



Principal's Corner

Upcoming Events

- Early Release Friday
December 22nd
- Christmas Break -
December 23-January 7th
- School colors Spirit Day
January 12th
- NO SCHOOL - MLK Day
January 15th
- Class Colors Spirit Day
January 17th
- Second Quarter Honors
Assembly January 17th
- "Let it Snow" Spirit Day
January 26th
- PTA Movie Night
January 31st
- PTA Fun Run
February 1st

It is hard to believe that here we are already, well into the month of December. What an amazing first half of the school year we have had. The Holiday season always makes me reflective about the gifts I have in my life. I would like to take this time to thank YOU for the gift of sharing your children with us here at Horizon every day. It is a joy to walk down our halls and see the amazing learning taking place. Your children are working hard to develop their critical thinking skills, their communication skills, and their ability to make sense of the world around them. They are polite and greet me and they are KIND to each other. I absolutely love coming here every day.

What I find even more exciting than the reflection of December...is the excitement that January brings. January is a time for new beginnings. It is a time to renew our commitments to ourselves, to each other, and to learning. Please take a few moments with your child over the winter break to reflect about what personal successes he/she has experienced this year and set some goals for 2018. Help him/her to create a plan to reach their goals. It is critical that we teach our children that they are in control of their successes; that WHAT they do does directly impact HOW they do.

Here at Horizon, when we all return January 8th, we will be renewing our collective commitments by revisiting the expectations of our campus and setting new goals for the upcoming months. Your child will be continuing to track his/her own progress and reflect on how WHAT he/she did impacted HOW he/she did. It's EXCITING!

Enjoy your Holiday Season and I wish you a Happy New Year! Looking forward to a spectacular 2018.

#GO PANTHERS!

#ONOURWAYTOBEANASCHOOL

CheriDawn Emerson

*I pledge to always do my best work,
to learn something new every day,
to strive for academic success,
and to be kind to others.
I am important to Horizon
and so are you!*

December/January



be kind trait

be helpful



Our first quarter Honor's Assembly was a HUGE SUCCESS!

We had over 150 parents and family members come to watch our Panthers be acknowledged for their hard work. We greatly appreciate you taking time out of your day to come celebrate our student's achievements with us!



You have **BRAINS** in your **HEAD**.
You have **FEET** in your **SHOES**.
You can **STEER** yourself any
DIRECTION you **CHOOSE**.
~ Dr. Seuss

PTA CORNER



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Horizon PTA would like to remind you that they are always looking to grow. Please make a commitment this New Year to become part of our Panther Family PTA.

JOIN TODAY! www.horizonpta.net



Your child's most important school-related responsibility is to get to school on time **every day**.

When kids miss school or arrive late unnecessarily, everyone suffers. Teachers spend time collecting makeup work and re-teaching.

Meanwhile, other students—who are ready to learn—must wait. Research shows chronic absence (missing 10% or more of school days) hurts success in school. To prevent it, families can:

- **Stick to a familiar schedule.** Help your child develop habits that prepare her for school each day.
- **Schedule carefully.** Try to make doctor, dentist and other appointments during non-school hours. School should be a priority when planning family trips, too. If your child must be absent, work with her teacher to complete makeup work.
- **Seek help when needed.** Many problems contribute to missing school. If your family struggles with health, transportation, work, child-care or other issues, talk with school staff. Our shared goal is to help kids get to school and do their best.

Simple Ways You Can Help Your Child Succeed

- ♦ Ensure your child is at school **EVERY** day
- ♦ Talk to your child Daily about what they learned at school
- ♦ Check the folder/agenda and ask them to evidence their homework
- ♦ **Read** with your child every day
- ♦ Maximize your time / Communicate with your child
- ♦ Attend PTA, Coffee Talks, Academic Nights, **Parent-Teacher Conferences**
- ♦ Talk kindly about your school/teachers
- ♦ Ask questions / Let your voice be **HEARD**
- ♦ Be proud to be a Panther



Curious about what we're learning about? CHECK IT OUT here!

Kindergarten

We had so much fun working on our winter holiday performance! Thank you for all who attended. We will be learning about how different countries celebrate winter holidays. We will be learning to count to 50 and higher. We are continuing to sound out words and learn sight words to help us grow in our reading skills.

First Grade

In math, first grade will start using place value to add 2 digit plus 2 digit numbers, such as $25 + 32 = 57$. In social studies we will learn about the important work of Martin Luther King Jr. In reading we will solidify the main idea of a story and tell the difference between important and non- important details. We will also have the students apply this important skill to writing.

Second Grade

In Reading and Writing, the second graders are completing the ELA Rolling Assessments and are working on writing about a historical figure such as Theodore Roosevelt (ReadyGen Reading material). To begin the third quarter in Reading and Writing, the students will decode and read words with many different vowel patterns and words with 2 syllables. Quarter 3 words will be introduced and practice for mastery.

GoMath! Chapter 4 (addition with two-digit by two-digit strategies) will be completed and tested and Chapter 5 (two-digit subtraction) will begin. Science will be covering life cycles on mealworms. Social Studies will be studying historical figures.

Third Grade

There will be exciting things coming in January's 3rd quarter!

In reading we will be continuing to read our texts closely and going back to the text for evidence to support our answers. We will also continue to think about main idea and supporting details and character traits and themes. The 3rd quarter will also start us off on comparing and contrasting and cause and effect within our stories and texts.

In math we will be starting fractions. Students will be expected to identify parts of a whole and find equivalent (or like) fractions. We will also continue to focus on problem solving our story problems in math with picture models and complete sentence and number equations.

In science we will start our animal reports which encompasses a lot of our science standards. Such as: animal traits and features, consumer and producers, habitats and ecosystems.

Social Studies we will be looking at the Civil War and the reconstruction of the United States. We will be discussing the issues of slavery and states and the important people who contributed to those issues; such as Abraham Lincoln, Jefferson Davis, Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth, and more.

Fourth Grade

For 4th grade in January, we will be continuing to practice on our reading comprehension skills and find ways to make the text easier for us to understand. For math we will be continuing fractions (adding, subtracting, multiplying and renaming) and for science we are learning about the water cycle and weather, including tornados, hurricanes etc. We are continuing to remind ourselves and others about what it means to be a "Be Kind" student.

Fifth Grade

For the month of January, we will be reading "George's Secret Key to the Universe" to find main idea, discuss theme and compare and contrast characters & setting. In math we are going to learn how to add fractions with unlike denominators using equivalent fractions. In science we are going to continue to explore the universe by working on a planet project in which the students will learn about all the planets in our solar system. Students can be prepared for school each day by reading their notes, practicing their reading and math fluency and by talking at home about what we are learning.

Sixth Grade

In math we are working hard to increase our scores on the benchmarks. This has been a quarter with a lot of algebra, we had fun!

In Writing/Social Studies we are wrapping up our units on Ancient Native America & Informative Writing. When we return (after a restful break) we will be focusing on Argumentative Writing! For reading we are focusing on a story's plot and character actions.

When we return from break we will continue this lesson with our new theme of imagination stories. Science is wrapping the lessons on the atmosphere and preparing for a nice break.

Eighth Grade

Eighth Grade math will be beginning geometry, specifically looking at volumes of different shapes. In Science, genetics will finish up, then we will begin Chemistry and the Periodic Table.

In English, 8th grade will be continuing small group argumentative writing, as well as focusing on goal-setting.

Seventh Grade

In math we are working on solving proportions and reviewing geometry and algebra. Your child will have some assignments on tenmarks to complete over Christmas break to practice some more skills we already learned (these are optional).

In 7th grade writing we are currently working on argumentative essays. Next week we will be starting a debate week. Check in with your student to see what topic for the debate will be. The next reading log is due on January 12th. Please remind your child to read at home so that they are successful with turning in a completed log. In class we are working on main idea and supporting details and author's purpose and position.



School Hours 7:45am-2:45pm
Early Release Every Wednesday at 11:45am
Children are not allowed on campus earlier than 7:20am

Office Hours
7:15am—3:45pm

Office: 623-237-4010
Attendance: 623-237-5006
Nurse: 623-237-5010
Fax: 623-237-5015

School Mission

I pledge to always do my best work,
to learn something new every day,
to strive for academic success, and
to be kind to others.

I am important to Horizon
and so are you!

School Vision

Inspiring Learners as Leaders.

Engage, Explore, Enrich, Empower.



School Lunch:

For an amazing description of our lunches with a dietary and nutritional description, please visit at

<http://gesd40.nutrislice.com/menu/horizon/lunch/>

If you go to gesd40.org, select the fork and knife icon and select "Elementary Schools" then "Horizon."

