



NORCO ELEMENTARY

News from the Nest

Shannon Diodene - Principal
Jennifer Gonzales, Matthew Chauvin—Assistant Principals

January 2024

Happy New Year! We hope that all of our families had a wonderful holiday! We are so proud of our students' and school's accomplishments in 2023! As we enter 2024, our goal is for all of our students to continuously show growth academically, socially, and emotionally. In addition, we strive to help our students aim high towards achieving the St. Charles Parish Learner Goals of becoming a knowledgeable person, a critical thinker, a collaborative contributor, an involved citizen, a creative producer, a self-directed achiever, and an effective contributor. We welcome all parents and community members in helping our students achieve this goal and know that by working together we can best support our students. Report cards will be sent home on Friday, January 12 and our Parent/Teacher conferences are scheduled for February 1 and 2. To ensure that we are providing your child with the best education possible, please schedule a conference with your child's teacher(s). Although conferences are in February, do not hesitate to reach out to our teachers and administrators sooner if needed. We are here for our families and all want what is best for our children.

Please make sure that your child is completing his/her homework assignments each evening, getting a good night's rest, and having his/her materials ready for the next day. Ms. Annie Francioni, Title I Family Literacy Center Teacher, is always available to assist with your child's learning needs and is a valuable resource for parents. You may contact her at (985) 764-8933 or by email at afrancioni@stcharles.k12.la.us. Norco Elementary School faculty and staff is committed to continuous growth and welcomes your feedback. If you have suggestions on how we can best serve our families, please feel free to share them with an administrator, teacher, or staff member.

Thank you for your continuous support and trust. We know that our greatest asset is your child and we take pride in providing our families with the best educational experience possible. I look forward to an amazing 2024 year!

Sincerely,

Shannon Diodene, Principal



8	Classes Resume for students 3 rd Quarter Begins
10-11	2 nd and 3 rd grade Dibels Testing
12	2 nd Quarter Report Cards sent home
12 & 17	1 st grade Dibels Testing
15	Martin Luther King Holiday
17	Student of the Month Celebration Breakfast (December SOM) @ 9:15
18	Box Top Dress Down Day
18 & 23	Kindergarten Dibels Testing
19	Early Dismissal 2 nd and 3 rd grade Breakfast with a Buddy
24	Eagles Excellence Awards Ceremony

1	Parent/Teacher Conferences Early Dismissal
2	Parent/Teacher Conferences Early Dismissal PreK, Kindergarten, and 1 st grade Breakfast with a Buddy
5-9	Progress Reports go home
7	Student of the Month Celebration (January SOM)
9	Krewe de Eagles Mardi Gras Parade
12-16	Mardi Gras Holiday
19	Students and Faculty return to school
23	NES Black History Program





4H Club

4H members decorated ornaments to bring holiday cheer to the NES teachers and staff members. (Add a few pics)

Members should log into the 4H google classroom to see reminders about upcoming events in the month of January. There are many contests and events listed in the parish wide 4H newsletter.

Please Note: Our upcoming meeting for January has been moved to Wednesday, January 24, 2024.



Congratulations 4th grade Eagles!! These students completed the GREAT program. We are so thankful for our partnership with the St. Charles Parish Sheriff's Office!



Attendance Requirements:

ELEMENTARY students shall be in attendance a minimum of 167 days a school year. Students may only be absent 10 days. ELEMENTARY students who accrue more than 10 absences will NOT be eligible for promotion. Extenuating circumstances may apply as well as excused absences for COVID-19 related absences. For more information, please refer to the 2023-2024 Student Code of Conduct District Handbook.

Transportation

All notes must be given in writing, brought in with the student or emailed to: norco-bus@stcharles.k12.la.us before **2:30 p.m.** each day and by **11:30 a.m.** on half days. All notes should be on a full sheet of paper, written with a dark color ink and include your child's full name, the teacher's name, and dates of the changes with clear instructions and your signature. If you email a transportation change, please expect a confirmation. A transportation request form can be obtained from your child's teacher, the office or can be downloaded from our website: (www.stcharles.k12.la.us/norco) *Please note at this time bus changes are not allowed*



@norcoelementaryschool



@norcoelementaryschool



@SCPPS_NES

Parents/Guardians/Visitors

Each time you enter the school, you will be asked to present a valid state-issued ID. Everyone needs to check in to the main office once you are on campus. At Car Rider pickup you will be asked for a picture ID as well.





FABULOUS FIRST GRADE

Wow! We are already in the 3rd quarter of the school year! Time flies when you are having fun! 1st graders will continue to read grade appropriate text in order to ask and answer questions about nonfiction stories. We will be learning about r -controlled vowel sounds, such as /er/ in her and /ar/ in car. We will also begin the process of reading multi-syllabic words. Please remember to read any copies of stories that go home. In Math, students will begin Module 4 in Eureka

Squared which focuses on measurement. Please continue to practice basic facts through 20 to reinforce the last module's skills and to prepare for the next module of place value. In our CK Knowledge time, we will be learning about Early American Civilizations. Please ask your child to tell you all the great facts they are learning in Ck Knowledge. Keep warm this month.



Grade Level Spotlight!

Fourth graders are getting excited about their upcoming field trip to see The Lightning Thief on stage. Remember that permission slips and fees are due on January 26th. Stay connected to what's happening by reading the Family Information Guide every Monday.



Congratulations to our Science & Social Studies Fair Winners!

*Collin Armand—History—1st place
Patia Jones—Sociology—1st place
Hazel Roberts—Louisiana History—1st place
Spencer Robin— Chemical Science—1st place
Carl Coleman—Earth/Environmental Science—Honorable Mention
Haileigh Walter— Physical Science—1st place*





This month we wanted to take a chance to share with you how the mental health team at your school helps your child to be successful.

Mrs. Hermann and Mrs. Noel (school counselors) provide class lessons during enrichment to each grade level on topics based on student, teacher, and parent feedback. Some topics include kindness, friendship, coping skills, how to manage anger/ anxiety/ stress, assertiveness, introductions to careers, self-esteem, self-control, team-building, etc. The counselors also meet with small groups of students on topics that students seem to be struggling with the most, particularly coping skills, self-esteem, self-control, and friendship. Additionally, the counselors meet with students one on one as needed for a variety of situations that arise day to day.

Mrs. Robert (Mental Health Professional)'s role is to provide more intensive support to students that may need more consistent counseling. She also provides the family with support and resources as needed.

We love being with your child(ren)! Please reach out to us at any time if there is a way that we can help support your student.

Mrs. Hermann, Mrs. Noel, Mrs. Robert

December Students of the Month

The following students were chosen for showing the character trait "Giving":

Ava Roussel, Haley Hinkle, Daniel Materne, Evelyn Martin, Zander Perez, Hazel Smith, Deuce Morris, Amari Parquet, Levi Remondet, Ja'Mon Maull, Joseph Sentilles, Kaiden Martinez, Ryan Vicknair, Cooper Norton, Emma Trepagnier, Theodore Marroquin, Knox Sellars, Gavin Lefevre, Vivian Coupel, Kennedy Chambers, Scott Siuba, Kyla Wilkens, Juliette Post, Colston Alexander, Lilly St. Pierre, Lydia Gordon, Carson Vicknair, Tyler Trepagnier

WAY TO GO!

January Band Buzz

Welcome back! Our new year brings with it new challenges in band. Make sure that you are practicing the book exercises daily as we will hit the ground running. Parents help your band students understand that practicing at home is homework for my class and that it is required. "You can only get out no more than what you put into it."

All band members will have the opportunity to participate in the St. Charles Parish Elementary Honor Band this year. Auditions will be on January 20, 2024 at Schoeffner Elementary School in Destrehan. The audition music was sent home with your student before the Christmas break. The honor band letter containing dates and times is found on the back of that music and on my web site. This is always a great experience for our young musicians. We are having honor band help sessions before school on these dates: #3 1/11/24, #4 1/16/24 & #5 1/18/24. These are for any student wanting extra help or extra practice time.

Department of Bands

Daniel Davis, Director

ddavis@stcharles.k12.la.us





WINTER



A healthy school environment requires the cooperation and effort of us all working together. During this time of year we tend to see a higher incidence of illness in general. There are ways that you can help to protect yourself and your family from many of these illnesses. Follow the Habits for Good Health listed below recommended by the Center for Disease Control.

Habits for Good Health

Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze—throw the tissue away after you use it. If you do not have a tissue, cover your mouth and nose with the inside of your elbow.

Wash your hands often with soap and water especially after you cough or sneeze. If you are not near water, use an alcohol based hand cleaner.

Stay away, as much as you can, from people who are sick.

If you or your child gets the flu or Covid, stay home from work or school. Do not go near other people so that you don't make them sick too. Follow up with your doctor for recommendations on when to return to school.

Try not to touch your eyes, nose, or mouth. Germs often spread this way.

Dress for the weather. Come to school dressed for the winter. Wear layers of loose fitting clothing. Wear mittens and gloves. Wear a hat. Remember, the air that is trapped inside your clothing, warmed by your body heat, is the best protection from the cold.

Please note: Children who have a fever or who need to take antibiotics for infections such as strep throat, pink eye, ear infections, etc., should stay home until they have taken the medicine for at least 24 hours, and they are fever-free (without fever reducing medicine), and they feel better. Some children and some illnesses take more time to recover from than others. When children return to their normal sleeping and eating habits they are usually well enough to return to school. Please note that your child should come to school feeling well enough to participate fully in all school activities including going outside in the winter.

Your school nurse, Nicole Schulin, RN



Talented Theatre

Each month, Ms. Owens selects a Talented Theatre Student Spotlight Performer. These are students who demonstrate Confidence, Creativity, and Collaboration during class, rehearsals, and performances! *November: Kylee Louviere, December: Scarlet Carruth*



At the request of our families, our uniform shop is now open! Orders can be placed online from January 8th through January 19th. Please refer to the link to access the site. If you have any questions, please contact the front office.

<https://nes24.itemorder.com/>

School Shirt Orders



NORCO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

www.stcharles.k12.la.us



Norco Elementary Family Center

Together We Can Make a Difference

Annie Francioni
afrancioni@stcharles.k12.la.us

985-764-2787
Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays 8:30-3:00



How Can Get Involved With Your Child's School:

Learn what the school offers.

Read the information the school sends home, and ask to receive information in your native language if necessary. Talk to other parents to find out what programs the school offers. Maybe there's a music program, after-school activity, sports team, or tutoring program your child would enjoy. Remember to keep track of events throughout the school year.

Volunteer at your child's school and/or join your school's parent-teacher group.

Teachers appreciate it when parents help out at the school! There are many ways you can contribute. You can volunteer in your child's class or in the school library. You can make food for a school event. If you work during the day, you can attend "parents' night" activities or your child's performances. At most schools, a group of parents meets regularly to talk about the school. This group is usually called the PTA or PTO. The meetings give you a good chance to talk with other parents and to work together to improve the school.

PARTICIPE EN LAS ACTIVIDADES ESCOLARES DE SU HIJO

Infórmese sobre lo que ofrece la escuela Lea la información que la escuela envía a los hogares (solicite que le envíen versiones en español) y hable con otros padres de familia para saber qué programas ofrece la escuela. Es posible que haya un programa de música, actividades después de la escuela, equipos de deportes o programas de tutoría que podrían beneficiar a su hijo. Manténgase informado durante el año escolar.

Colabore con la escuela de su hijo y/o participe en un grupo de padres y maestros de la escuela. Los maestros realmente aprecian que los padres ayuden en la escuela. Usted puede contribuir de muchas maneras. Por ejemplo, ofreciendo su colaboración como voluntario en la clase de su hijo o en la biblioteca o con comida para algún evento escolar. Si usted trabaja durante el día, asista a las actividades conocidas como "Noches para los padres" o a las presentaciones de su hijo. En la mayoría de las escuelas se reúne con regularidad un grupo de padres para hablar de la escuela. Este grupo se conoce como PTA o PTO. Estas reuniones le brindarán una buena oportunidad de hablar con otros padres y de trabajar juntos para mejorar la escuela.

