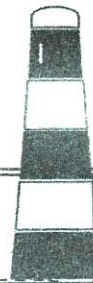


PEEK OF THE WEEK

Beech Hill Elementary

A Palmetto's Finest School ❖ A 2018 National Blue Ribbon School



2019-2020 ~ Theme: Blue for a Reason

Mission Statement: *Beech Hill will lead the way to lifelong learning through excellence, leadership and empowerment.*

Vision: *All students will meet or exceed academic standards as measured by grade level benchmarks.*

Goals and Focus for 2019-2020 School Year

- Beacons exhibit Self-Efficacy and Social Emotional Learning/Non-cognitive Skills
- Beacons are Globally Competitive and College/Career Ready
- The percentage of parents satisfied with our home/school relations will increase from 79% to 95% as per the state's report card survey
- The percentage of students meeting or exceeding ELA, Reading, Math and Science expectations will increase from 81% to 85%
- The percentage of teachers who indicate that we provide students choice in language arts selections will increase to from 84% to 95%

Lighthouses of Lifelong Learning:

CREATE (arts-infusion & appreciation), CONNECT (team building and community awareness), NURTURE (ecology and service learning), LIVE (healthy choices), THINK (growth mindset and metacognition), & DREAM (technology and innovation)

Save the Dates • Important Events

February

- 27 Terrific Kids 7:45 a.m.- Nurture Lighthouse
- Terrific Readers 8:30 a.m.
- 29 Presidential Primary

March

- 2 Read Across America Day
- Spring Fund Raiser Kick-off
- 6 School Psychologist Day -Ms. Ledyard Rocks!
- 7 Produce Give Away 10:00 a.m.
- 11 WERD Clubs 7:30-8:15
- Early Release Day 11:00
- 12 Lowcountry Spell Bound- Yeah, Layla!
- School Improvement Council 5:30
- Parent Workshop 6:30
- 16 Spring Pictures
- 19 Newk's Spirit Night 5:00- 7:30
- 17 Terrific Kids 7:45 a.m.- Growth Mindset
- Terrific Readers 8:30 a.m.
- 21 The Big Event (DD2 Education Foundation)
- 23 District Staff Development (NO SCHOOL for students)
- 24 HOUSE Awards 8:00 a.m.

Lunch Menu

Menu is subject to change .

February

- 27 Chicken lo mien, egg roll, fried rice, broccoli
- 28 Pizza, corn, salad, fruit

February Reading Challenge!



Although February is the shortest month it makes up for its lack of days with a plethora of celebrations, from Black History Month and Valentine's Day to Presidents' Day. This month's reading challenge is no less eventful, spurring young readers to pick up books that touch on all the above topics while mixing it up with some fun and surprising suggestions. Consider signing up for the Brightly.com newsletter for even more book suggestions! Love, Mrs. Malinowski

At the Helm: The Orange

The orange stood at attention on my desk holding sentinel over my keyboard and stack of papers. Its beauty commanded the action of passersby with its green, unctuous leaves and opulent orange color. This was no ordinary citrus; the leaves and stem gave it away. This was the stuff of memories in its purest sense. This fruit had been loved and nurtured in a way that even exceeded Publix's standard. I discovered it when I returned to my office. I sat behind my desk for a moment and marveled at its glory. I had to know who had given me such a precious gift; no one in our office knew who had left the amber jewel. The identity of the giver would remain silent for the remainder of the day.

At the end of the day, Ms. Davis came into my office. I had requested to meet with her. "I sent you an email. Did you get the orange?" she asked. I went on to explain that it was the kind of day where emails had taken a backseat to meetings, conferences and children. I think she understood. Ms. Davis went on to explain that the orange was from her grandmother's tree in California. Last week, Ms. Davis and her family had celebrated a life well-lived as they observed her grandmother's passing. There is something very special about a grandmother. For years, Ms. Davis and I have talked about ours. She shared every cute story and highlighted her grandmother's birthday celebrations so vividly I felt like I could have picked her out of a crowd. The unconditional love of, extra attention from, and secret adventures with grandmas can warm your heart for a lifetime. Grandmother and Mama Dear are never far from my memories and my decision-making.

It's no wonder then, that one of our PTA Superlatives is a grandmother. Beacon grandmothers rock and shine! Congratulations to Ms. Peggy Helmick. She is our *PTA Volunteer of the Year*. This super-shero is the gram to 2 Beacons: Hayden and Izzbella, but you wouldn't know it because she loves us all. What makes her so special? What does she do? It would be easier to tell what she doesn't do. Are you loving that delicious Friday tradition of popcorn? Thank Ms. Helmick. Need someone to help with the vision screening? You can see Ms. Helmick from a mile away with a helping hand. Want a cool judge for Shake and Shine? Say hello to my little friend, Ms. Helmick. When it comes to volunteering, this granny packs a punch. And that was just last week! Ms. Helmick has accumulated more service hours than a high-powered attorney. This quiet, unassuming, gentle, drama-free lady moves through the halls of the Beech like a stealth missile. She lets her work speak for her. And her work is saying, *love the Beacons, every single one of them*. She seeks nothing in return for the many hours of time and energy that she devotes to our school. What a rarity in today's world. We all benefit from her kindness, generosity and warm-baked cookies spirit.

Your ideas, questions and concerns are very important to me. I can be reached by phone or by email at rharris@dorchester2.k12.sc.us. I return calls after 4:00 to ensure my undivided attention.

René Wyatt Harris, Proud and Grateful Principal

Our Beacon Business Partners Rock!

Charleston Signage • Ledyard Catering • ABC Trophies • Family Chiropractic & Massage of Charleston • Staples • Broad Street Printing • Chick-fil-A • Education Station • Kona Ice • Palmetto Flats • Good Faith Mortgage • Fleet Feet Sports • The Inn at Middleton Place • Lowcountry Orthodontics • Legend Oaks Golf Club • Scott Mongillo ~ Attorney at Law • Lifetouch • Newk's Eatery • Swasty Orthodontics • Wal-Mart Neighborhood Market • JW Picture Studio • Carrie Crosby Interiors, LLC • Summerville Elite Homes Group

Bragging Beams ~ Points of Pride

2018 National Blue Ribbon School ~ Ranked 24th Among 640 South Carolina Elementary Schools, SchoolDigger.com 2019
Palmetto Gold Award 2018 & 2019 ~ Best Public School ~ Mom's Choice Award Lowcountry Parent Magazine 2014 ~ Palmetto's Finest ~ 2012

PBIS- Ribbon School ~ Red Carpet School ~ Federal Accountability Grades-A: 2012-2014 ~ Report Card Rating: Excellent 2018 & 2019

9 National Board Certified Teachers, 19 Gifted & Talented Endorsed Teachers, Dollar General Grant: Jackie Leggette, Lowes or Educator Grants: Jackie Leggette, Jana Hooks, Paula Luciano & Kentrel Clement; **Donors Choose Grants:** May Frazier-Robinson(2), Margaret Day, Viki Fernandez, Haley Foster, Madison Hines (3), Schoneke Summerhill, Elizabeth Tutterow, Letitia Uyak, Stef Satterfield, Jana Hooks, Megan Seitz (5), Kristina Elliott(2), Glenna Broughton(2), Elizabeth Norman, Meggie Wegmann (2), Laura Hattabaugh (2), Dianne Lewis (5), Stevie Ward (2), Courtney Creech (2), Jeni Nix (2), Erica Kennedy, Tricia Ruddick, Paula Luciano, Becca Malinowski (3), Debby Yanchik, Taylor Wilson (2) Rose Stephens (6), Jacqueline Williams, Shayne Whitaker

Counselor Connection -- SELF-DISCIPLINE

School Counselors: Ms. Masopust, 4K/1/3/5 and Mr. Helton, PD/K/2/4

Kids who learn self-discipline will be better equipped to deal with life's challenges, manage stress, and make healthy choices. They ultimately become responsible and productive adults. Self-disciplined kids will exercise good judgement, and are more likely to have more self-confidence because they know they can manage themselves in difficult situations. Parents shape their children's self-discipline by acknowledging good behavior, adhering to rules, and giving fair and consistent consequences. Read the following blog posts for more information:

8 Ways to Teach Kids Self-Discipline Skills -by Amy Morin, LCSW <https://www.verywellfamily.com/teach-kids-self-discipline-skills-1095034>

8 Steps to Help Your Child Develop Self Control -Laura Markham Ph.D. <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/peaceful-parents-happy-kids/201506/8-steps-help-your-child-develop-self-control>

Simply use the camera on your phone to scan the QR code to open the link to *10 Brilliant Steps to Self-Discipline for Kids and Parents*



Save the Date...Parent Workshop: *ADHD and Strategies to Help Your Child Improve Self-Control and Focus*

March 12th 5:30-6:30 SIC/PTA Meeting 6:30-7:30 Parent Workshop

PTA Notes:

Your child is bringing home news about our Spring fundraiser today. Look for a separate flyer about our Read-a-Thon.

Congratulations to our PTA Superlatives:

- Teacher of the Year: Ms. Amber Richard
- Staff Star of the Year: Ms. Victoria Williams
- Volunteer of the Year: Ms. Peggy Helmick
- Star Student of the Year: Miss Charlotte McInnis

Coming Soon-- News about our Spring Fair "Bluezapaloosah!"

Save the Dates ~ State Testing

	Writing	Reading	Math	Science
3rd Grade	May 6 May 7	May 8	May 11	Not Tested
5th Grade	May 12 May 13	May 14	May 15	Not Tested
4th Grade	May 18 May 19	May 20	May 21	May 22

Read Across America Week at The Beech ~Celebrate Reading and Dr. Seuss!

- Mar. 2nd-Mixed Up Monday -Wear mixed up clothing! (shirts backwards, inside out)
- Mar. 3rd-Top Hat Tuesday-- Wear your favorite hat!
- Mar. 4th-Wacky Wednesday-- Wear your wackiest socks!
- Mar. 5th-Theodore Thursday-- Dress like your favorite Dr. Seuss character!
- Mar. 6th-Funny Food Friday--Wear green! (Think Green Eggs and Ham)

School-wide Book Swap will be held on Wednesday, March 4th. Clear off those shelves of books you're no longer reading. Send any gently used books to school before Mar. 4th and you can get a new, gently used book to take home. All remaining books will be donated and used in our Borrowed Beacon Book Box outside of the cafeteria.

TESTING NEWS

Beacon parents, we now know our schedule for state testing. Once again we are asking that you refrain from scheduling vacations and/or appointments during the testing window, but especially on the dates that your child is scheduled to test. Our research indicates that students perform better with their teachers and in their normal testing environment. We cannot provide that exact environment in a make-up setting. We are also asking that you carve out a little time to assist us with testing by serving as a testing monitor. Please secure your volunteer requirements to help out with this valuable process. If you are willing to serve as a volunteer during testing, let Ms. Malinowski know (rmalinowski@dorchester2.k12.sc.us) and look for details on training dates beginning in March.

Math Matters:

1. How many 2's must be multiplied together for the product to be a number between 100 and 200? _____
2. At the end of the soccer tournament, each team captain shakes hands with every other team captain. If there were eight teams in the tournament, how many handshakes were there? _____
3. How many cubes do you think it will take to make a cube that is twice as high as one cube? _____
4. A bag of marbles can be divided in equal shares among 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6 friends. What is the least number of marbles that the bag could contain? _____

Last Week's Answers- (2/19): 1. 350-375 2. 9:59 (23) 3. 15 correct 4. 2 boxes: 40th and 80th