



CHERRY PARK ELEMENTARY

SCHOOL OF LANGUAGE IMMERSION



What Happened at the Battle of the Books?

On Friday, a group of our kids competed in a quiz bowl competition where all the questions came from a selected list of books. All our Cherry Park kids in fourth and fifth grade had the chance to take a test about the books and the kids with the highest scores qualified to be our team. Sadie Bridges, Campbell Compton, Jack McCrae, Hayden Powell, Tori Smrekar, James Townsend, Jaxon Thomas and Isaiah Wilson represented us. They were coached by Mr. Bartless, our Media Specialist. After five really tense, nerve wracking, nail biting rounds...our kids won!! We are so proud of them. Here's what I noticed during the competition. **1. They worked together.** On every question, they conferred well with each other before the

spokesperson (Tori) responded with the answer. They chose to listen to each other before arriving at the final answer. **2. They paid careful attention to listen to the question.** They encouraged each other to focus and listen carefully before they conferred to arrive at an answer. They wanted to be sure they responded appropriately to the question that was asked. **3. When they missed a question, they moved on.** There was no blaming. There was no getting stuck on the mistake. There was no loss of focus on the competition. The athletic version of this is “Next play.” They were very successful in turning the page to listen to the next question. **4. They had fun.** Certainly, it is always fun to win. It was clear they enjoyed the competition itself as much as the wins. I believe each of our kids had the most fun by reading the books. There is so much joy in getting caught up in a novel and having fun on the author’s intended ride. As I think about all our kids experienced during Battle of the Books, I hope I model those same attributes for my own kids at home and our kids at school. Congratulations to our Cherry Park team!! Well done!!

Mr. Maness, Principal



The First Ever Cherry Park Teacher of the Year Is...Ms. Meriam Polanco

Congratulations to Ms. Polanco who is a third grade Spanish teacher with us. She has taught for seven years in South Carolina, New Jersey and in Puerto Rico. She lived in Puerto Rico for twelve years and moved to SC in 2014. She has also taught Italian at the university level. We are so glad Ms. Polanco is at Cherry Park.

Nominations for PTO Leadership for 19-20

We want to begin planning now for next year for our PT O Leadership. If you have a nomination, you can go to the link below to submit that person's name. Please ask them before submitting their name.

<https://nam02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fgoo.gl%2Fforms%2FAe8kWKU1wQ9KuvGL2&data=02%7C01%7Cpmaness%40rhmail.org%7C231cdbe062a14403bf2f08d6ad5b900a%7C57b835c11a6c40088e2fb2a16e5f738a%7C0%7C0%7C636887006150972835&sdata=qCaqiSrWqVShUWUkZZxD4cgGf9i%2F95M3LUhNAIcqdx4%3D&reserved=0>

Field Day

We will have two field days in May. On May 24, we will have our Kindergarten, First and Second Grade Field Day in the morning. On May 31, we will have our Third, Fourth and Fifth Grade Field Day and it will be all day. Most likely, we will have them across the street in the Cherry Park fields. We will send home permission slips and volunteer signups about Field Day after Spring Break. We wanted to let you know about these days so you can plan for them. We will need volunteers at both events to help them be a fun day for our kids. If you want to volunteer, you must have a **current background screening** completed and you can go here to submit that if needed: <https://www.rock-hill.k12.sc.us/Page/3391> We realize all three schools did Field Day differently. To best address safety and security concerns, we want to make sure you know that we will not be able to allow visitors to walk up and visit at Field Day. We will not have any way to check ID's across the street. All adults at Field Day will be prescreened and will wear bracelets indicating they are staff or volunteers. As always, we welcome parents to visit with their child during lunch those days. Field Day is a day for our kids and we want them to be safe and secure while having fun.

Parent Teacher Organization and School Improvement Council Update

The PTO serves to raise funds, coordinate volunteers and encourage teachers through appreciation activities. We had a great meeting last week and minutes from the meeting were sent out earlier this week. We will meet again on **Monday, April 22 at 6:30 PM** to continue organization efforts. We encourage all parents to come and participate. We will meet in the Cherry Park Elementary Library starting in January. Meeting dates have been set for the following Mondays at 6:30 PM for the rest of the year: **May 20. Our School Improvement Council will meet on the same days at 5:30 PM** in the Office Conference Room. All parents are invited to attend either or both meetings. Both groups are working on bylaws and have started organizational efforts. The group at PTO divided into committees to work on Bylaws, Fundraising, Volunteers and Teacher Appreciation. We hope you can come and join one of these subcommittees. Here is the link if you wish to receive the PTO Newsletter:

<https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Ffeepurl.com%2FghLsUj∓data=02%7C01%7Cpmaness%40rhmail.org%7C86c7b468d60e47e7bc6408d698d1dd08%7C57b835c11a6c40088e2fb2a16e5f738a%7C0%7C0%7C636864424472780226&data=mPE0idItkxHbbBFMdR3NqMJRd5aMOH7ANFPB0OcQuWA%3D&reserved=0>

Got Questions?

Attached are answers for our Transition FAQ. Please don't forget that you can ask them at our [Transition Survey](#) site. These are being collected and will be answered on our FAQ page on our school website as well.

Calendar Dates

April 4-13—Come See Me Festival (Go to <https://www.comeseeme.org/> for more information.)

April 10—Fourth Grade to Schiele Museum

April 12—Fourth Grade to Kings Mountain

April 15-19—Spring Break

Monday, April 22—School will be in session. Originally, this was a holiday but due to our bad weather, it is a makeup day for us.

May 7—SC READY Reading Test (3rd-5th Grades)

May 9—SC READY Writing Test (3rd-5th Grades)

May 14—SC READY Math Test (3rd-5th Grades)

May 16—SC PASS Science Test (4th Grade) and SC PASS Social Studies Test (5th Grade)

May 24—Kindergarten through Second Grade Field Day (in the morning)

May 27—Memorial Day Holiday (No School)

May 31—Third through Fifth Grades Field Day (all day)

June 3—9:00 Fifth Grade Graduation (Sullivan Middle School Auditorium); Half Day for Students

June 4—Half Day for Students and Last School Day

June 8—High School Graduation Day (10:00 RHHS, 2:00 NWHS, 6:00 SPHS)
