

April 7 2017

Volume 5 Issue 8

DOLPHIN TALES

Important Dates

April 14

Easter Egg Hunt (Toddler and Primary)

April 21

Gardening & Special Person Day

April 24 - 28

ITBS Testing Grades 2-9

April 28

Habana Nights 6:00 to 10:00 p.m.

May 1st 8:30

May Day Program

April Birthdays:

Braylen M.	4/1
Felipe S.	4/8
Alex B.	4/10
Banks B.	4/13
Davis D.	4/22
Molly E.	4/22
Ayden C.	4/22
Eldric W.	4/24
Nicholas W.	4/24
Tristan H.	4/24
Marcus P.	4/29



Science Fair 2017



More pictures available at

<https://msor.org/galleries/gallery/student-galleries/Science-Fair>

Toddler News from Ms. Ginny & Ms. Pam

I truly hope you all enjoyed Spring break. It was certainly good to have a few days off! Now.....
 .we are back and ready to learn more and enjoy spring! Since March was a short month and the children really enjoy learning about the farm, we will continue our farm studies this month. It will tie in well with insects and flowers which is our topic for this month.

We have a couple of events this month for you to mark on your calendars. On Friday, April 14, we will have our Easter egg hunt. Each child needs to bring a dozen filled eggs (tape each one please) to hide that day. They will also need to bring their basket to hold them.

Then on Friday, April 21, we will have gardening and special person day. For all the first year parents, this is when your child invites a special person to come and plant flowers with them out on our patio. It can be you, grandparents, neigh-

bors.....just someone special in their life. Everyone needs to bring some flowers for planting. Then they will enjoy a special snack and make a craft together.

This can be done at drop off or anytime up to 10:00. There will be a sign up sheet on the door for things we'd like to have for this day.

You will also want to mark your calendars to attend May Day/Mother's Day program taking place May 1.....first thing in the morning.....usually

around 8:30. This takes place in front of the school and every class performs a couple of songs, and then the older children perform the Maypole Dance. It's my favorite program of the year. You do not want to miss it!

Please check your child's extra clothing box. You might want to change the clothing out for the warmer weather.



Toddler News from Ms. Shannon & Ms. Dana

The April showers have shown up in a big way this week!! I hope you stayed dry and safe in the storms yesterday. This month as we prepare for gardening day we will talk about flowers and insects. We will talk about the different parts of the flower and what it takes to grow them. We will also discover the difference between an insect and a bug. The children will also learn to identify many different species of insects.

Our Easter egg hunt will be on April 14 at 10. You are welcome to come but keep in mind how your child does with separation if you don't want to take them with you after. We ask that every child bring in a dozen stuffed eggs that have been taped shut. Please don't send eggs stuffed with chocolate or anything else that may melt (also no candy that isn't prepackaged, ie. loose jelly-beans). You may stuff the eggs yourself or buy the ones already filled. Please send those in with a basket or container to hunt with on Thursday. The Elementary kids will hide them for us on Friday. I will provide lunch on this day since the cost was figured into your toddler fee for the in-house field trip. If you would like to send in a special snack that day please let me know.

April 21 is Special Person/Gardening Day. On this day your child may invite

anyone such as a grandparent, aunt, uncle, or whoever they choose to come and plant a flower with them. I have window boxes that we will plant our flowers in. Each child should bring a flower or two that is happy in full to part sun to plant. I will put up a wish list of other things that the class would like to have-like potting soil, bird seed, bird feeders, etc. This is a great day. I've found that with toddlers it's easier to do this at drop off or as close to then as possible. So the best time is from 8-9:30. If you go much past 9:30 your toddler will be very anxious because everyone else has got to plant and they haven't. We will have a craft to do with their guests. They will also be able to share a small snack.

Just a couple of upcoming dates to make sure you have on your calendar for May: May 1 is May Day/Mother's Day and May 24 field trip to the Tennessee Aquarium. May Day/Mother's Day is a short program that starts at 8:30 should be over 9:30-10. Tennessee Aquarium field trip is a full day. Both toddler classes go so if you will be unable to go, you will have to make other arrangements for your child. More information will be coming about both days. I just know that you need a little



News from Ms. Ana Maria & Ms. Carolina

Hello,
March was a great month learning all about animals. We learned all sorts of characteristics of animals and how to tell the difference between them. The children really enjoyed it. We now start our studies on flowers. We discussed a lot about leaves back in the fall, but now we will learn about the parts of a flower and tree and what they need to grow. If your child has a flower or plant they would like to bring in to show, they are more than welcome to do so. Every plant/flower is so different; they love to explore each one. We will also be planting seeds in the classroom and learning about the parts of a seed. Please be on the look out for a wish list of items we would like for our patio. One thing we are in great need of is some bird seed. If anyone could bring some in, that would be greatly appreciated!

We are continuing to do science experiments in class just because they are so much fun, and we want to learn more about science! This week we are discovering what happens when we put an egg in vinegar. Each child has a hypothesis, and they have been making observations. Be sure to ask them what they have observed about the eggs. If you know of any fun science experiments that we could do, please pass them along. We have been having some great discussions about why they think something will happen. The children are very curious! I love it!

Thank you to Ms. Machida and Kanako for teaching the

children how to make rice balls and sharing all sorts of Japanese treats with them. The children really enjoyed lunch, and it is something we will remember for a long time.

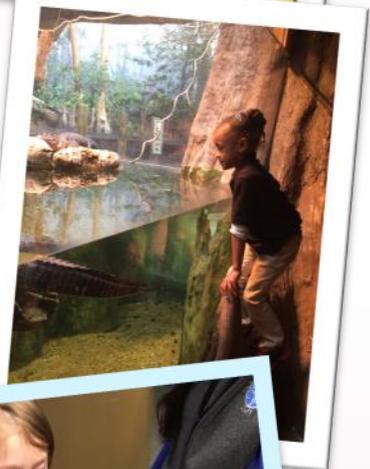
Important dates coming up: April 14th- Easter Egg Hunt. It will be at 10:30am on the upper playground. The children need to bring in 12 treat filled eggs. Please do not put any chocolate in the eggs and please make sure you tape the eggs on the seam. (In the past, we have had eggs open up on the playground.) April 21st- Gardening and Special Person Day. The children will get to invite someone who is special to them. This could be a grandparent, aunt, uncle, family friend, neighbor, or even a babysitter. It will be in the morning, and their special person can spend as long as they can. (This could be 20 minutes to even an hour.) Each student will bring in a flower that they will get to plant with their special person. May 1st- May Day/ Mother's Day Celebration. The program will start at 8:30am. -The program should last about 30 minutes and then plan on staying so that you may enjoy cookies and lemonade with your precious one. This is a beautiful celebration that we look forward to each year.

Thank you,
Ana Maria



Primary News from Ms. Angie & Ms. Nikki

.It is already April. That is so hard to believe. The year has flown by. Our third years are finishing up many lessons and gaining mastery so that they will be ready for first grade. I know that they are excited about visiting elementary in the next few weeks. We are thrilled about the toddlers visiting us. This gives our children a chance to show materials and to give lessons that they have gained mastery on. We enjoyed the science fair and our field trip to the aquarium. The children and parents seemed to have a great time at the aquarium. It was a relaxing field trip. It was also nice to see so many parents join us for the day. Thank you. This month we are going to study the wetlands and flowers. This is a great time for sharing flowers that grow in your yard. We love to talk about the flower and what we have to do to help it grow. The children enjoy putting flowers in our vases and sharing them with their friends.



News Here and There

We congratulate 5th years *Zuhair Merchant* and *Ishan Sundrani* for winning the *Georgia River of Words Poetry competition*

The River of Words Project is a program designed to help K-12 students understand their sense of place by studying a watershed in their own environment then expressing what they discover through poetry and art. The art and poetry is entered into a state-wide contest.

Georgia entries are judged by the Georgia Center for the Book and by the GA Environmental Protection Division.

About 50 poems and artworks are selected as winners each year in Georgia. Ishan and Zuhair will be honored in an awards ceremony held in Atlanta on May 7. .

The ROW Journal, a full-color printed booklet, is produced to showcase Georgia honorees. The winning works are also reproduced to become part of a traveling exhibit, hosted by the Georgia Center for the Book, which moves to libraries throughout the state. Another exhibit is also available for checkout to schools, nature centers, and other educational facilities.

We congratulate Ishan and Zuhair for winning this competition and becoming published poets! Also, thank you to Mr. Eric for working with these students and others, making sure their poetry was submitted for the competition.

Another recent Montessori accomplishment was by 5th year Zack Lester who was selected to represent Montessori at the Big Fibbers Storytelling contest. We are so proud of the recognition of these students!

Elementary News: Ms. Stefanie and Ms. Maggie

Spring is here and we are already getting close to the end of this school year! The year always seems to go by so quickly. We are looking forward to a month filled with new lessons and moving on to new planners in Math & Language. Everyone has come so far since the beginning of the year! The students always enjoy looking back through their Math & Language notebooks to see all the work they've completed throughout the year.

March was a busy month with both the Art Auction & Science Fair. We appreciate all the hard work that students & parents alike put into making these events a success! April also holds learning opportunities & events as one of the 4H trips takes place & test preparation begins.

In Botany this month we'll be discovering the different types of stems plants can have, both above ground and below. We also hope to begin planting in our beautiful planter made & donated to us by the Donahue family last year. In Geography we'll be finishing our studies on South America and moving on to Europe.

Happy Birthday to Felipe this month! Thank you to Felipe's family for providing a birthday lunch this Friday, April 7, so we can celebrate together.

The 4H trip to the Alabama Science Center for the 1st & 2nd years is coming up next week! The students need to arrive at school on Monday, the 10th, by 8:00 a.m.. We will leave at 8:15 a.m. We will return by 3:00 on Tuesday in time for regular dismissal. We are all very excited about this wonderful educational experience! Please

remember to consult the

packing list that was sent out through the office when assisting your child with packing.

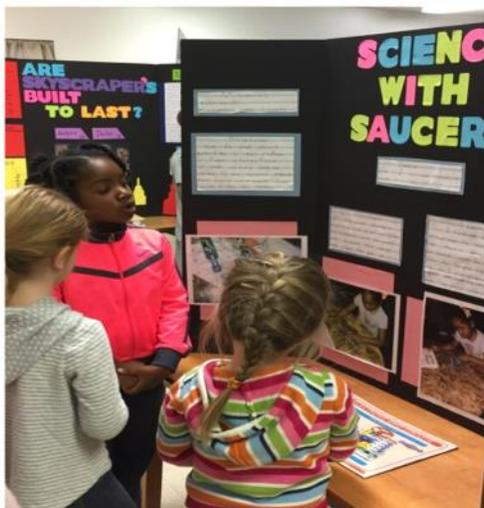
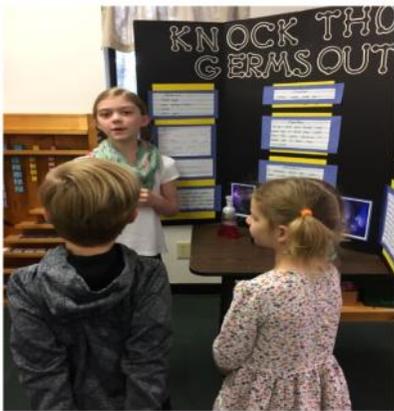
Our 3rd year students will be spending next Monday & Tuesday in Upper El. This is a great opportunity for them to experience what next school year holds for them! They will have their turn at 4H camp next month when they'll learn all about the coastal environment of Jekyll Island!

On Friday the 14th, Lower El will be hiding Easter eggs in the morning for Primary. Happy Easter to those who celebrate this holiday!

Gardening and Special Persons Day is Friday the 21st. If you have any gardening tools or gloves that your child would like to use for the day, please send them to school.

Soon we'll begin testing practice for the ITBS. This standardized test will take place at the school the last week of this month and will be given to our 2nd & 3rd years.

Ms. Stefanie & Ms. Maggie



Elementary News: Ms. Dolores & Ms. Nicki

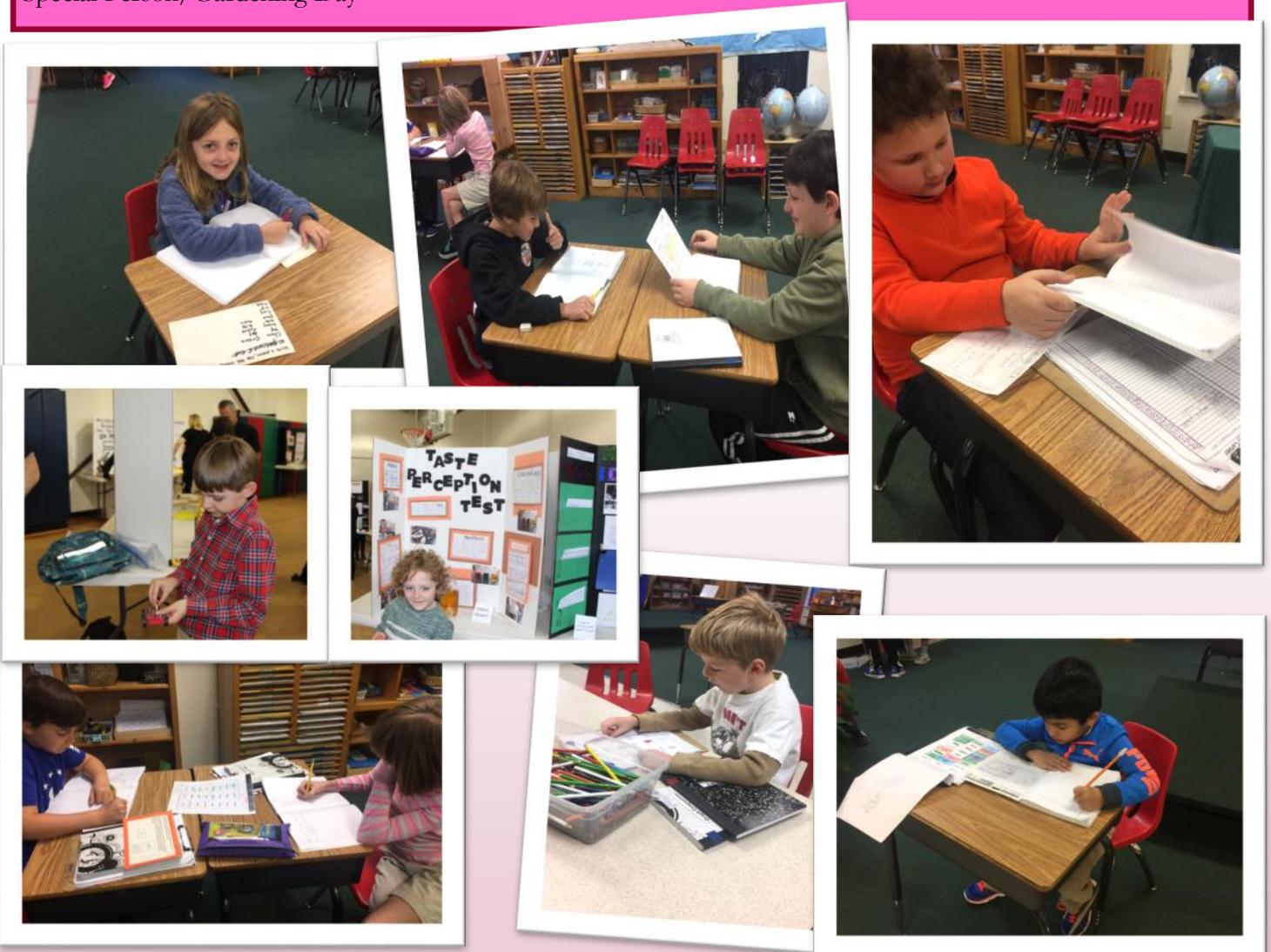
Happy April! The first and second years are ready and excited for the field trip to Alabama 4-H. On Monday, the time is now regular arrival time by 8:00 a.m. The 3rd years will visit Upper El while we are gone and will see how their future class runs. We are preparing for ITBS testing at the end of the month. We are working hard on or Math, Language, Geometry, Botany and Zoology, as well. The children are also excited that it is Spring and the weather is warming; at least it was until the end of this week.

We are starting soccer for PE and are looking forward to improving our skills. We are also looking forward to Special Person/Gardening Day

(April 21) so start your planning to have that special person(s) come in on that day to work with your child. It is a wonderful experience for all.

The Easter Egg Hunt is April 14 and it gives our Lower Elementary an opportunity to hide eggs for our Primary students to find. It is fun for them to watch the little ones enjoy the hunt for the hidden (or maybe not so hidden) treasures.

We hope you have a Happy Easter and a wonderful Spring!!



News from Ms. Rebecca and Mr. Eric



The Upper Elementary has successfully survived (and thoroughly enjoyed) another Science Fair. Our students exhibited their skills of inquiry and scientific questioning beautifully in their well orchestrated projects. As we move into April, we have a number of exciting events and subjects of interest before the year is brought to a close.



Academically, this month has a strong push towards ITBS test prep. We spend time getting familiar with the format of standardized tests, acquiring basic test taking skills and strategies, and brushing up on content that might be addressed in the tests. As we have spent the majority of the year teaching the students how to think, we don't have to cram for this assessment, yet we do want the students to feel confident and assured that they will do their best. Our homework this month will include Test Prep workbooks that cover Math, Language, Social Studies, Science, and other basic skills. ITBS testing itself will be at the end of April. April 24-28.

This month we will also happily host guests for our Special Person/Gardening Day on April 21st. This is a great opportunity to get to know the classroom better and to interact with our students. Additionally, we will have the 3rd year students from the Lower El visiting us on April 10th and 11th. During this time our 6th year students will be visiting the Adolescents.



Looking ahead into May, we will be preparing for the Maypole Dance on May 1st as well as our big field trip of the year to Jekyll Island. All paperwork and payments for the Jekyll Trip are due now.

We hope you enjoy a few pictures from Science Fair, and our recent hike at Berry. We took a new trail this time that was a lot of fun and had a great time scurrying through the creek and shuffling down the tightrope trail.

Upper Elementary



Adolescent News

Please see the April Talisman Newsletter for Adolescent news.