



JANUARY 2024

Fairview News

STAY IN THE LOOP WITH UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS!

IMPORTANT DATES:

Return from Winter Break: **Jan 4th**

NO SCHOOL Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday: **Jan. 15th**

2-hour early dismissal/end of nine weeks: **Jan. 19th**

Report cards go home: **Jan. 26th**

ALSO, PLEASE SEE TESTING CALENDAR FOR 2nd NINE WEEKS BELOW.

From Principal Thompson:



Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope everyone had a wonderful winter break and your children are rejuvenated and ready to get back to work. The second semester brings tutoring and mid-year testing to see how our students are learning so far. This month and in February, we have WIDA testing for our English learners, MAP testing for kindergarten through 5th grade, PALS testing for kindergarten through 2nd grade, SOL Winter Growth testing for 3rd through 5th grade, and a History benchmark for 4th grade and Science benchmarks for 4th and 5th grade. You will get information on your child's performance on these assessments. Directions on how to read the SOL growth assessment results are already on our website under Parent Resources on the Students & Families tab.

Our chronic absenteeism rate is 19.96%, which is 94 students. We need that percentage to be 15% or below. Absenteeism is one of the indicators for school accreditation. Please make sure your child is at school and on time each day so that they do not miss instruction or testing. We want to make sure that all of our children are getting every minute of delivered instruction and that can only happen when they attend school and are attentive when they are at school. Being at school on a daily basis also helps your child be engaged and feel connected. It is often difficult for students to know what is going on and to get caught up on missed concepts when they are absent. Of course, we realize this is the season for illnesses. If you need to contact the nurse about your child's illness, please call 540-853-6374.

We need your help with student behaviors. Here is a message from our Superintendent, Dr. Verletta White: Please continue to talk with your students about what it means to be respectful and responsible, and the importance of saying something if they see or hear something that may be a safety concern. Please check your student's bookbag every day to make sure they are not bringing anything inappropriate to school and monitor their social media, so you know what they are saying online. If you need help learning how to check their social media accounts and cell phones, visit our [Resources for Families webpage](#).

Many students have probably gotten digital devices for Christmas. The National PTA has a website to facilitate conversation about safe device usage. Teaching your child safe, responsible computer and cell phone usage is a must. Cyberbullying and inappropriate exposure to language and behavior on social media are spilling over into the school environment and taking our students' attention away from what is important--their school work. We need your help to alleviate this problem.

[The Smart Talk - National PTA + Norton](#)

Finally, if you are thinking about how to help your children in the new year, here is an article that has 5 suggestions, including: let kids struggle, use the Four Ss as a framework to teach resilience, scaffold for independence, give them responsibilities, and play together. Click on this link to get more

detailed information: [The Five Best Things You Can Do for Your Kids in the New Year | Our Children \(ptaourchildren.org\)](https://ptaourchildren.org)

Save the date for another Tea with Thompson at 6:00 p.m. on parent-teacher conference day, February 19th. I will discuss how we are doing as a school and give some information on how we will finish out the year. I look forward to seeing you there and as always, thank you for your support.

Mrs. Thompson

Instructional Highlights



Preschool

Preschool is anticipating the SNOW! We will be doing all things Winter during January. We will be learning to safely use scissors, continue learning the letters of our name, and show what you know for report cards!

Kindergarten

Kindergarten will be learning about Winter and about Long Ago. We are continuing to learn to sound out and spell cvc words. We will also be taking the MAP and the PALS tests during the month. We had a wonderful visit from Inspire, a therapy dog from Pet Paws. He listened with us to a story about "Snowmen at Night".



1st grade

First grade is looking forward to new learning in the new year. This month we will begin Module 2 of our language art curriculum Wit & Wisdom, where we dive into the world of animal with Creature Features. In math we will continue to hone on addition and subtraction skills through the exploration of word problems. We are also placing special emphasis on fostering responsibility and continue to develop a love of learning!

2nd grade

Second grade is learning about life for Early Americans in the American West. Students have been learning about Plains Indians and Pioneers and will be exploring so much more including diving in deeper into American Indian cultures and contributions. In Science, students will have fun learning about Matter as they experiment with solids, liquids, and gases.

3rd grade

This month our 3rd graders will continue learning about space exploration through Module 2 of Wit and Wisdom. In math, we will cover problem-solving with proper fractions, reading thermometer to the nearest degree, and calculating elapsed time. In science, students will learn about adaptations and fossils. In social studies, students will learn about the use of resources to produce goods and services.

4th grade

Fourth grade has been reading "Love That Dog" and discussing theme and what makes a great figurative heart. In math, we have been working on equivalent fractions, comparing, and ordering fractions. We have learned the order of the planets in science. In Virginia Studies, we have been learning about life in Virginia Colony and t the capital of Virginia has moved three times! In January, we will have benchmark tests and district testing!

5th Grade

Throughout the month of December, 5th grade wrapped up our study of Cultures in Conflict, writing our End of Module essay. In Science, we wrapped up our study of Electricity, and did a 4th grade review of the Solar System and Earth-Moon-Sun Systems. In Math, we wrapped up our study of Fraction Computation and began studying Probability, taking a closer look at Stem and Leaf and Line Plots. During the month of January, we will be continuing to study word play, specifically exploring how and why writers play with words. In Science, we will be exploring direction and speed, kinetic energy, and running several experiments. In Math, we will continue studying data, taking a closer look at Mean, Median, Mode, and Range. We will also be beginning to study angles and triangles.

Counselor's Corner



Jessica Morris Carroll and Julie Erickson

Welcome back, Eagles! 🦅 Hope everyone had a restful winter break and Happy New Year!

Please feel free to contact Fairview counselors with any questions, comments, or concerns.

AUTOMATIC NEGATIVE THOUGHTS	WAYS TO CHALLENGE NEGATIVE THOUGHTS
<p>No one likes me. I'm a loser. I just know this is going to be awful. Nobody cares. It's all my fault that she's upset. I always get in trouble. What if everyone laughs at me? Everyone hates me. I shouldn't have made that mistake. I can't do this. He always tries to get me angry. I'm a bad person. I'm so dumb. Why does this always happen to me? I hate myself. Everyone is always out to get me. She always tries to control me. I better not cry. No one understands me. Now everything is ruined. I will never be any good. My life is terrible.</p>	<p>What is a more helpful thought?</p> <p>What is another possibility?</p> <p>What would the people who care about me say?</p> <p>What is the worst that could really happen?</p> <p>If my friend had this thought, what would I tell them?</p> <p>Can I be 100% sure this is true?</p> <p>If the worst really did happen, what could I do to deal with it and who could help me?</p> <p>What is the best possible outcome?</p>

Testing Calendar - 2nd 9 weeks



Parents,

Below you will find the testing schedule as outlined by the Virginia Department of Education and Roanoke City Public Schools. Knowing these dates will help you support your child in being present and prepared on the noted dates. Please encourage good study habits by ensuring students get plenty of rest and eat a balanced diet.

- Fairview Elementary School

Testing Schedule – 2nd 9 weeks

Kindergarten	First Grade
<ul style="list-style-type: none">· MAP Growth 1/08-1/24· PALS 1/16-1/31· WIDA ACCESS for English Learners 1/16-3/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· MAP Growth 1/08-1/24· PALS 1/16-1/31· WIDA ACCESS for English Learners 1/16-3/22
Second Grade	Third Grade
<ul style="list-style-type: none">· MAP Growth 1/08-1/24· PALS (as needed) 1/16-1/31· WIDA ACCESS for English Learners 1/16-3/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· MAP Growth 1/08-1/24· WIDA ACCESS for English Learners 1/16-3/22· VDOE SOL Growth Assessment 1/29-2/15
Fourth Grade	Fifth Grade
<ul style="list-style-type: none">· RCPS Benchmarks History and Science- Winter 1/08-1/18· MAP Growth 1/08-1/24· WIDA ACCESS for English Learners 1/16-3/22· VDOE SOL Growth Assessment 1/29-2/15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· RCPS Benchmark Science- Winter 1/08-1/18· MAP Growth 1/08-1/24· WIDA ACCESS for English Learners 1/16-3/22· VDOE SOL Growth Assessment 1/29-2/15

Announcements





Reach Out



Join Fairview Elementary School's PTA! It is \$7.00 for the 2023-2024 school year. Join online or use the QR code.

<https://vapta-00014746.memberhub.com/>



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[Roanoke City Public Schools / Homepage \(rcps.info\)](https://www.rcps.info)