

## Grade 4 Monthly Newsletter September 2023



# Twin Ridge Elementary

1106 Leafy Hollow Circle  
Mount Airy, MD 21771  
T: 240-236-2300

Shari Austin	<a href="tel:240-236-2300">240- 236-2300</a> x 62317	<a href="mailto:ellen.austin@fcps.org">ellen.austin@fcps.org</a>
Ashley Donaldson	<a href="tel:240-236-2300">240- 236-2300</a> x 62319	<a href="mailto:ashley.donaldson@fcps.org">ashley.donaldson@fcps.org</a>
Nikita Miller	<a href="tel:240-236-2300">240- 236-2300</a> x 62316	<a href="mailto:nikita.miller@fcps.org">nikita.miller@fcps.org</a>
Michelle Nunn	<a href="tel:240-236-2300">240- 236-2300</a> x 62315	<a href="mailto:michelle.nunn@fcps.org">michelle.nunn@fcps.org</a>

### Upcoming Events

- 9/8 Friday, PTA sponsored Family Picnic at TRES starting at 6pm
- 9/12 Individual School Picture Day
- 9/22 Fair Day Dismiss 3.5 hours early
- 9/25 Schools Closed for staff and students

### [Announcements](#)

**\*\*Starting this school year, parents/guardians will need to report all absences and attendance requests (early dismissals) through the following email address:**

**[tres.attendance@fcps.org](mailto:tres.attendance@fcps.org)**

Please save this email address in your contacts list so that you can easily access it when needed. We ask that you copy your classroom teacher(s) on all attendance related emails.

**\*\*Volunteering or Chaperoning a Field Trip:** In order to volunteer or chaperone a field trip, you need to complete a volunteer training course. Please click on the link to complete the course.

**[https://fcps-volunteers.ezcommunicator.net/edu/fcps-volunteers/login\\_form.aspx?app=0](https://fcps-volunteers.ezcommunicator.net/edu/fcps-volunteers/login_form.aspx?app=0)**

**\*\*Every student deserves a safe and supportive space to learn and grow. In Frederick County Public Schools, one of our core goals is the safety and well-being of all students. FCPS fosters an environment of respect, responsibility and trustworthiness. We ask that all families take the time to review the FCPS Student Code of Conduct and to view the attached video.**

Code of Conduct Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wiq2BC5UTbw>

FCPS Student Code of Conduct: [https://www.fcps.org/student-services/files/documents/students/StudentCodeofConduct\\_2023-24.pdf](https://www.fcps.org/student-services/files/documents/students/StudentCodeofConduct_2023-24.pdf)

Code of Conduct One Sheeter: <https://campussuite-storage.s3.amazonaws.com/prod/33903/86de7fb0-3a18-11e6-b537-22000bd8490f/2630722/ac6c25ee-24d7-11ee-a8cc-028ca856f669/file/CodeofConductOurExpectations.pdf>

**\*\*Parent Handbook: Please be sure to read the parent handbook. The link is attached.**

**[TRES PARENT HANDBOOK 23-24](#)**

**\*\*Our School Website is TRES School [Web Site](#) (click on the link)**

**\*\*We have a new Parent Portal for school meals. Please see below:**

Go to the parent portal at <http://lingconnect.com/> where you can:

- Apply for meal benefits (FARM)
- View menus, meal prices (NO meal price increases from last year!) and a la carte prices
- Add money to student accounts (NO FEES SY'24!)
- Transfer funds between students
- View student meal transactions
- Set low-balance notifications

**Meal Benefit Applications:**

**If your family participates in an assistance program, please verify your student(s) meal benefit status with the FNS Office prior to completing an application.**

**Online application in the LINQ Connect Parent Portal -**

**Select [Start Meal Application](#)**

**Click on *District* and enter "Frederick" to see district list.**

**Select *Frederick County Public Schools (MD)* to begin the application.**

**Student Meal Accounts: [FCPS is no longer using MySchoolBucks.](#)**

[Meal account balances from last school year are now on LINQ Connect.](#)

REGISTER for a LINQ Connect account to see your student(s) balance that will be available to use when school starts on August 23<sup>rd</sup>. You will then be able to add money, set notifications, view students purchases and more.

## **CURRICULUM UPDATES**

### **ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS**

Over the next three weeks, our class will build their knowledge about identity, with a focus on a variety of story types. We will read texts and view videos about how our experiences help shape our identity. Children will also write an expository essay about how an experience helped shape their identity by comparing their experience and feelings to those of the characters in the module.

### **Bring it home!**

Set aside time daily for your child to share with you what he or she is learning. Use these ideas to help build your child's knowledge about the topic:

- Talk about the ideas your child has added to the Knowledge Map each week.
- Ask about the texts your child is reading and what he or she has learned from them.
- Share with your child your own questions about the topic, and work together to find the answers.

**Explore the Genre** - The genre focus in this module is different kinds of stories, including fantasy, realistic fiction, and folktales. Discuss with your child the similarities and differences of these story types. Ask your child to read to you each day and make time to read together.

**Build Vocabulary** Use these ideas to help your child build a rich vocabulary.

- The Big Idea: Reinforce the topic words identity, pursuit, **experience**, and **wisdom** in everyday conversations with your child. Use prompts like these: How has your wisdom helped you? Describe a positive experience.
- What Does It Mean? Have your child keep a growing list of the Critical Vocabulary words. Quiz each other on their meanings.
- Word Hunt Look for words with the prefixes un-, in-, im-, mis-, pre- and suffixes -y, -ly in books and online texts.

## **MATH: Unit 8 - Measurement and Geometry**

In this unit, students have opportunities to:

- explore place value
- compare whole numbers
- rounding whole numbers
- adding and subtracting whole numbers.

### **Science: Organisms Structure and Function**

In this Life Science unit, your child is learning about internal and external structures of plants and animals, and animal senses. Please use this page to talk to your child about the different kinds of internal and external structures of plants and animals.

Your child is learning these important science ideas and practices:

- In the human body, organ systems work together to perform such tasks as moving and supporting the body, digesting food, bringing nutrients and oxygen to all body cells, and controlling body functions. Other animals, as well as plants, also have organ systems to perform life tasks.
- Plants and animals have structures to help them survive. Animals also use their senses to survive. Some animals even have “super senses,” which enable them to better use their perceptions and memories to guide their actions.
- Developing models and constructing evidence-based arguments are important science practices. In science, models are used to explain or predict natural systems. Evidence forms as scientists make sense of new information, which can be gained through investigations and experiments, or fair tests. Scientists can design models to better understand how animals receive and respond to different types of information through their senses.

### **PATHs UPDATES**

In Paths we will work on **Feelings** by:

- Teaching children that everyone experiences feelings.
- To help children identify, understand and discuss basic feelings and their causes.
- To increase children's vocabulary regarding emotions and emotional states (so children can express their feelings)