



September 2019 Newsletter

Mitchell Elementary

2 Perry Street Charleston, SC 29403

<http://mitchell.ccsdschools.com/> Telephone: 843-724-7262

Upcoming Events

October 2 School Improvement Council 5:00 in the Library

October 4 PTA Movie Night 4:00 – 6:00

October 7 - 11 Book Fair in the Library

October 9 PTA Open House 5:30 – 6:30

October 10 CD/K Interactive Literacy 8:30 in the Library

October 11 Donuts with the Principal 7:30 in the Library

October 17 Fall Picture Day

October 30 Report Cards

A Message from Principal Deborah Smith

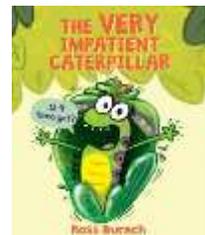
We have had a very busy start to the school year. We are glad that the hurricane did not cause major damage. While it caused a break in the start of our year, we have our intervention groups going and progress reports went home last week. We will hold our PTA open house Wednesday, October 9th giving you a chance to speak to your child's teacher. We continue to speak to the school board about the concerns of rezoning Mitchell students and converting the building to a middle school. The next opportunity to speak to the board is Thursday, October 10. The meeting is 6:00 – 7:00 at Burke High School. If you would like to speak you need to come early to sign up. The board members I have spoken to really appreciated how they were addressed at the last board meeting and look forward to hearing from parents at the October 10 listening session. If you have any questions about the recommendations, please feel free to contact me.

Title 1 News

CD/Kindergarten kicked off their first Interactive Literacy workshop on Thursday, September 19th. Our focus this year is on pairing up fiction/nonfiction books. We started the year with *The Very Impatient Caterpillar* (fiction) and *Rookie Reader- It's a Good Thing There Are Insects* (nonfiction.) The kids had a great time making a wiggly caterpillar out of circles. For snack, we made strawberry ladybugs, grape butterflies and carrot/blueberry dragonflies. We had an awesome turn out for our first workshop. CD/Kindergarten will be having these workshops the second Thursday of every month this year. Our next one will be on Thursday, October 10th at 8:30 in the library.

If you would like to know more about workshops, please contact :

Alison Johnson, Counselor
843-958-8781.



Volunteer of the Month:

John Narkunas
Unitarian Church

Parent of the Month: Diane Powell
mother of 2nd grader
William Powell

5th Grade Young Makers Club

Students are exploring Maker activities with the Q-Ba-Maze, OSMO Pizza, and Ozobots in the Mitchell Library.



Classroom News



CD is off to a great start! We have loved getting to know your families! We are up and running our assessments! CD kiddos are a smart bunch! We are looking forward to your child's "All about Me" project. We have them decorating our hallway - please come check them out! Please join us for our monthly Interactive Literacy the 2nd Thursday of each month!

Kindergarten

Hi families! Kindergarten is off to a great start this year. Our learning focus in reading is on letter and letter sound identification. In writing students are working on recognizing and writing their own names independently. In math we are working on early number skills like counting forwards and backwards to 10, recognizing numerals 0-10, and being able to count a set of objects correctly. Please always check your child's folder for updates about events and papers they have worked on at school - show that that you are proud of them!



Welcome back! We have transitioned so well back into the school routine. Reading groups are going well with each student placed according to his/her level. Of course the groups are flexible and your student may move to a different group depending on the need. In math we are busy working on making groups of ten using various manipulatives. Interim reports have been sent home. We look forward to meeting with each of you by the end of the first quarter.



2nd Graders are off a great start this year! Students just completed the MAP tests. Reading Groups and Walk to Math have started and students are getting into the routine. Be sure to check your child's homework folder nightly.

In Science, students are learning about weather tools, and exploring wind and air. In Social Studies, students are learning about map skills and geographic landforms. In ELA, students are reading texts to determine the author's purpose and story elements. In Writing, students are focused on small moment stories.



Nurse's Notes

It is flu season. While we haven't had an outbreak at school yet, we suggest you consider getting the flu vaccine. Make sure your children wash their hands often and cough into their elbow to prevent spreading germs.



Reading Matters!

HERE'S THE IMPACT OF **READING 20 MINUTES PER DAY!**

A student who reads	A student who reads	A student who reads
20:00 minutes per day	5:00 minutes per day	1:00 minute per day
will be exposed to 1.8 MILLION words per year and scores in 90th PERCENTILE on standardized tests	will be exposed to 282,000 words per year and scores in 50th PERCENTILE on standardized tests	will be exposed to 8,000 words per year and scores in 10th PERCENTILE on standardized tests

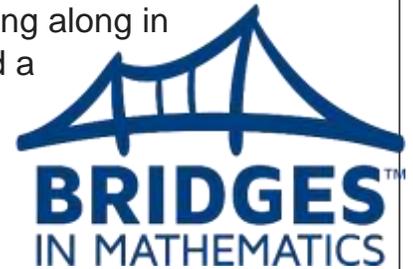
SCHOLASTIC



Despite the long, unexpected break from the hurricane, third grade is off to a productive start. Please make sure your child is reading daily after school and recording their reading on their home reading log. The students have access to a program called Accelerated Reader. This program allows students to take quizzes on books they have read. Please join us for Open House so that Mrs. Finnerty and Mrs. Wingard can show you how to access this program from home. Hope to see you all on Wednesday, October 9th at 5:30 pm.

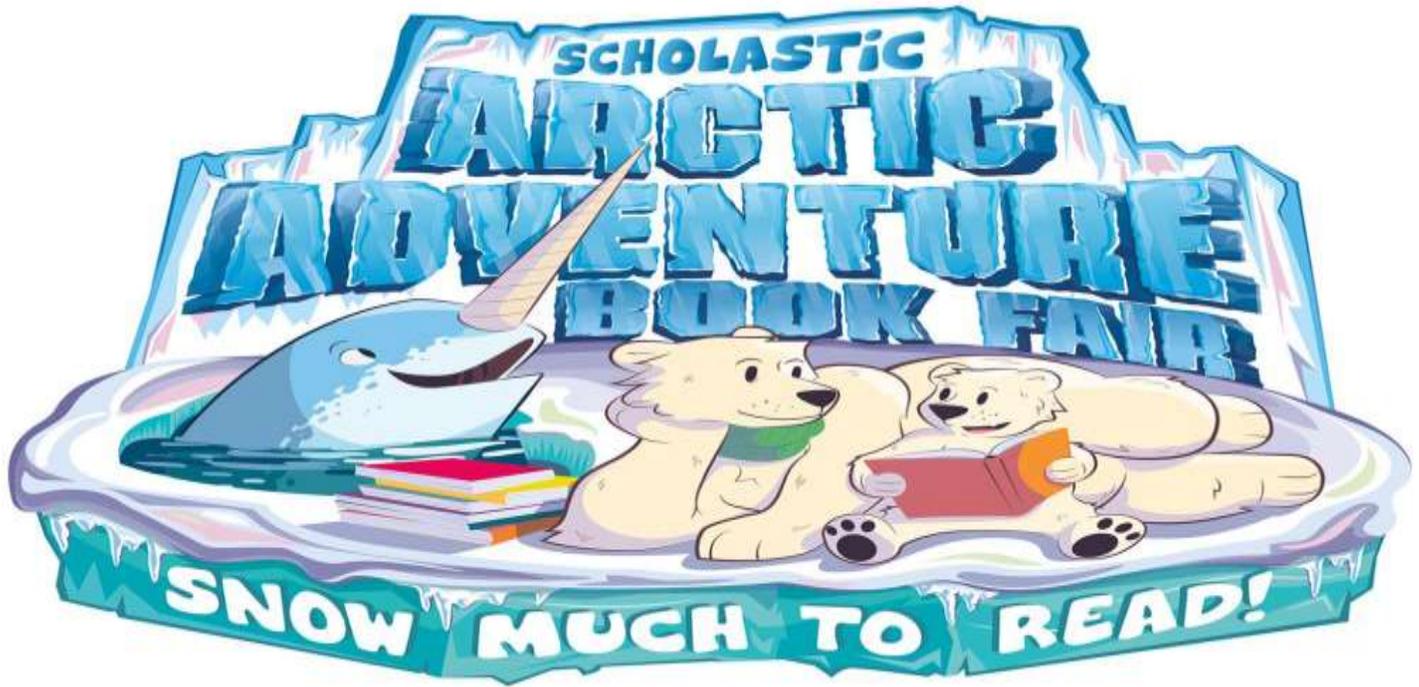


We are really zooming along in 4th grade this year! We have started a new math program called Bridges and the kids really seem to be enjoying all the hands-on math explorations we are doing.



Welcome to 5th grade! We are super excited to have our new students and we have hit the ground running. We have started our new Bridges math program working on multiplication and volume. This program is very rigorous, but we expect that our students will rise to the challenge! This year, science and social studies will be incorporated into our Reading. This will allow us more time to work on reading skills, while still learning our science and social studies standards. Right now we are working on realistic fiction as well. In writing, we are starting slow, learning to build solid sentences. We will then be moving into putting these great sentences together into paragraphs.

We had a wonderful turnout for our first 5th grade Make It/Take It last week. Thank you to all the parents who came to learn more about what is happening in our classroom. It is so important for us to work as a team so that every student is successful. Please feel free to reach out through our parent app (Bloomz) if you ever have a concern or question. We encourage every parent to download the app (it is so easy!) so we can have a way to communicate with one another. Thanks for your support!



OCTOBER 7 – 11
IN THE MITCHELL LIBRARY

A reminder card with a yellow background and colorful polka dots in shades of red, green, and blue. A yellow pencil with a pink eraser and a sharpened lead tip is positioned horizontally across the middle. Below the pencil, the word "REMINDER:" is written in a simple, black, sans-serif font. Underneath that, the words "Open House" are written in a large, black, cursive script. At the bottom, the date and time "Thursday, October 9 5:30 - 6:30" are written in a smaller, black, sans-serif font. The entire card is framed by a thin blue border.