



# NORCO ELEMENTARY

## News from the Nest

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

**February 2024**

I cannot believe that we are already in February! This year has been full of so many moments that we can be proud of! I want to begin by expressing my gratitude to all of you for your support of our school, our students and our staff. You are the most important “teacher” in your child’s life and without you as a part of our team, we would not be as successful as we are. Research shows that when a partnership approach between parents and teachers is evident, children’s work habits, attitudes about school and grades improve. They demonstrate better social skills, fewer behavioral problems and a greater ability to adapt to situations and get along. Our partnerships with our families and our strong community are just a few of the items that make Norco unique and we appreciate you trusting us with your children.

Many exciting events will be taking place at school during spring semester, so please make sure you check the website, calendar, Norco Facebook Group and page, twitter and flyers. Our students and teachers have been working very hard at meeting and exceeding our district’s grade level expectations. Second quarter report cards were sent home on January 12<sup>th</sup> and Parent Teacher Conferences are on February 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. The link to sign-up for conferences and a flyer were shared on Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please reach out to your child’s teacher with any questions regarding conferences. The information gained through the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter report card, conferences, and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter progress reports gives you a strong indication of how your child is currently performing in relation to our standards. Although many students have shown dramatic progress, some students will continue to need support in order to be successful. Please remain in close contact with your child’s teacher, re-view progress folders and report cards and provide additional assistance at home, if necessary. Parent Portal is an additional tool that third through fifth grade parents can use to monitor student progress. It will provide 24-hour online access to your child’s grades, assessments, and attendance. Please let us know if you need any support in using school and district resources to support your child. As a school, our goal is to continue to soar towards the Norco Elementary School mission of providing a safe, loving environment in which there are high levels of learning. By working together, we can help our children reach new heights and soar high!

Best Regards,  
Shannon Diodene  
Principal, Norco Elementary School



1	Parent/Teacher Conferences Early Dismissal
2	Parent/Teacher Conferences Early Dismissal PreK, Kindergarten, and 1 <sup>st</sup> grade Breakfast with a Buddy
5-9	Progress Reports go home
7	Student of the Month Celebration (Dec. & Jan. 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



13	Student of the Month Celebration
14	End of 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter
15	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter Begins Early Dismissal Day (students will be released at 12:45pm)
21	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter Report Cards sent home
22	Kona Ice Concessions
28	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter Eagle Excellence Awards
29- April 5	Easter Holidays



# Congratulations!

Congratulations to fourth grader—Spencer Robin! Spencer's Science project "Turning Milk into Plastic" was entered into the SCPPS Science Fair. Her project won 1st place in the Chemical Science category.

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! January: Grace Templet (5th)



## 100 Book Club

Our 3rd Grade Read 100 Club students definitely agree with this statement! We are so proud of these students for reading 50 or more books during the first two quarters.



## 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](mailto: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](http://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.







It is hard to believe we are heading into February already! Our character trait for February is "RESPECT". Please talk with your child about being respectful to others and respecting themselves.

We are beginning our new Core Knowledge Reader titled Sir Gus. Sir Gus is a fictional reader detailing the serendipitous, by chance, undertakings of Sir Gus, one of King Alfred's knights. Despite his title "Sir Gus the Fearless," Sir Gus actually has many different fears. In this reader, Sir Gus has to face a thief, a troll, pirates, an evil wizard, and an enemy king. In lessons for this unit, you will notice a decrease in the number of individual words and spellings reviewed in isolation.

This decrease represents a very gradual process in which students will assume **increasing responsibility** and **independence** in reading texts.

We are currently administering addition and subtraction fact fluencies on Fridays. Please be aware that while math fact fluency is not **essential learning** reported on the third nine weeks report card, it is a promotional standard for Q4. We will continue working on Module 4 Addition and Subtraction through 1,000 with and without regrouping. Students should have mastered using chips to add and subtract. We are using the chips and the vertical algorithm. Upon completion of Module 4 we will begin Module 3 which is Shapes and Time with Fractional Concepts.

Our second grade students are more than half way through the year. We ask for your continued support as we work teaching and learning.

## Grade Level Spotlight!

February is a sweet month for our fifth grade Eagles. We have been working hard and soon it will be time to have some Mardi Gras fun as we march through the campus in our annual Krewe de Eagles parade. We hope everyone can join us on the route and has a wonderful Mardi Gras!

Our sweetheart scientists will continue diving into Module 3 to better understand Earth's Systems. We will learn how land and water interact and how Earth's systems respond to changes. We have started and will continue to practice test taking strategies for the upcoming LEAP tests.

Our masked mathematicians have been hard at work since returning to school in January. Our krewe has reached Module 4, where we continue to work on fractions and their values as a decimal. LEAP prep is in full effect. We will have an upcoming interim later this month, a LEAP practice assessment that allow students to demonstrate their learning thus far in the year.

Our literacy loving students are enjoying every minute of reading *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*! We are getting close to finishing the book and will be preparing to write from a character's point of view for the Culminating Task.

Our high-stepping historians have been engaged in literacy focused activities and will continue learning about The Medieval World.



### 2023-2024 TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Norco Elementary

**MS. WEBRE**  
2nd Grade

Congratulations  
on your hard work!



4th graders were SO excited to travel to Theatre Baton Rouge to see *The Lightning Thief* on stage! They loved the book and they loved the musical.

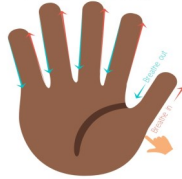




Deep breathing is an important coping skill that the counselors and teachers are constantly teaching. It can help kids when they are feeling overwhelmed, angry, or scared. It works by slowing your heartbeat and stabilizing your blood pressure. In class lessons, we practice with pinwheels and have different visuals to help students with the skill. Two are included here. These don't require any tools and can be done anywhere. We encourage them to use these during lockdown/ tornado drills as well as in academic and social situations.

Jennie Hermann (PreK-2), Stacey Noel (3-5), Erin Robert MHP

5 Finger Breathing



## January Students of the Month

*The following students were chosen for showing the character trait “Goal Setting”:*

Wyatt Oubre, Anderson Carriere, Caleb Lydell, Keller McCune, Ella Duplantis, Valerie Schaeffer, Sophia Rosales, Kole McCune, Preston Duhe, Connor Serpas, Tayden Carmadelle, Adalynn Ross, Addison Desselle, Jason Smith, Emmalynn Brondum, Allie Landry, Iris Villere, Easton Vollenweider, Paisley Guidry, Britton Zeringue, Tyler Phillion, Ellie Quijano, Spencer Robin, Grace Templet, Brady McCune, Marcelene Schaeffer, Kylee Louviere

### January Band Buzz

Well parents, we welcome 2024 with goals set for success here at NES. While we can't seem to escape the ever-changing world of technology, I do require that each band student check for assignments/homework posts for band through Google Classroom and the NES Band website.

I make a point to keep my webpage as up-to-date as possible. Please bookmark it and check it often.

<https://www.stcharles.k12.la.us/Page/10746>

We would like to congratulate these NES band students for being selected to perform in the St. Charles Parish Elementary Honor Band. Pictured from left to right: (front) Grace Templet, Jensen Senia, Annie Guilfou, Maci Allday, Tyler Trepagnier (back) Marcelene Schaeffer, Laila Martin, Savannah Coupel, Journey Connor, Brady McCune, Elijah Fritsche & Mr. Davis. Not pictured: Beau Mancuso

Please mark the rehearsals on your calendars as it is a mandatory attendance. Honor band is always a great experience for our young musicians.

As we get geared up for this carnival season, please be reminded that practicing at home must take place even during school holidays.

Thanks and Happy Mardi Gras!

### St. Charles Parish Elementary Honor Band





## February is National Dental Health Month!



Children should see a dentist regularly to stay healthy and avoid dental problems that impact learning. Lifelong habits begin at home. Make dental health part of your daily routine and share these reminders with your whole family:

- ♦ Brush your teeth at least twice a day with fluoride toothpaste, especially after breakfast and before bedtime. Drinking water after eating also helps to clear your teeth of food particles.
- ♦ Floss every day. An adult should help children under the age of eight to floss. Older children should be ready to floss on their own.
- ♦ Limit the number of times you eat snacks, especially the sticky ones and long lasting ones.
- ♦ Visit a dentist regularly for a routine checkup and a cleaning
- ♦ Protect your teeth by wearing a mouth guard when playing sports.
- ♦ Don't forget to change your tooth brush regularly, and after an illness.

### Sweet snack facts:

- ♦ Eating a lot of snacks with sugar may cause cavities.
- ♦ Every time you eat sugar, plaque in your mouth mixes with the sugar to make acid. The acid hurts the teeth and causes decay over time. This can be painful!



### 2nd & 3rd Grade Breakfast w/a buddy



Talented Art students recently visited the New Orleans Museum of Art and spent time studying and appreciating various works of fine art.



Second and third grade students enjoyed Breakfast with a Buddy on Friday, January 19th.



**LOST DOG**

456 Ace St

March 1st at 2:30pm

Black King Corso, his name is King

Call (987)657-2546

Email [Tim7@yahoo.com](mailto:Tim7@yahoo.com)

Reward \$100.00

By: Brody  
Martinez**LOST SNAKE**

523 Apple St

November 12th 3:45

Orange garden snake with band on tail

Name is Jamal

Call (725)492-2557

Email [Gan2@gmail.com](mailto:Gan2@gmail.com)

Reward \$100



By: Gannon Kelly

**LOST CAT**

231 Oak ST

August 19 at 12:06 pm

White cat with pink paws, his

Name is Romeo

Call (504)325-9850

Email [Rhall5@yahoo.com](mailto:Rhall5@yahoo.com)

Reward \$200.00



By: Reese Hall

**LOST DOG**

411 Good Hope St

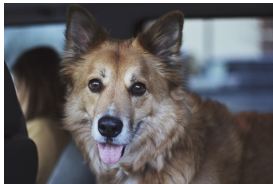
September 8th at 9:30 am  
Brown mixed-breed dog, his

name is Rooky

Call (504)338-4800

Email [Allie2@yahoo.com](mailto:Allie2@yahoo.com)

Reward \$100.00

By:  
Allie  
Schaller

Mrs. Dunn's 3rd grade class created fliers using correct addresses, telephone numbers, emails and dollar amounts. They also learned how to center their writings.

Students in Mrs. Dunn's 3rd grade Keyboarding class took typing tests using typing.com and these students did great on their typing. Students certificates are below.

**LOST HAMSTER**

145 Hope St

November 15th 12:39pm

A tiny hamster with light brown and white fur

Name is Hammy

Call (504) 673 -8936

Email [Alan5@yahoo.com](mailto:Alan5@yahoo.com)

Reward \$235.00

By: Allie  
Landry**GREAT JOB!**

CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

Awarded to  
**Kennedi Jones**For completion of the  
**1 Minute Typing Test**Typing speed  
**13 WPM**Accuracy  
**97%**Completed on  
**January 11, 2024**Verify score at:  
[typing.com/student/verify](https://typing.com/student/verify)**GREAT JOB!**

CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

Awarded to  
**Demi Krobert**For completion of the  
**1 Minute Typing Test**Typing speed  
**16 WPM**Accuracy  
**96%**Completed on  
**January 9, 2024**Verify score at:  
[typing.com/student/verify](https://typing.com/student/verify)**GREAT JOB!**

CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

Awarded to  
**George McGovern**For completion of the  
**1 Minute Typing Test**Typing speed  
**12 WPM**Accuracy  
**98%**Completed on  
**January 9, 2024**Verify score at:  
[typing.com/student/verify](https://typing.com/student/verify)**GREAT JOB!**

CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

Awarded to  
**Bryn Gardere**For completion of the  
**1 Minute Typing Test**Typing speed  
**13 WPM**Accuracy  
**92%**Completed on  
**January 12, 2024**Verify score at:  
[typing.com/student/verify](https://typing.com/student/verify)



# 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 You Get Involved and Be An Advocate For Your Child:

- **Ask questions.**  
If something concerns you about your child's learning or behavior, ask the teacher or principal about it and seek their advice. Your questions may be like these — What specific problem is my child having with reading? What can I do to help my child with this problem? How can I stop that bully from picking on my son? How can I get my child to do homework? Which reading group is my child in?
- **Learn about your rights.**  
It's important to know what your rights are as the parent regarding special services, English instruction, immigration status, and more.
- **Let the school know your concerns.**  
Is your child doing well in school? Is he or she having trouble learning, behaving, or studying? Is there a problem with another student, teacher, or administrator?

### MANTÉNGASE INFORMADO Y APOYE A SU HIJO

- **Haga preguntas.** Si algo le preocupa acerca del aprendizaje o comportamiento de su hijo, pregúntele a la maestra o al director sobre dicho comportamiento y busque asesoría. Sus preguntas pueden ser como las siguientes: ¿Qué problemas específicos tiene mi hijo con la lectura? ¿Qué puedo hacer para ayudar a mi hijo con este problema? ¿Cómo puedo evitar que otros niños intimiden a mi hijo? ¿Cómo le puedo ayudar a mi hijo a hacer las tareas? y ¿A qué grupo de lectura pertenece mi hijo?
- **Aprende sobre sus derechos como.** Es importante saber que sus derechos como padre son con respeto a la inmigración, servicios especiales, la instrucción de inglés, y más.
- **Informarle a la escuela lo que le preocupa.** Si su hijo tiene un problema con los estudios, el comportamiento, o con otro estudiante, maestro o administrador.

