



ALACHUA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Alligator Times – September 2019

Principal: Heather Harbour ♦ Assistant Principal: Kelitha Rainer

Important Dates

- M. Sept 2 Labor Day Holiday – NO SCHOOL
- M. Sept 9 Health/Dental Screening Day – 3rd Grade only
- T. Sept 10 Boy Scouts Sign Ups - Cafeteria 6pm
- Th. Sept 12 Title I Parent Meeting 5:30-6 pm
Open House 6:00-7 pm
- Th. Sept 19 Progress reports go home
- W. Sept 25 Dad's Take Your Child to School Day

WELCOME BACK ALLIGATORS!

Welcome to the 2019-20 school year! The faculty and staff at AES have worked hard to provide our students with a welcoming transition to a new school year. The beginning of a new school year is an exciting time, and it is important that everyone who steps through our doors-staff, students, and parents- are excited to be here! This attitude enables us to meet the challenges of academic excellence in a positive, fun, and nurturing environment.

We look forward to seeing all of our families at our upcoming Open House, which is scheduled for Thursday, September 12, 2019 from 5:30-7 pm. Our Title I parent meeting is from 5:30-6 pm.

Open House Thursday, September 12

Our back-to-school Open House will be held Thursday, September 12 from 6:00-7 pm. Teachers will provide an overview of their curriculum, classroom procedures, and opportunities for parents to get involved. Individual parent conferences may be scheduled for a later date. Please also visit our media center and special area classes. This is a great opportunity to learn what will be happening in your child's classroom!

Dad's Take Your Child to School Day

Calling all Dads! On Wednesday, September 25, 2019 AES would like to invite you to join us for this annual event. Bring your child(ren) to school on this special day, share a few moments together over breakfast in our school cafeteria, then walk your child(ren) to class at 7:45 AM. There is no charge for this event. We hope you are able to attend!

From Nurse Weeks

Welcome back students and parents!

Health Screening Day

All third grade students will participate in our annual Health/Dental Screening Day, which is scheduled for Monday, September 9, 2019. Height, weight, vision, and dental will all be screened.

Flu Mist Day

The Alachua County Health Department will be administering the flu mist this year. They will not administer the flu shot. We will have our annual Flu Mist Day here at AES, which is scheduled for Thursday, October 17, 2019. Consent forms will be sent home. All consent forms MUST be returned to school whether your child will receive the flu mist or not (check YES or NO on the form.) The flu mist will be administered by Health Department medical personnel.

Please feel free to contact Nurse Revo Weeks with any questions or concerns by calling the school at (386) 462-1841.

Morning Drop Off and Afternoon Pick Up

Please remember that morning supervision begins at 7:15 am. Students should not be dropped off at school before 7:15 am.

We are greatly appreciative to our car-rider parents for having their gold car signs visible during car pickup. This helps to make the dismissal process safe and efficient. If you do not have a car sign or need an extra, please see Deanna Griffis in our front office. We are happy to make you one! Parents who do not have a gold car sign will be asked to go to the front office to show I.D., so we can ensure students are being picked up by individuals listed on their emergency card.



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Welcome New Faculty & Staff!

We are so excited to have the following new teachers and staff members working at Alachua Elementary. They each bring talent and expertise to an already incredible group of educators. Please join us in welcoming them aboard!

Kelitha Rainer – Assistant Principal

Melissa Likamwa – Music Teacher

Deanna Griffis – Front Desk Paraprofessional

Patricia Smith – Paraprofessional

Brittany Roughton – Cafeteria Manager

From the Behavior Resource Teacher

Students will be coming home with their Code of Student Conduct booklets. Please review our school expectations with your child. Each student and guardian will need to sign the last page of the Code and return it to school. Please be sure to review the dress code as well.

Title I Annual Meeting

Come learn about how Title I funding helps support our students' learning at Alachua Elementary School! Join us September 12, 2019 from 5:30-6 pm in the Media Center.

Third Grade News

The school year is officially in full swing, and we are excited for how much our third graders are going to learn and grow this year! In reading, students are learning to restate the question and find their answers in the text. In math, students are starting to learn multiplication and division. Practicing with flashcards every night is one great way you can support your child's learning at home! In science, students are learning all about scientists and the different aspects of their jobs. We look forward to making this the best year yet for our students!

Fourth Grade News

4th grade has completed our first unit on place value, and we are now working on adding and subtracting multi-digit numbers. Students should be practicing multiplication facts at home. We are also working on building a writing community and how to generate ideas to begin writing. 4th graders are doing some incredible writing already. Ask your child what they've been writing about!

Fifth Grade News

The Fifth Grade Team would like to welcome everybody back to school. We have been diligently going over rules, procedures, and class expectations these first few weeks. Fifth Grade has a lot of great things happening with Safety Patrol and Camp Crystal being two of our big events. Please mark your calendars for Camp Crystal on Dec 18th-20th. We will need about 8-10 male and female chaperones to make this three day/two night trip possible. As always, remember to check your student's planners and be reading with them about 15-20 minutes a night.

Media and PE News

Media News:

Welcome back to school and welcome back to the AES Media Center! Please remember to read to and with your child(ren) and encourage them to be reading on their own; there is a direct correlation between reading and student achievement! Please remind your child(ren) that they do not have to wait until their next media rotation day to return books that they have finished reading. With a pass, students can come to the media center before school, during lunch, and during Open Media (daily from 7:45-8:15am, 9:45-10:30am, and 1:25-2:45pm). During September, the media center will be celebrating the kickoff of Hispanic Heritage Month, as well as American Founder Month, National Literacy Month, National Read a Book Day, Constitution Day, and even National Comic Book Day! Remember, you can always find circulation updates, student literacy activities, and much more at the AES Media Center website: (<https://www.sbac.edu/domain/577>).

PE News:

The **Alligator All-Stars** program is to recognize AES students who have excelled in the area of Physical Education and have displayed the **traits of 100% effort, listening, team work and sportsmanship** during PE class each month. At the end of each month, 2 students (1 girl & 1 boy) are selected from each grade (3rd, 4th, & 5th) as an Alligator All-Star and will be rewarded with an ice cream celebration party at the end of the school year. Encourage your child(ren) to be an **ALLIGATOR ALL-STAR!!!**

The **Morning Mile** program is each morning on the PE soccer field (near the covered court) from 7:00-7:30 am. Morning mile will be held each morning (weather permitting) beginning on **Monday, August 19th**. Students have the opportunity to start their day "**on the right foot**" and will earn a necklace and shoe charms to represent the mileage milestones that they accumulate through daily participation. Come join the FUN!!! A permission slip is required to join this activity.