

Spring Hill Elementary School
 201 East 15th Street
 Jeffersonville, Indiana 47130
 812-288-4874
 Virenda Cunningham-Lester, Principal
 www.gcs.k12.in.us
Purpose-To improve the education of every student and
 challenge each child to become a lifelong learner.

January 2018



The Wildcat Journal

2018 Boys
Basketball
Team



Korey Ellis
 Kevon Fountain
 Elijah Hamilton
 Amare' Hinkle
 Vontrell James
 Melvin Mitchell
 Tyler Pratt
 Jonathan Ramirez
 Davontrea Saunders
 Daylan Sims
 Pravis Stewart
 Elijah White

Kerry Murrell-Coach

2017 Basketball
Schedule

Date	School
Jan. 24th	TJ
Jan. 29th	New Wash
Jan. 31st	Northaven
Feb. 5th	Bridgepoint
Feb. 7th	Maple

Tournament Dates

Feb. 13th & 14th
 Feb. 15th & 20th
 Feb. 22nd
 Feb. 26th

PSO Meeting
Thursday,

January 11, 2018
12:00 PM

Spring
Hill's
Beliefs



We Believe...
 in mutual respect throughout our school.
 a positive attitude will encourage a strong work ethic and a supportive school climate.
 a professional learning community will enhance our collaborative culture; provide a focus on student achievement and learning by all.
 all staff members and students will have high expectations for themselves and one another.
 all students can learn in a variety of ways and at different rates based on their individuality.
 all students must be challenged and given opportunities to develop and expand their knowledge.

Dates To Remember

School Begins	Jan. 3rd
Report Cards Go Home	Jan. 4th
PSO Meeting	Jan. 11th
No School Dr. King Day	Jan. 15th
Donuts With Dad	Jan. 19th
Boys Ball Game @ TJ	Jan. 24th
Boys Ball Game @ Spring Hill	Jan. 29th
Boys Ball Game @ Northaven	Jan. 31st

Donuts With Dad
January 19, 2018
8:15!



Just For Parents

Attendance Is Important!

Daily attendance at school can be the difference between a child succeeding or failing to learn. It is important that your child arrive at school by 8:55 and attend class all day, every day.

**School Hours are
9:00- 3:35!**

Special Days

1. Report Cards will go home on Wednesday, January 4, 2018.
2. There will be No School on Monday, January 15, 2018.

Donuts With Dad

On Friday, January 19, 2018 the PSO will sponsor donuts and drinks for all dads, granddads, uncles, and special friends who accompany their child to school. Breakfast starts at 8:15. See you there!!!



Reminder To All Parents

Update any telephone number or address for your child in the school office. We always need this information for emergencies!

Classroom News



A note from the kindergarten teachers:

Welcome back! First, we want to say a big thank you to all of the families that sent in items for our Winter Celebration. The students had a blast and we appreciated it all. This semester the students will be working extra hard to prepare for first grade. Some of the skills that we will be working on in January are: short vowel sounds, the main idea of a story, blending and segmenting words, writing a story, teen numbers, and simple addition and subtraction. These are great skills to reinforce and practice at home. Also, please encourage your child to read daily and complete their Book-It Calendar. Students will be expected to read at a level 4-6 at the end of the year. Please remember you can contact us at (812)288-4874.



I hope everyone had a blessed holiday! We are halfway through 2nd grade and I could not be more proud of each and every student! I know the students will continue to work hard during Quarter 3! Here are some things your students will be working on:

Language: We will continue to have weekly spelling tests. Please make sure your student is practicing at home! We will be focusing on adverbs and adjectives this Quarter.

Examples of *adverbs*: **quickly, truthfully, lightly**

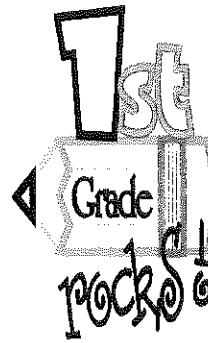
Examples of *adjectives*: **round, blue, hungry**

Vocabulary: We will continue to have weekly vocabulary tests. Please make sure your student is practicing at home! We are building strong vocabulary for strong readers and writers!

Reading: We will be working on comprehension, making predictions, structure of a story, and comparing and contrasting.

Math: We will be focusing on money for the first Learning Check. Students will be identifying what each value is worth: (dollar, quarter, dime, nickel, and penny.) Students will count money to figure out the total amount.

As always, thank you for your continued support! I know we will see the students accomplish great things!

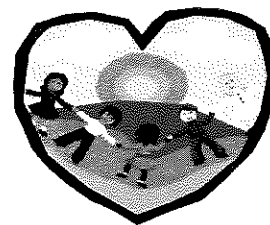


The first graders are as fabulous as ever! By the end of first grade all students should be reading on a level 20. Congratulations to these students who have already reached a 20 and some are even much higher! Cayedence, Chloe, Steven, Brandon, Trenten, Selena, Eden, Madeline, Ivy and Ayden! We also need to congratulate Brandon and Madeline who have earned over 100 Reading Counts points! Remember the best way to become a better reader is to READ, READ, READ! In math we are working on becoming stronger with our addition and subtraction facts. Parents, while driving in the car or working around the home, please help your student practice these facts!



The state project is coming up. Be on the lookout (BOLO) for your child's poster project and requirements to come home. We are also gearing up for the Black History program in February...keep an eye out for the date and time—we'd love to see you there!

In Science we are currently studying plants – ecosystems is next on the list so be sure to ask your child about it.



Mr. Deakin's Class

During the first part of January we will be studying self help skills on Unique Learning Systems. Also, we will be studying winter and all that comes along with it. As always if you have any questions please email me at ddeakin@gccschools.com or call the school at 812-288-4874 ext 241.

Classroom News

Third Grade News

We are excited to be back from the Holiday break! We are going to be very busy this quarter. We will be finishing up our Social Studies project and will begin our Black History Projects. Students will be assigned a famous person to research. Half of the work will be done in school and half will be a family type project. We look forward to the Black History Program next month where the students will perform and show off their work. We continue to work on multiplication facts as well as introducing fractions. Please have your child work on IXL on fractions. This extra practice at home will strengthen their skills in the classroom.



Preschool is excited to get back into session! We had a great holiday season, studying the gingerbread man, going on a gingerbread man treasure hunt around the school, and using visual directions to make gingerbread houses. We are beginning with a unit on winter and will be picking back up with our math concepts and letter of the week. We are looking forward to a great start to 2018!

Fifth Grade

The 5th graders are continuing to learn and display ROLE MODEL behavior. Be sure to check out their Class Dojo points! The students have just finished their American Revolution projects and chose to be a Loyalist or a Patriot. They did an excellent job debating their viewpoints and creating propaganda posters on the war. In January the students will begin their Black History and United States research projects. In math, we still need your help by practicing multiplication facts every night with your child. This is a very important standard that needs to be mastered. Also, please have your child read to you nightly. This will help with their fluency and is a great way to build the love of reading with your child.

Special Area News

Library -In December we learned how different cultures around the world celebrate the holidays in December. We expanded our knowledge about how Mexico and Asia celebrate the Christmas holiday, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa by reading books, researching and watching videos about different customs around the world. Students are ON FIRE with Reading Counts this year! Litzzy Rubio is our school leader with 541 points! We are so excited to have so many awesome readers here at Spring Hill.

Please Remember to bring back overdue library books!

Technology-Students have increased their WPM (words typed per minute) by the introduction of new speed typing games. These games can be played at home and are very beneficial to intermediate students when ISTEP testing begins because accurate, fast typing is necessary. Primary students are learning how to navigate the internet and utilizing the Shift Key when typing. I am very impressed by how quickly they are catching on to these fundamental computer skills!

Music Room-The K-2 Winter Program, "Songs from Holiday Classics," went very well. The audience seemed to enjoy the songs, readings, & memories. The speakers did a fantastic job! Kudos to those students who had their parts memorized! Way to go! All the dancers did a great job too. There are a few photos & videos of this event on our Facebook Page.

Art Project-I hope everyone's Christmas Ornament made it home on Tuesday, 12/19. The majority of the students made one. The ornaments & tree looked very nice this year. If you didn't get to see them, check out the Spring Hill Elementary Facebook Page.

P.E.-When students return to school in January, they always wear their new clothes & "boots with the fur." Just a reminder that PE is on Wednesday for every class except Mr. Deakin's & Ms. Carter's classes. Their PE is on Thursday. Make sure your children wear or bring their athletic shoes on PE days.

Inclement Weather Transportation Plan 2015-16 School Year

If weather and road conditions become bad enough to cause a change in the normal school schedule, one of the following plans below will be announced to the media on the morning in question. The district uses -10 degree wind chill as a starting point when considering a delay or closing of school due to temperature.

The district's status will also be posted on our website and social media sites. Please do not call school offices or school employees because it ties up phone lines which are needed for emergency communications.

Cold Weather Hot Line

A School Messenger notification will be sent regarding a delay or closing of school during inclement weather by 5:30 a.m. to staff members and 6:00 a.m. to parents/guardians. In the event that school is delayed and weather conditions deteriorate, an announcement to close schools will be made by 7:30 a.m. A recorded message will also be available at 288-4802 (press 1) or check the GCCS website at gcs.k12.in.us.

Plan 1: Two Hour Delay

- a) School will begin two hours late. Buses will run two hours later on their normal routes.
- b) Afternoon dismissal will remain the same.
- c) The morning sessions of preschool programs will be cancelled.

Plan 2: Schools Closed

- a) No school will be open that day.
- b) School will be open the next scheduled day unless another closing announcement is made.
- c) Make-up days will be announced.

During slick road conditions, bus drivers may decide, after approval by the Director of Transportation, that a portion of their route cannot be safely traveled. In such cases, every effort will be made to notify the affected homes. The following rules will apply for students whose bus did not run:

- a) Attendance will be taken and recorded with a notation that absence was due to no bus transportation.
- b) If the student has perfect attendance in progress for the year, he/she will remain eligible for the recognition.
- c) All make-up requirements must be met.

Inclement weather conditions sometimes cause buses to run late. Parents are asked to prepare their children to wait a reasonable amount of time for the bus and to be prepared for some variation in normal schedules. Questions about these procedures may be directed to the **school principal**, the **Chief Financial Officer's Office** (288-4802 ext. 50120), or the **Transportation Office** (288-4809).

Thank you for your cooperation.



Home & School

Working Together for School Success

CONNECTION®

January 2018

Spring Hill Elementary School



SHORT NOTES

What's the source?

Share these ideas for keeping track of sources when your youngster writes reports for school. He can jot each fact on the front of an index card and list the book's title and author on the back. Or he could print out articles and highlight information he plans to use. The URL will be right there at the bottom of the page.

Winter wear

Not too cold, not too hot—your child will concentrate better in school if she's comfortable. Encourage her to dress in layers so she can remove or add as needed. For example, she might wear a sweater over a T-shirt or a vest on top of a blouse.

Developing diligence

When your youngster gives a job his wholehearted effort, he's being *diligent*. To demonstrate, suggest that he fold a few shirts before putting them in a drawer and then just throw in the rest. Ask him if he has done the job right. Point out that diligence will give him better results (unwrinkled shirts).

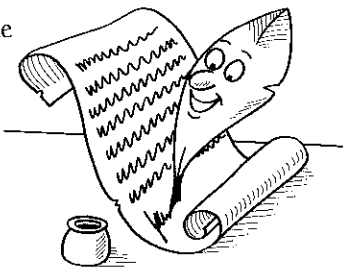
Worth quoting

"Hold on to a true friend with both your hands." *Nigerian proverb*

JUST FOR FUN

Q: Where was the Declaration of Independence signed?

A: At the bottom.



Together time

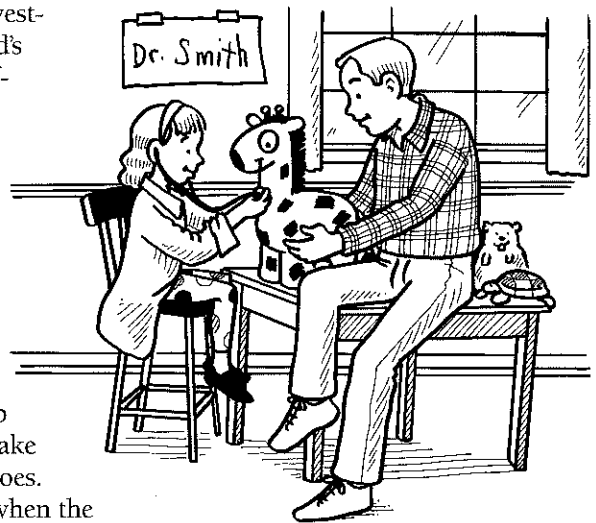
Family time is a worthy investment that can boost your child's communication skills and self-esteem. As a result, she may learn more and behave better in school. Try these ideas for fitting in more time with your youngster.

Maximize minutes

Sharing simple, everyday moments may lead to conversations about school or friends. Ask your child to help you with dinner. She could make the salad while you peel potatoes. Or sing along with the radio when the two of you are in the car or listening to music at home.

Have "play dates"

Join your youngster when she plays. She might teach you the rules for Trouble or Mousetrap, or you could show her a card game you liked at her age. Or pretend with her—maybe she'll be a veterinarian and you'll bring stuffed animals for checkups. Taking turns and role-playing build social skills she needs in school.



Plan ahead

With your child, list special activities you both enjoy, such as going to a flea market, visiting a nature center, or watching a basketball game. Put these on a calendar so you'll plan on them. She'll see that her company is important to you.

Tip: Silence or put away your phone to give your youngster your undivided attention while you chat or play.♥

Celebrate history

For a child, even yesterday can seem like a long time ago. Bring the past into the present for your youngster with these do-it-today activities.

● Celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

This civil rights leader helped to change the world. How can your family make a difference? Have each person draw a star on a sheet of paper, then cut it out and write one way to help others on each of the star's points. *Examples:* "Make a meal for a sick neighbor." "Play with a classmate who doesn't have a lot of friends."

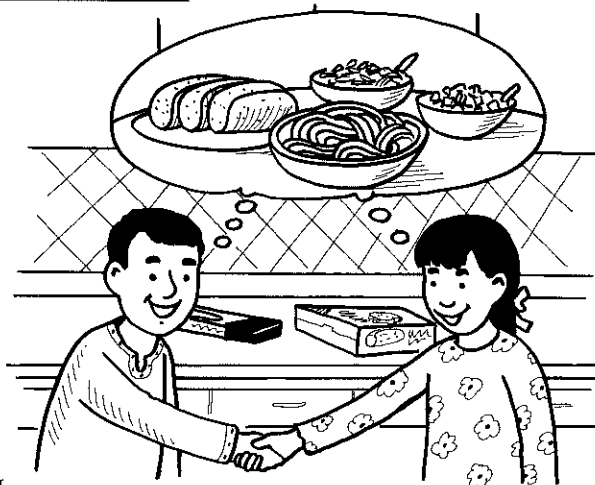
● **Create a personal history museum.** History isn't just about others—your family has its own history, too! Let your child turn a box into a museum filled with items that remind family members of "historic" moments. He might include his T-ball award or a photograph of his little sister in a school play.♥



Keys to collaboration

Here's a skill that will come in handy when your child works with partners or groups: collaboration. He'll need to exchange opinions and solve problems throughout his school career and in future jobs. Share these tips.

Think before answering. In a good discussion, each person builds on others' responses. Practice by asking



one family member wants tacos for dinner and another wants pasta. Perhaps he'll suggest a "taco-spaghetti bar" where you have tortillas *and* noodles, with toppings for both.♥

a "Would you rather" question, such as "Would you rather fly like a bird or transport anywhere instantly?" Maybe you'll say "teleporting" is better because you'd get home from work quickly. Your youngster might reply, "I agree that teleporting would be faster, but I'd like to fly and look at the world below."

Negotiate thoughtfully. Appoint your child "consensus builder" for one week. His job is to think of compromises. Say

PARENT TO PARENT

Peer pressure: Stop and think

My daughter Chloe has a friend who dares her to do things that could lead to trouble. When the girls got a restroom pass from their teacher, this friend pressured her to sneak onto the playground. Chloe said it was hard to say no, and when she did, her friend called her a "scaredy-cat."

I told Chloe I was proud of her for doing the right thing. Then I shared an idea to use if she faces peer pressure. She can picture a stop sign in her mind—that's her cue to *stop and think*. If she wouldn't want her teacher or me to see her saying yes, she should say no.

We also talked about how true friends will take "no" for an answer. I hope the "stop sign" strategy will help her handle tough situations in the future.♥



Q & A

Encourage active play

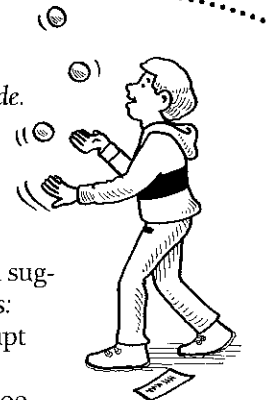
Q: My son used to get plenty of exercise by playing outside. Now that he's older, he spends more time sitting around than running around. How can I get him moving?

A: You're right to want your son to move more, since daily physical activity will keep him healthier.

Challenge your child to think of fun ways to be active, and suggest that he write each one on a separate index card. *Examples:* "Jump rope." "Juggle balls." "Play air guitar." Every day, prompt him to pick a few cards and do what they say.

Encourage him to enjoy physical activity with other kids, too, by joining a sports team or taking a class like karate or gymnastics. You can also help by being active *with* him. Go outside for a game of catch, follow along with a workout video, or play Ping-Pong at the community center.

Between these ideas—and recess and PE at school—your son can get the recommended hour or more of exercise per day.♥



ACTIVITY CORNER

Make a crystal "garden"

This sparkly science experiment will show your youngster how crystals form.

1. Save the shells from 4 eggs that you've cracked in half. Have your child rinse them and place into an empty egg carton.

2. Measure $\frac{1}{2}$ cup boiling water into a mug. Your youngster should stir in about $\frac{1}{4}$ cup salt, a little at a time, until it won't dissolve anymore.

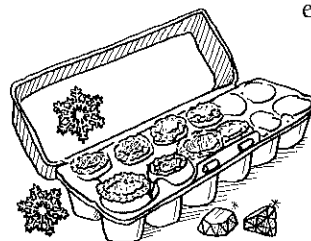
3. Let your child pour 1 tbsp. water into each shell and add a drop of food coloring.

4. Have her check the shells twice a day and record what she sees. Over several days, colorful crystals will form.

5. She could paint her crystals with clear nail polish to preserve them.

The science: As salt dissolves, the water molecules drive apart the salt molecules. When the water evaporates, the salt molecules go back together,

forming a regular geometric pattern called a *crystal*. Snowflakes and diamonds are real-world examples of crystals.♥



OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

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