

September 2016



# Sugarland Elementary Wildcat News

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to a new school year! We are so excited to have our students back! They have settled in and teaching and learning is in full force! As a school, we made a lot of percentage growth last year: reading up by 11 points (from 74 to 85), math by 7 points (from 81 to 88), history by 14 points (from 83 to 97), and science by 8 points (from 55 to 63). Our goal is to increase even more this year in all subjects, especially science. We've made a lot of progress; however, there is MUCH work to be done, so our students finish on top. We are working hard, so they will be career and college-ready.

We look forward to the partnership between home and school to continue to grow. We need volunteers to help throughout the school. Whether being a Room Mom or Dad, copying papers for teachers, laminating, helping classroom teachers with other work, or volunteering with the PTO (Parent-Teacher Organization), WE NEED YOU! We invite you to get involved! Our theme this year is "One Team, One Dream", and we would like you to work with us to help our students go from good to great! This will be our best year yet!

### 2016-17 LCPS School Calendar

August 29 FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS  
September 5 Holiday (Labor Day)  
October 10 Holiday (Columbus Day)  
November 4 End of First Grading Period  
November 7-8 Student Holiday (Planning/Records/Conference Days)  
November 23-25 Holiday (Thanksgiving)  
December 22 - January 2 WINTER BREAK  
January 3 Classes Resume  
January 16 Holiday (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)  
January 26 End of Second Grading Period  
January 27 **MOVEABLE STUDENT HOLIDAY\*\*** (Planning/Records/Conference Day)  
February 20 Holiday (Presidents' Day)  
April 6 End of Third Grading Period  
April 7 Student Holiday (Planning/Records/Conference Day)  
April 10-14 SPRING BREAK  
May 29 Holiday (Memorial Day)  
June 9 Last Day of School for Students/End of Fourth Grading Period

### SEPTEMBER EVENTS AT SUGARLAND

**Sept. 5 – Labor Day, No School**  
**Sept. 7 – PTO Board Meeting, 6:30**  
**Sept. 9 – PTO Family Picnic, 5:30-7:00**  
**Sept. 20 – Back to School Night**

Sugarland Elementary School

65 Sugarland Run Drive ♦ Sterling, VA 20164 ♦ Telephone 571.434.4460 ♦ Fax 703.444.7463  
Absentee Line 571.434.4461

Sugarland Elementary School website: [www.lcps.org/sugarland](http://www.lcps.org/sugarland)

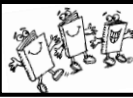
Principal: Ms. Gail Brady  
Assistant Principal: Mr. Tim Sparbanie

Bookkeeper: Mrs. Karen Cole  
Attendance Secretary: Mrs. Netzy Cossio

## Art Events

Art education classes at Sugarland Elementary will encourage critical and creative problem-solving skills, as well as empathy for historical and contemporary art works. The program is designed to encourage perceptual awareness, through the involvement of all of the senses, and allows for the integration of other curriculums, as art readily relates to all educational experiences.

-- Mr. Maier



## Library News

Welcome back readers!

During library time this year students will learn to be responsible users of a variety of information resources. We will use different types of technology and create products we can share beyond our classrooms. In addition, we will continue to work on reading comprehension and fostering a love of reading in all students. Starting this month, our fourth and fifth grade students will be using the Common Sense Media curriculum to learn how to navigate information in a technological society and be safe when they use a technology device. This is part of Loudoun County Public School's One to the World Initiative preparing our students to learn in an environment that helps them develop as critical thinkers.

If your student completed the Sugarland Summer Reading Challenge, please make sure it gets returned to school by September 9.

--Mrs. Grim

## Music Notes



Welcome back, Wildcats! This year in music, we are looking forward to singing, playing, moving, performing, and learning together.

Join the Chorus!

4th and 5th grade chorus rehearsal is starting next week, so be on the look out for information cards and make sure to return them before our first rehearsal on Wednesday, September 7th. Chorus is an after-school activity where students will have a blast working together to learn and craft vocal music. Their hard-work is sure to show at our concert on Thursday, November 17th.

--Mrs. Blum-Marciano



## Technology

This 2016-2017 school year, students will have 30 minutes of technology class each week. We focus on Digital Citizenship and word processing using Common Sense Media and Microsoft Office.

As the Instruction Technology Coach, I will provide students with the opportunity to explore enriching educational websites that connect to subject area core content standards.

I look forward to engaging students with rigorous activities where they can also teach me something new!

-- Ms. McCord

## Welcome New Parent Liaison

Hello Sugarland Family! My name is Karina Andrade and I am so happy to be part of the Sugarland Team as your new Parent Liaison. I have actually already been part of this family through my church and as a parent for many years. I am a mother of 2 wonderful boys who keep me very busy. I was born in Mexico and grew up in Los Angeles, California. My husband and I have lived in Northern Virginia for 11 years now. I am a social worker and worked for Northern Virginia Family Service before I had children. In California I worked as an administrator for group homes for teenage boys and girls. I am thrilled to be here and look forward to meeting all the wonderful families of this community! Go Wildcats!

Hola familia de Sugarland! Mi nombre es Karina Andrade y estoy super feliz de ser parte del equipo de Sugarland como su nueva enlace de padres (Parent Liaison). Realmente ya soy parte de esta familia a través de mi iglesia y como padre por muchos años. Soy madre de 2 niños maravillosos que me mantienen muy ocupada. Nací en México y crecí en Los Ángeles, California. Mi esposo y yo vivimos en Virginia desde hace 11 años. Soy trabajadora social y trabajé para Northern Virginia Family Service antes de tener hijos. En California he trabajado como administradora en hogares para niños y adolescents sin padres. Estoy muy contenta de estar aquí y espero conocer a todas las familias maravillosas de esta comunidad! ¡Vamos Wildcats!

## Notes from the School Counselor

Character Trait for September:

### **Respect**

Students are reviewing this character trait in guidance lessons.

We will also be continuing our Career Lessons this month.

### **Counseling Groups**

Ms. Fore will be sending home interest forms for counseling groups. Please return the form if you are interested in a counseling group for your child.

### **Comcast Internet and Laptops Available**

Students who qualify for Free Lunch may also qualify for a discounted internet price, just \$9.95 per month. Laptops are also available as at discount for \$149.99.

Please call Comcast for more information 1-855-846-8376.



### **BIRTHDAYS**

Parents, we have received a very generous offer from a donor to help us celebrate students' birthdays. If you celebrate birthdays, and would like for your child to participate, please let us know. Parents will receive a gift card for a birthday cake so please contact me the week before the birthday.

Hey, Wildcats!

**Backpack Buddy Program**  
**The Backpack Buddy Program**  
**will start in October.**

**Contact Ms. Foré for more**  
**information.**





# Physical Education Information

Welcome back for the 2016-2017 school year. As Elementary Physical Education Teachers we are looking forward to having your child in class. We recognize that children are at different developmental levels, with a variety of needs and interests.

We will attempt to provide all of the children a variety of physical activities that make fitness fun and rewarding.

In order for your child to get the most out of the Physical Education classroom, students need to dress appropriately for class. For your **child's safety**, please make sure that your child wears **tennis shoes** on days they have class. Students will be having class three times a week. Therefore, physical education class will be on different days of the week.

We would suggest students wear tennis shoes to school or leave a pair in their classroom.

These are key vocabulary words that will be introduced during this unit:

**Cardiorespiratory Endurance** — The ability of the heart and lungs to supply oxygen to the I muscles during long periods of physical activity.

**Flexibility** — The muscles' ability to move a joint through a full range of motion

**Muscular Endurance** — The ability of the muscles to repeat a movement many times or hold a position without stopping to rest.

**Muscular Strength** — The ability of a muscle or muscles to push or pull with its total force.

**Body Composition** — The relationship between fat-free mass and fat mass.

Victor Cortes  
Physical Education Teacher

Nicholas Peters  
Physical Education Teacher



## STEAM Lab Science Technology Engineering Arts Math

Sug Steam Ahead!

My name is Darielle Timothy and I'm Sugarland's STEAM Lab teacher. I'm excited to work with all grade levels and bring new investigative experiences to our wonderful students. Students will be completing projects that incorporate science, technology, engineering, art and math. I can't wait to share all their creative thinking with the school and community!

## Reading Team



Welcome back to school from the Sugarland Reading Team!

We would like to introduce ourselves and tell you about a couple of resources to help you get the year off to a good start! We are lucky to have 5 Reading Teachers on our team this year: Ms. Hess, Mrs. Blondin, Mrs. Schuler, Miss McQuillan & Mrs. Mouritzen. Please go to the reading page on the Sugarland website to get more information about how we help students at Sugarland become better readers.

As the school year begins, it is important for your child to read at home every night. They will be learning in their classrooms about how to choose a "just right" book. These books are a perfect match for reading at home. If you have questions about what books are "just right" for your child, feel free to ask your classroom teacher or look at our website for grade level booklists.

Please feel free to contact us at any time for more information about helping your child be a successful reader!

## **PBIS**

Sugarland is a Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) School. On a daily basis, we promote three ways in which our students can have a positive day: We focus on students being: Responsible, Respectful, and Ready. This month our focus will be on students demonstrating this positive behavior in the cafeteria. What does responsible, respectful, and ready behavior in the cafeteria look like? It looks like this-

- Stay in your seat
- Talk quietly to the people who are sitting close to you
- If you need something, raise your hand
- Say please and thank you to the cafeteria staff
- Clean up after yourself
- Line up quickly and quietly and wait for your teacher

We'll be on the lookout for students showing this AWESOME behavior!

**Sugarland Elementary School** is routinely inspected in accordance with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA). As required by the Commonwealth of Virginia and the EPA, this notification is to inform you that asbestos-containing material (ACM) is present in several locations in our school. The ACM is inspected semi-annually by qualified LCPS personnel to insure that the material remains in good condition and is not creating an exposure hazard for building occupants.

*The Asbestos Management Plan indicates locations where asbestos-containing materials may be present. The plan can be found in the administrative office at the school. In addition, a copy of the Asbestos Management Plan is located in the Loudoun County Public Schools Facilities Services Division office at 1002C Sycolin Road, Leesburg, Virginia.*

*Please feel free to request information about our Management Plan, the inspection findings and our plan of action. The Plan will be available for your review and inspection during normal office hours.*