



Casey's Chronicle

News from The Castle



IMPORTANT NEWS

Please take the time to complete the 2023 OCPS Family Survey.
Your opinion matters!
Click on the link to go directly to the survey.

[Click Here](#) to begin survey



[castlecreekes_ocps](#)



[Castle Creek Elementary-OCPS](#)



[CastleCK_OCPS](#)

UPDATES



SPRING BREAK

MARCH 13-17

Schools Closed /
District Offices Open



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Feb. 27th-March 3rd-Dr. Seuss Week
- March 2nd-Literacy Night
- March 6th-Kindergarten Registration
- March 7th-SAC Meeting
- March 9th-End of 3rd Marking Period
- March 10th-Hurricane Makeup Day
- March 13th-19th-Spring Break
- March 20th-Beginning 4th Marking Period



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2023 OCPS FAMILY SURVEY

We want to hear from you!
January 17-March 10, 2023

Available in English, Español, Kreyòl,
Tiếng Việt, العربية, and Português.

Can't scan now? Here are two additional ways to access your survey!



LOG IN DIRECTLY

bit.ly/OCPSFAMILY

Use the bit.ly link above on any digital device to be connected directly to the family survey.



FIND US ONLINE!

www.OCPS.net

Go directly to OCPS.net or your school's social media platforms to access the family survey.



Do you have students at different schools? We encourage you to take a survey for each school of enrollment. Families with multiple students in the same school are encouraged to use the experiences of the oldest child enrolled.

NEED HELP?

Please contact your school for assistance.



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Did You Know?

School Safety

Why We Conduct Emergency Drills

- To comply with Florida law
- To enhance safety by allowing students and staff the ability to practice emergency procedures outside of a crisis situation
 - To increase feelings of preparedness among students and staff
- To build muscle memory in students and staff so they can perform necessary tasks in a real emergency without hesitation
 - To familiarize students and staff with emergency procedures
 - To help staff understand their responsibilities during an emergency
- To ease anxiety among students by familiarizing them with emergency procedures in a safe environment
 - To reduce confusion and panic in the event of an emergency
 - To raise awareness about potential risks
- To build resiliency in schools by equipping staff and students with the skills they need to handle any emergencies they may face

Students in elementary school may have a more difficult time understanding why we conduct emergency drills.



Here are some tips for the parents of elementary students to help them discuss drills and reinforce their importance:

Tips for Talking to Elementary School Children about Emergency Drills

- **Speak calmly**
- **Emphasize the importance of emergency drills in keeping everyone safe**
- **Use examples your children can relate to regarding emergency drills; i.e., wearing a seat belt in the car to remain safe during an accident, even though an accident may never occur**
- **Explain that teachers and staff work hard to keep everyone at their school safe**
- **Stress the importance of listening to the instructions of teachers and staff during drills or actual emergencies**
- **Talk to your children about the emergency drills they have at their school**
- **Encourage your child to ask questions about drills and emergency procedures**



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VPK

REGISTRATION

2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

NOW ENROLLING
<http://earlychildhood.ocps.net>




2023-24 KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Now enrolling the Class of 2036.

Visit <http://kindergarten.ocps.net>
 for instructions, application, and registration requirements
 or contact the Student Enrollment Office at 407.317.3223.



Upcoming Curriculum

Kinder

In Kindergarten, we will be learning about long vowel sounds and reading informational books. We are learning our numbers to 20 and beyond and learning about plants and animals in Science. Have a great spring break!

1st

In March First Grade will celebrate Literacy Week with fun Dr. Seuss themed days! We will be working on:

Math: We will continue our money unit, learning all about coins and dollar bills. After spring break we will begin learning about two and three dimensional figures and their defining attributes.

Science: Big Idea 16: Heredity and Reproduction

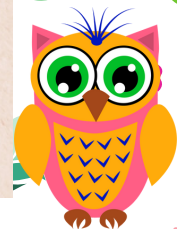
Reading: Prose and Poetry- Identify and describe main story elements, identify and explain the moral of a story, compare and contrast two texts on the same topic, use picture clues and context clues to determine the meaning of unknown words.

Phonics: R controlled vowels such as ar, ir, er, ur, or, ore, air vowel pairs, inflectional endings.

2nd

To begin the month of March – second-grade will continue our focus in reading on explaining how text features contribute to the meaning of texts. We will also focus on explaining an author’s purpose and opinion, and comparing and contrasting important details presented by two texts on the same topic or theme. In math, we will be completing our unit on fractions and time and assess right before the break. When we return from the break – we will begin a new unit on describing geometric figures.

In science, we are wrapping up a unit on the organization and development of living organisms. In social studies, we continue to work on a unit focused on civic and political participation.



3rd

Third grade has now taught all of the reading standards for our grade level and we will now be reviewing all of the previously taught standards as we move into the last quarter of the school year and prepare for end of year FAST. We will also continue to focus on deconstructing morphemes in words to find meaning (ex. Aquarist: aqua= water, ist= person who, so an aquarist is a person who studies/works with water).

In math, we will still be working on identifying/writing fractions as well as comparing and ordering fractions. Students will see denominators of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, and 12.

In science, we are learning that radiant energy (heat) from the sun can heat objects and when the sun is not present, heat may be lost.

4th

In ELA, 4th grade is finishing up their Reading Across Genres unit and transitioning to a Mixed Review of all the benchmarks we have learned in our Prose & Poetry units.

Students will be reviewing how rhyme, structure, and figurative language create meaning in a poem. Also, we will identify the narrator's point of view and explain how the theme develops in a literary text. Finally, students will summarize literary texts to enhance our comprehension.

In Social Studies, we are diving into an introduction to Florida economics. Students are going to identify entrepreneurs from various social and ethnic backgrounds who have influenced Florida's economy. We will also discover Florida's role in the national and international economy as well as what attracts businesses to our state. In math, students will identify angles, estimate angle measurements, utilize protractors, and solve real-world problems involving angles. For science, we will wrap our Earth Structures unit and begin our next unit, Heredity and Reproduction. Students will learn about the reproduction of plants, compare and contrast the major stages in life cycles, and learn how some traits are inherited while others are learned. We have a busy month in 4th grade, but we hope all of our students and their loved ones enjoy Spring Break!

5th

For the month of March 5th grade will be finishing the last unit on Reading Prose & Poetry before focusing on reviewing specific standards that students struggled on throughout the year. This will include poetry, dramas, and informational text. We will continue to work with central idea, theme, plot, perspective, summary, text structures, and text features. In writing, we will be working on an expository essay.

In Math 5th graders will continue into solving multi-step real-world problems. We will complete this unit On March 9th. As a reminder your child will not have to memorize conversions and will have access to a conversion chart for all mathematical problems. Then it is a long awaited Spring break. When your 5th grader returns to school on 3/27 we will begin our math unit on Mathematical Thinking to Write and Solve Expressions & Equations.

What this involve is the students will translate written real-world and mathematical descriptions into numerical expressions. They will also, translate numerical expressions into written mathematical descriptions. What this looks like for example is; $4.5 + (3 \times 2)$ in word form is *four and five tenths* plus the quantity 3 times 2. These skills will be given to them in real world problems and will have to explain if an equation is true or false. Next, they will then have to evaluate multi-step numerical expressions using order of operations. Some of you might remember PEMDAS. Students are being asked to create a creative poster to explain what PEMDAS is. This will be a home project. All these new skills will also be given to them in real world problems and will have to explain if an equation is true or false.

This start of this month students will be reviewing previously taught skills in Science to prepare for their PMA (Progress Monitoring Assessment). Then on the 6th we will begin Big Idea 17: Interdependence.

They will have to compare and contrast plant and animal adaptations that aid them to survive in different environments. This will involve looking at life cycle variations, animal behavior and physical characteristics. Next they will trace the flow of energy from the sun as it transfers along the food chain through the producers to the consumers. Fifth graders are going to create their own food chains and Complete an assignment called; Next Time You See a _____ Life Science Project. Details will be sent home before spring Break.

OCPS HERO TEACHER

Congratulations to Ms. Moul



LITERACY NIGHT

CASTLE CREEK PTA PRESENTS:

Casey Hears a Who!

LITERACY NIGHT!

Thursday, March 2nd

5pm-7pm

Castle Creek Elementary

Games, activities, photo props,
refreshments, and more!

Open Your Mind & Eyes To The
Joy of Reading!

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!



PLEASE CONTACT PTA AT CCELEMPA@GMAIL.COM WITH ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS EVENT OR IF YOU'D LIKE TO VOLUNTEER

DR. SEUSS WEEK

February 27th-MARCH 3RD



Dr. Seuss Week

Monday : Green Eggs & Ham

wear green

Tuesday: Fox in Socks

wear crazy socks

Wednesday : Wacky Wednesday

crazy hair day

Thursday : Cat in the Hat

wear a hat

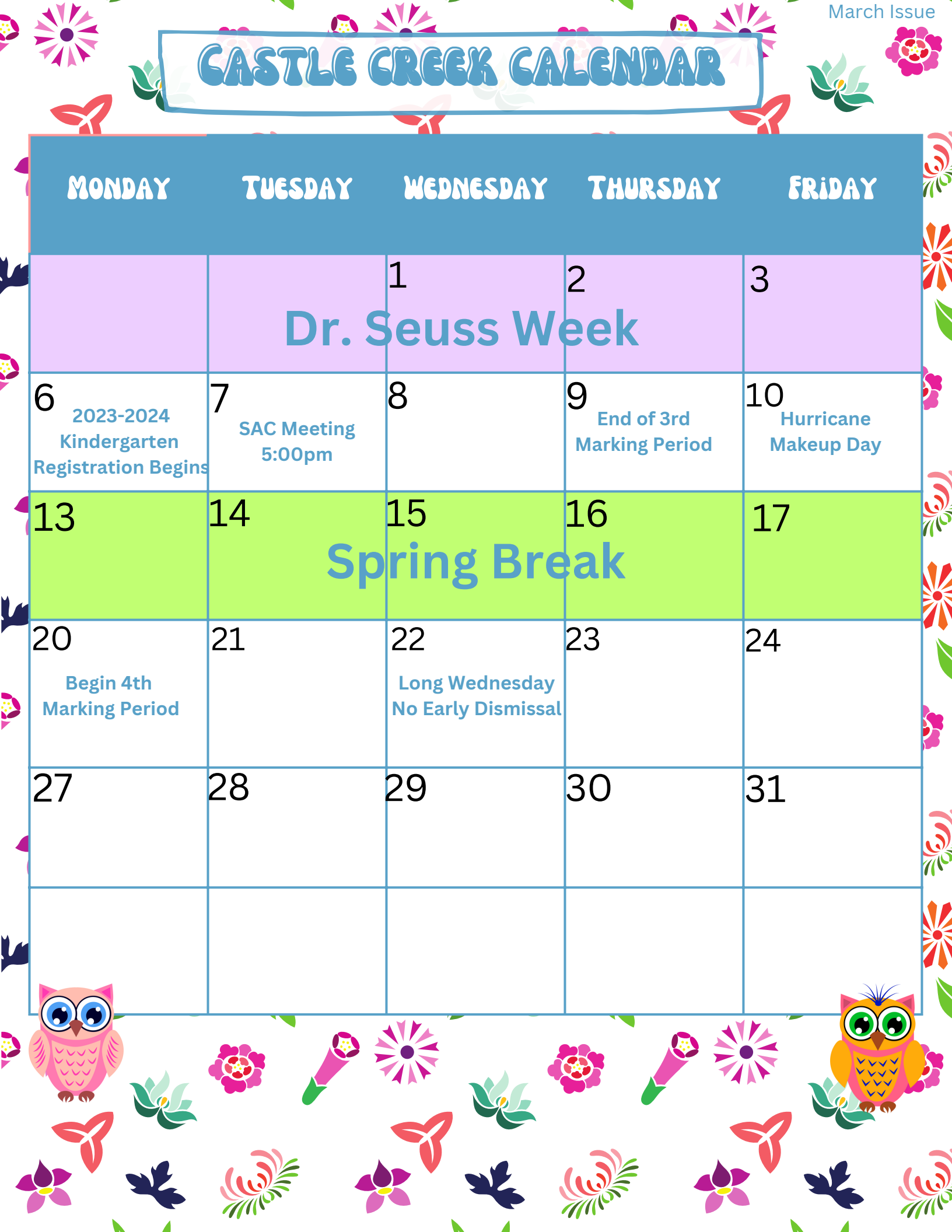
Friday : Oh, The Places You'll Go

wear a college or sports shirt

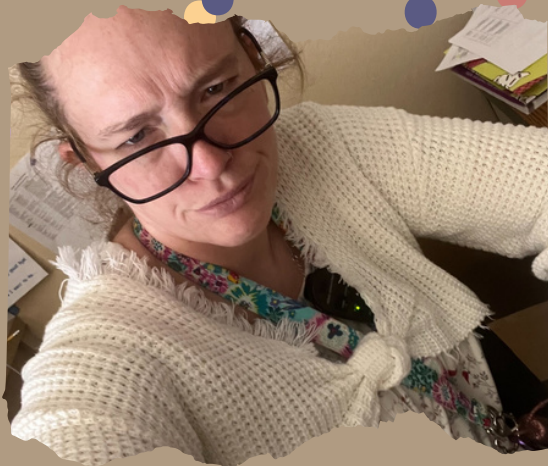
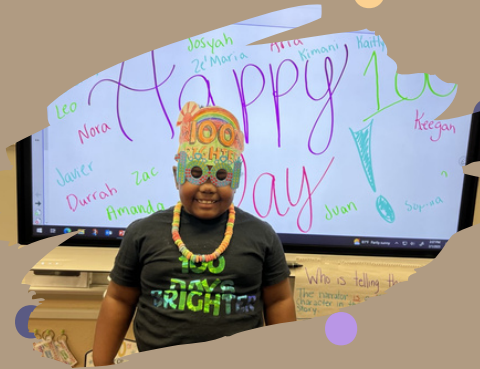


CASTLE CREEK CALENDAR

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
		1	2	3
Dr. Seuss Week				
6 2023-2024 Kindergarten Registration Begins	7 SAC Meeting 5:00pm	8	9 End of 3rd Marking Period	10 Hurricane Makeup Day
13	14	15	16	17
Spring Break				
20 Begin 4th Marking Period	21	22 Long Wednesday No Early Dismissal	23	24
27	28	29	30	31



100TH DAY OF SCHOOL



ALL COUNTY CHORUS



PTA VIP DANCE



THANK YOU

