

Dolphin Pod Post

Dr. Charles R Drew Elementary School

Upcoming Dates

14 Early Release
(1:20 p.m.)

19 – 23 School
Spirit Week

21 Back to School
Night / 7 - 8:30
p.m.

26
Non-Instructional
Day

30 Early Release
(1:20 p.m.)

Reading & Writing

In reading this month ...

We are off to a great start in our Benchmark Universe Reading Curriculum. We have been working on the first 20 days of Foundations and Routines where we will be working on transitions, phonological awareness, letter identification and formation, and learning about the different literacy stations used during our Literacy block. Unit 1, "Rules at Home and School" will begin at the end of September. Each unit lasts for three weeks.

Math

In math this month ...

We started our Eureka math curriculum on day one of the school year. Students started with identifying and sorting objects by attributes and then counting the objects. We have now moved into answering How many questions and finding hidden numbers within certain wholes. During fluency activities

we are counting the "math way" and strengthening our number sense and foundations.

Science & Social Studies

We are focusing on ...

In social studies, we have been discussing rights and responsibilities, and identifying characteristics of leaders, both at school and at home. We will also be learning about past and present leaders of our country and the contributions they have made to our country. Science will begin in October, where we will be learning about.

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Reminders

- Please remember to:
 - Send in headphones if you haven't already done so.
 - Send in a daily snack.
 - Send your child to school in sneakers on their PE day.
 - Label your water bottles
 - Complete our lunch support application and/or load your child's account with funds if you are buying lunch (FARMS)

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Dear Family Member,

Welcome to the start of the new school year!

This year, our school district is using a new reading/language arts program, *Benchmark Advance*. It's published by Benchmark Education and is the newest program on the market, built specifically to meet the demands of today's standards.

These standards require students to engage with more rigorous, complex text as well as dive deeper into the interpretation of the text. This has led us to look for and implement a more engaging, interactive, and modern program.

So...what's different about Benchmark Advance?

The biggest difference: **the reading textbook.**

The core student books are light and manageable, magazine-like texts. These books are designed for students to interact with the readings by writing on the page and annotating the text.

Wait...does this mean that my student can write in his/her books?

Yes! Not only are students allowed to write in their books, but they should be writing in them! Annotation encourages students to take ownership of the text and dive deeper into the content, which improves comprehension.

Each book is meant to be used for just three weeks. After three weeks of reading and working with the texts in class, students will bring the annotated book home. Your student's annotations will allow you to see exactly how they are interpreting and engaging with the readings.

As your student is working through each unit, you'll notice that all of the readings are centered on one topic. These topics include social studies and science content as well as literary subjects such as point of view, theme, and character. Every three weeks, you'll receive a school-to-home letter that will provide additional activities you can do at home with your student. These activities connect to the unit topic as well as the vocabulary, comprehension, and phonics/word study skills being taught during the unit.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. I look forward to using *Benchmark Advance* with your student and working with you to ensure a successful school year!

As always, should you have any questions about our new reading/language arts program or about your student's progress, please don't hesitate to contact me.

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**EUREKA
MATH™**

PRESENTING EUREKA MATH FOR
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Dear Montgomery County parent,

We're introducing a new mathematics curriculum, called Eureka Math.

WHAT IS EUREKA

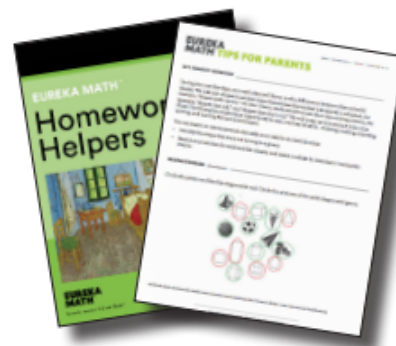
The Eureka Math curriculum was created by Great Minds, a nonprofit that brought together teachers and experts to craft a program based on the world's most successful math programs. Eureka was built around the core principle that students need to know more than just what works when solving a problem—they need to understand why it works.

The curriculum goes beyond facts and formulas, teaching students to think about math conceptually. This helps students become not merely literate, but fluent in mathematics.

PARENT RESOURCES

Your involvement in your child's education can have a significant impact on his or her success in school, that's why the teacher-writers who developed the curriculum, also created a suite of parent support resources that will help you support your child at homework time. These resources include:

- **Homework Helpers (K-12)** — A grade-level resource that provides step-by-step explanations of how to work problems similar to those found in Eureka Math homework assignments. There is a Homework Helper to go with every homework assignment in the curriculum.
- **Parent Tip Sheets (K-8)** — Topic-level tip sheets that explain math strategies and models, provide key vocabulary, sample problems, and links to useful videos. (Also available in Spanish.)



WHY EUREKA

Eureka has received high ratings from educators and reviewers nationwide. Schools and districts are seeing growth and impressive test scores after just one year of implementation.

Read more about Eureka Math success stories at schools and districts across the country at greatminds.org/data.