

# Calendar of Events

**October 7<sup>th</sup>**  
Papers go home

**October 9<sup>th</sup>**  
End of the 1<sup>st</sup> 9 weeks

**October 12<sup>th</sup>**  
Teacher in-service  
Students do not attend

**October 14<sup>th</sup>**  
Early dismissal @ 12:55pm

**October 15<sup>th</sup>**  
Early dismissal @ 12:55pm

**October 16<sup>th</sup>**  
Early dismissal @ 12:55pm  
Report cards go home

**October 21<sup>st</sup>**  
Papers go home

**October 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
Early dismissal @ 1:15pm  
ZHS Homecoming Parade

**October 27<sup>th</sup>**  
Star Student breakfast @ 7:30am

# Miscellaneous News

## Spanish

**October Class of the month-**  
Mrs. Tyler

**Student of the month-**  
Aayanah Cola

## Music

**September Class of the month-**  
4<sup>th</sup> grade- Ms. Washington  
5<sup>th</sup> grade- Mrs. Starks

**October Class of the month-**  
4<sup>th</sup> grade- Ms. Yancey & Mrs. Robison  
5<sup>th</sup> grade- Mrs. Signorino

## P.E.

Copper Mill Elementary will host a Speed Stacking Tournament on Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup> from 9 - 11am.

## Just a note...

Changes to transportation can not be made over the phone. Please be sure to send a note to school with your child, or fax a note to the office. The fax # is 658-1298.

Owe lunch money? Please call the cafeteria (658-0128) to check your child's lunch balance.

## Yearbooks...

Yearbooks are on sale! You can order online or print out an order form and send it to school with your child.



October 2009  
Volume 4, Issue 2

## From the Principal

### WANTED: GOOD TEACHER

Ashlyn and I were traveling in the car recently when she rattled off a pretty interesting fact. I asked her where she learned the information she shared, because I was impressed with her 6 year old knowledge. She responded nonchalantly, "you." She went on to say, "You're my first teacher". I quickly asked where she learned that I was her first teacher. She paused and looked at me as if to say, I can't believe you are asking me such a ridiculous question. She then calmly responded, "Mrs. P. Taylor (her first grade teacher)." I responded, "You're very smart." Although I didn't say it, I thought

that her teacher was right on the money and pretty smart herself. I am my child's first and primary teacher. It will be from her mom and I that she will learn so much about life. She'll learn how to show honor and respect for others from us. We may talk about such things, but she'll learn from watching us. Although Mrs. P. Taylor will keep her on task during the school day, she'll develop her work ethic from us. What we expect from her, as well as what we expect of ourselves, will be a part of the lessons she'll receive. The scope of our teaching is endless. A parent's work is never done.

Unfortunately, there's no test to

let me know each year if I'm passing as a parent with my responsibilities as her first and primary teacher. I think I'll spend a little more time looking over my "parent lesson plan". Thanks, Mrs. P. Taylor, for the reminder. Ashlyn is listening and so is her dad.



*Devy Davis*

## ★ Star Students ★

Abrieal Eubanks	Adam Clark	Aeneas Trench
Austin Wittig	Ayana Ferguson	Brady Bennett
Brian Littles	Brice Guidry	Caleb Clayton
Cameron Holmes	Christopher Travis	Codasia George
Collin Dupuy	Dale Farmer	Estonia Bayonne
Ethan Altman	Griffen Chaney	Jacob Payne
Jeremy Kearney	KeShawn Sullivan	Kiswayla Scott
Kyle Hostetler	Lauryn Langley	Madeline Brown
Makenna Tunstall	Mallory Mankins	Martell Fontenot
Melissa Dardenne	Mercedes Harris	Michael Sanford
Morgan Mazzarella	Reed Ladnier	Reid Saari
Steven Jagielski	Temyra Davis	Tyler Le

## 4th grade

This month in reading, we will be focusing on plot, conflict and resolution, author's purposes, and perspective. Some of the focus strategies we will be working on in reading will include monitoring comprehension and summarizing what we have read. Other additional skills will include prefixes, suffixes, root words, and locating information. The types of genres for Theme 2 will be magazine articles, biographies, and expository nonfiction. We are looking forward to new and even more challenging groups of stories over the next few weeks. Please don't forget about our reading goals for the year. Check your child's reading log to see if they are keeping it up to date.

In spelling, we will continue to learn spelling words that are grouped according to various vowel sounds and patterns. We will focus on more phonics and sound-letter combinations. Please be sure your child is studying on a regular basis.

We are finishing up our short unit on "Parts of a Book". This is mostly a review, but it is very important that our students know where to go for information in a book and the purpose for that part of a book. This will lead us into "Informational Resources." Informational resources, such as encyclopedias, reference books, the internet, glossary, and other sources help us with our research skills. Next, we will be continuing with parts of speech, starting with nouns. Students explore recognizing nouns, common and proper nouns, and writing with nouns. They will also learn the proper way of using singular and plural possessive nouns.

We are off and running! Can you believe that the First Nine Weeks is coming to a close? The students are doing a great job with routines and getting comfortable with a being BIG 4<sup>th</sup> graders now!

In math, 4<sup>th</sup> grade has completed Chapters 1-3. Students have been working on Algebra and Input/Output Tables. As we move forward into the second nine weeks, we will embark upon more new skills. Yes, it's time to tell time!

Students will use real-life situations to find elapsed time. Then it's off to graphs. Classes will use their creativity to create, interpret, and analyze a variety of graphs.

Science leads to so many windows of discovery. We'll discover how we use energy, energy, and more energy! Teachers have been giving students the chance to see how heat energy is used around them everyday. Did you know that things that we use each day can either be insulators or conductors of heat? Next, we'll learn more about sound. Students will create and share sound machines this year. Doesn't that sound good? We'll then take a closer look at light and even try out a few fun light experiments.

In social studies, students have been working hard to understand map skills and learn hurricane facts. Now, we are off to exploring landforms and the different regions of the United States. Students will also be creating landform booklets. Be sure to be on the look-out for notes from your child's teacher telling you more about the upcoming assignment. Classes will also learn about the Early Americans and explorers.

As a reminder, please don't forget to work on LEAP packets throughout the week, and be ready to turn them in on Friday mornings. Teachers have been discussing highlighting, writing in complete statements, and always showing their work. Students must have all questions answered, and parents must remember to sign the cover sheet.

## 5th grade

Fifth graders have begun a harvest of great activities and skills.

The 4-H club began meeting at the end of September. Officer elections are coming up in October. The Science in Action Club's first meeting will be on Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup>. During this meeting, Chemistry's Potion and Motion will be explored. The students must maintain a "C" or better in conduct to maintain membership in any clubs.

In science, our students proved how creative they could be when their hard work yielded very impressively designed catapults. In social studies,

the migration patterns of the Early Americans will be investigated. We will then learn about the many Native American tribes.

Our young mathematicians are working on rectangular arrays to find factors and multiples. Decimals (adding, subtracting, rounding, etc.) will continue to be studied.

Reading skills will include character traits and asking questions. The new reading theme is "Common Goals". The students should be reading their novels to meet their reading goals. Book projects are due on October 1, 2009.

Our talented crop of writers had a chance to enter the Military Order of the Purple Heart's essay contest. The students wrote essays on "patriotism" and had a chance to win \$50.00. Thanks to all those who submitted an essay. Writing instruction will continue with personal narratives and descriptive writing.



### 100 points:

Stephanie Schlorke (130)

### 50 points:

Darrel Deville (77.5)  
Joseph Harkrider (52.6)  
Hunter Henderson (66.3)  
Tamira Johnson (56.6)  
Jake O'Brien (85.2)  
Madison Russell (50.2)  
Alex Yoes (70.8)

### 25 points

Emma Chaney (29.6)  
Megan Crum (31.4)  
Melissa Dardenne (31.3)  
David Heidke (32.7)  
Jeremy Gang (41.6)  
Emily Lavender (36.7)  
Nicole Mulkey (27.7)  
Leanne Sorrel (27.4)  
Jessica Staggs (31.6)  
Austin Veal (49.1)  
Elliot Whatley (31.6)  
Tyrese Williams (26.4)  
Dylan Wootan (30.4)

## 4<sup>th</sup> LEAP TESTING DATES MARCH AND APRIL, 2009

The Louisiana State Department of Education has announced a new testing format for LEAP testing

(<http://www.doe.state.la.us/lde/uploads/12937.pdf>). The new schedule is as follows:

- **Phase 1 Testing = March 23, 2010**  
Students will take the ELA Writing Portion of the test and the Math Constructed Response Questions
- **Phase 2 Testing = April 12 – 16, 2010**  
Students will take the remaining ELA and Math portions of the test, the social studies, and the science portions of the test.

The LEAP is a criterion-referenced testing program designed to help improve student achievement. The LEAP test is designed to ensure that 4<sup>th</sup> grade students have adequate knowledge and skills before moving to 5<sup>th</sup> grade. In order to be considered for promotion, 4<sup>th</sup> grade are required to score *Basic* or above on either the English Language Arts or the Mathematics test and *Approaching Basic* or above on the other to progress to grade 5.

We are planning LEAP Parent workshops during the month of October. Please be attentive to correspondence from us so that you can plan to attend one of the workshops.