the students, parents, faculty and staff of Wayman Academy for a successful year thus far.

Parents, as expectations for improved instruction and assessment are set for our teachers, the expectations for our students remain high as well. Quality classroom instruction and assessment are only part of the plan for increasing student learning. Students must be present, on time, focused, prepared with required assignments and materials, and participate in the teaching in the classroom so that they can perform on assessments. Parents can help with this situation by encouraging children to focus on their learning. Parents can also help by stressing the importance of school attendance and arrival to school and class on time. These are two behaviors that relate to the world of work and need to be mastered by our young people so that they will be successful in school and beyond.

Students in grades 3rd, 4th, and 5th will be taking FCAT assessments between April 14th and April 22nd. We are persistently preparing our students for these assessments on daily basis. It is crucial that students arrive to school on time and not leave early during these preparation and testing days. These tests are very important – it is crucial that your child be in school every day as long as they are well.

I close this newsletter with the vision and belief that we will continue on our path to greatness. The path depends on all of us working together to reinforce the importance of education and the need to have work habits to be competitive in a global society. Please join with the Wayman staff in making our students ready and able to be responsible, active and successful citizens.

Have a wonderful and enjoyable Spring Break!
Simaran Bakshi, Principal

Assistant Principal's Corner

Building Vocabulary

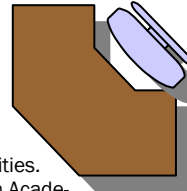
The wonderful words found in children's books are often words that we don't use in every day conversations. During your reading time together, maximize the opportunity to build your child's vocabulary by reading books that are more difficult than what he/she could read on their own. Talk about the 'vocabulary' words and how they could be used in other situations, or make a game of trying to use the words. Keep in mind, a large vocabulary will improve your child's comprehension as he/she begins to read more complex texts. Thank you for partnering with us to help your child succeed.



Kindergarten

We are excited to be in the 3rd quarter of the school year. The students are showing much growth with our weekly computer assessments called i-Ready. Our focus in math is measurements. We are discussing plant life in science and focusing on report writing, dealing with non-fiction texts, in writing. The students have really enjoyed discussing past Presidents and learning about African-American History in February. We will be reading and learning a lot about Dr. Seuss throughout March. Just a few reminders:

1. Uniforms are encouraged to be worn on a daily basis with the proper footwear (no flip flops)
2. Always read and sign the agenda, it is our means of communication
3. Students should be in attendance regularly and on time.
4. Please try to obtain a library card from any local library...its FREE.



*3/9—Daylight Saving Times Begins
(Spring Clock Forward 1 hour)*

3/12—Early Release (12:45 p.m.)

3/17—St. Patrick's Day

3/17—3/21—Spring Break (No School)

3/20—Spring Begins

3/26—Early Release (12:45 p.m.)

3/28—Writer's Tea (2:00 p.m.)

3/31—Student of the Month (2:00 p.m.)



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Kindergarten Continued

5. Complete homework daily.
6. Always read to students daily and practice sight words over the weekend.
7. If you would like to schedule a teacher conference, please write a note in the agenda.

Thank you for all your support.
The Kindergarten Team

1st Grade

We are coming up on the end of the 3rd nine weeks, which means the nearing of the end of this 2013-14 school year. Your student should now be an active reader with good comprehension. Please make sure to continue reading with them daily. This will help your child progress towards second grade. If at any point you are concerned with the growth of your child, please don't hesitate to speak with your child's teacher.

In Math, we have just finished up adding and subtracting 10s through 100, and are starting to learn about shapes. The students have learned about how many sides and vertices a shape has. You can reinforce this by going through your pantry at home and taking out items and asking them how many sides and vertices the item has. We will be doing this for 2-D and 3-D shapes.

In writing, the students are still focusing on writing a complete story with a topic sentence, three detail sentences, and a conclusion sentence. In second grade they will be tested on their ability to do this while adding elaboration.

2nd Grade

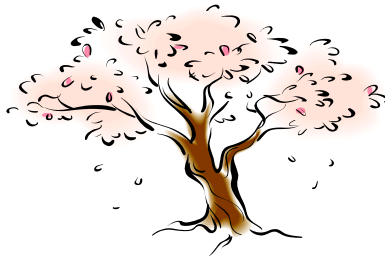
February was short, at least numbers wise. Our theme was We Are 100 Days Smarter. Oh, how true that is. We've been busy in Language Arts studying cause and effect. We also learned how to identify the beginning, middle and end of a story. Our biggest challenge was learning how to summarize a story.

It's a challenge to write just a few sentences about a story when you liked the whole thing! We're continuing to work on writing our own narratives. Part of our task was to create fun, new characters and use them in easy to understand plots. It's important to make a good first impression, so write

about what you know. We kept a writer's journal. In the journal, we used the proof reader's marks we learned. Once in a while, we read our stories to our table groups. It's always exciting to see who will go to the Writer's Tea with Ms. Sabb. We also reviewed our test taking strategies. One of our test taking strategies is take your time. It's better to be the last one finished and get a GREAT GRADE, than to be the first one finished and FAIL. Another tip is Read Each Question Carefully.

In closing, have an enjoyable Spring Break from March 17-21, stay safe and come back ready to take the FCAT.

The Second Grade Team



3rd Grade

Time is vastly approaching to FCAT. Spring Break is in two weeks. Then we will have four weeks left to FCAT. Please encourage your child to put his/her best foot forward and SOAR to higher heights. As we continue to prepare for FCAT, here are a few helpful hints:

1. Review homework with your child daily.
2. Sign agenda book/planner daily.
3. Adhere to scheduled parent-teacher conferences.
4. Make sure students get proper amount of rest.
5. Read at least 15-30 minutes daily with your child.
6. Allow students to practice reading and math skills on www.factexplorer.com (students user ID and Passwords are stapled inside of their agenda book/planner).

As always, thank you...Third Grade Team

4th Grade

It's time to RAMP it up! In mathematics, we are reviewing our skills for standardized testing. We have two more weeks of instruction before Spring Break, so please ensure that your child attends school every day. Fourth graders will receive a practice packet to complete during Spring Break. With the FCAT Writes behind us and the FCAT Reading and Math tests quickly approaching, our writing lessons will fully support our reading classes. We have written and will deliver thank-you notes to the many children and teachers who visited us in our classrooms to cheer us on to excellence in our FCAT test.

Next on our agenda is a focus on vocabulary, text structure, literature genres, story elements, text features, and writing well written reading responses. Thanks to all the parents for 100% student attendance for FCAT Writing!

The Fourth Grade Team

5th Grade

WOW!!! Can you believe that it's already March? In Reading, we are in full swing reviewing and gearing up for FCAT. Please make sure that your child is completing their reading homework nightly. These assignments are a review of what we covered in prior weeks or practice reading comprehension. It is also very important that they are reading at least 20 minutes each night to build stamina.

In Math, we're finishing up our units and will begin reviewing for FCAT. There will be a change to their nightly homework. It will be a review that will cover several different content standards. We've a lot to remember in math this year! In science, we're currently studying body systems and will be moving on to ecosystems next.

Both math and science notebooks should be going home nightly to help the students review for the scrimmage tests, which are given every other week. The end of the year is fast approaching, so please be on the lookout for information regarding our promotion ceremonies. Letters will be going out in March with more information.

The Fifth Grade Team

