

Specials Team Monthly Newsletter

December 2023



Twin Ridge Elementary

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SPECIALS STAFF

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Michael Pritt	P.E. (Wed)	240-236-2309	Michael.Pritt@fcps.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

EVENT	DATE/TIME	DETAILS/LINKS
Mount Airy Tree Lighting	12/2 at 5pm	4th and 5th grade chorus
FSK Mall Performance	12/9 at 3pm	4th and 5th grade chorus
5th grade band AND 4th/5th chorus	12/14	Information will be coming home soon

CURRICULUM UPDATES

ART



Art Updates

L4L

- Students will practice showing the art principle value.
- Students will explore ways to show perspective in a 2-D artwork.
- Students will create a winter landscape.

PreK

- Students will be learning about the art elements texture and color.

Kindergarten

- Students will be learning about the art element texture.
- Students will learn about the art element of shape.
- Students will create seasonal artwork using different art tools & media.

1st Grade

- Students will learn about the art subject matter landscape.
- Students will show their understanding of using primary colors to mix secondary colors.
- Students will learn about and create their own portrait.
- Students will learn about the art principle pattern.

2nd Grade

- Students will continue to learn about the art element texture.
- Students will explore and use a variety of art tools.
- Students will learn about the art element shape and identifying geometric and organic shapes.

3rd Grade

- Students will create a landscape with a foreground, middleground, and background.
- Students will create a seasonal landscape showing their understanding of perspective.
- Students will learn about the art element of value.

4th Grade

- Students will learn about positive and negative space.
- Students will practice using strategies to show perspective in a 2-D work of art.
- Students will continue to explore the differences between abstract and realistic art.

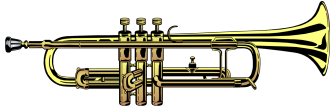
5th Grade

- Students will learn about the art principle of unity.
- Students will learn about Monochromatic and Analogous color schemes.

- Students will show their understanding of the art principle unity and focal point.

Happy Creating!!!
Ms. O'Brien & Ms. Salamon

BAND



Band Updates

- 5th grade Band Concert Thurs., 12/14, 2:00 pm at TRES. **Information will be sent home to band parents very soon.** 4th grade band students will not perform at this concert. They will perform at the May concert.
- Mr. Hinkley and Mr. Berry are very pleased with the work ethic your child shows every Thursday at band class. It is truly impressive! Many students have room to improve on their work ethic on the days they don't have band class at school. Students should try to practice their instrument every day at home.
- Band/strings day is every Thursday. Remember, if school is in session, we will have class. We have band/strings on altered schedule days - planned or weather related.

Happy practicing!
Mr. Berry & Mr. Hinkley

LIBRARY



Library Media Updates

Media Webpage:

Did you know that students and families can access all of our research databases at home? Please take a look at our Twin Ridge Media webpage located at: <https://edu.fcps.org/tres/media>. There are instructions on the Media page explaining how to log on and find the necessary passwords.

Our favorite databases include:



Also, take a look at the resources provided by the Frederick County Public Libraries which are also available on the Media webpage. Look for this logo:



Students can also explore Sites for Students-also located on the Media

webpage- with their families at home. All of the websites listed are educational and are safe for students to access. Please take time to enjoy these wonderful resources with your students.

Book Return

Please make sure your child brings back their library books. Students who have more than five overdue library books will be unable to take more home until some are returned. Books can be returned any day of the week. Please remind your student to put the book in the library book bin located in his or her classroom.

Media Instruction

During the month of December we will learn about coding and computational thinking. We will use children's literature to learn about coding, robots, and various inventors to gain a greater understanding of the topics. Students in grades k-5 will learn directional coding through a variety of ways depending on their grade level.

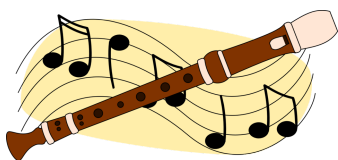
K-2- We will begin by "coding" Mrs. Houston with directional commands to go from one area of the Media Center to the other. Students will then use directional commands to code stuffed animals and one another. Students will also have opportunities to use the Code-A-Pillar and Beebots to practice their skills.

3-5- We will begin our coding unit by learning how coding, computational thinking, and robots are used in day to day life. We will learn how to use the Beebots with the Beebot Online Emulator. Students will then work in teams to use the Beebots to complete a task. Students will also use the Ozobots. We will study the different command cards and create a track for the Ozobot to follow. Lastly, we will end our unit with students interacting with specific programs on the Hour of Code website.

As always, please contact me at maria.houston@fcps.org if you have any questions or would like to volunteer.

-Mrs. Houston

MUSIC



Music Updates

Kindergarten

- Students will experience various holiday songs through singing and with instruments.
- Students will be introduced to high/low pitches in music through singing.

PreK:

- Students will continue to create movement to various music genres.
- Students will use their singing voices to explore various holiday songs.

Learning for Life

- Students will practice making music through singing, dancing, listening, and playing instruments.

1st Grade

- Students will experience various holiday songs through singing and with instruments.
- Students will be introduced to cumulative form through stories and listening to music.

2nd Grade

- After reviewing, students will learn about the half note and how to successfully play an ostinato to various songs including some holiday ones!
- Students will participate in various singing activities that include the following pitches- *sol, mi, la, do* and *re*.

3rd Grade.

- Students will continue to identify pitches on the staff that are located a step, skip, or leap apart.
- Students will experience various holiday songs through singing and with instruments.
- Students will have practice composing the notes B, A, and G on the music staff.

4th Grade

- Students will have practice identifying notes on the music staff through various musical activities.
- Students will experience various holiday songs with instruments.

5th Grade

- Students will have practice identifying notes on the music staff (treble and bass) through various musical activities.
- Students will experience various holiday songs with instruments.
- Students will be introduced to the musical concept of theme and variations with listening activities.

Musically yours,
Ms. Gearhart and Mrs. Slick

Follow TRES Music on Twitter
[@NicoleSlickFCPS](#) and [@TRESMusicK5](#)

P.E.

P.E. Updates

Please continue to ensure students are coming to school with proper footwear on P.E. days. This is for your students' safety! Sneakers, Tennis Shoes, or active shoes that are tight fitting. **Please avoid Crocs, Hey Dude's, flip flops, sandals, and other shoes that are not suited for physical activity.**



Kindergarten, 1st Grade and 2nd Grade

- Students will participate in Basketball related skills including dribbling, passing, and shooting.
- Students will play cooperative games leading into the Holiday break to work on teamwork and communication skills.

3rd Grade, 4th Grade and 5th Grade

- Students will participate in Basketball related activities including dribbling, passing, shooting, as well as offensive and defensive strategies.
- Students will participate in a variety of cooperative games to focus on teamwork and communication skills.
- Students will set goals on which Fitness Test they would like to work to improve.

PreK and Learning for Life

- Students will continue to work on skills to improve their ability to be active.
- Students will continue to work with the Young Athletes Program in the areas of catching, striking, and throwing.

Stay active!

Mr. Myers, Mrs. Lebois, and Mr. Pritt

***Follow TRES PE on Twitter
@MrMyers_PE_FCPS and @ELeboisFCPS**