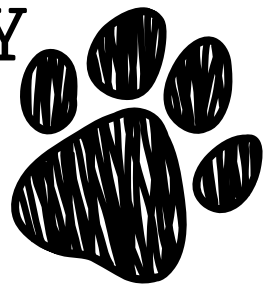




SOUTHSIDE ELEMENTARY WELCOME BACK PANTHERS!



JANUARY-MAY
NEWSLETTER
2023-24

School Information :

- *Chase Melton, Principal*
- *Nicole Hartnett, Secretary to the Principal*
- *Pamela Maynard, Assistant Principal*
- *Kelli Allen, Counselor*
- *Casey Berry, Nurse*
- *Joan Carroll, PEIMS*

Phone: (903) 880-1340
FAX: (903) 880-1343

Lunch Times:
Pre-K—10:25-10:55
Kindergarten
10:50-11:20
First Grade
11:00-11:30
Second Grade
11:30-12:00
Third Grade
12:10-12:40
Fourth Grade
12:35-1:05

100th Day of School:

We will celebrate the 100th Day of School on Thursday, February 1st.

Teachers will plan 100th-day activities, and we will talk a lot about the numbers 1-100. If your child wants to wear 100 items on their clothing or dress up as a 100-year-old person, we encourage students and staff to do so.

Fall Semester Awards

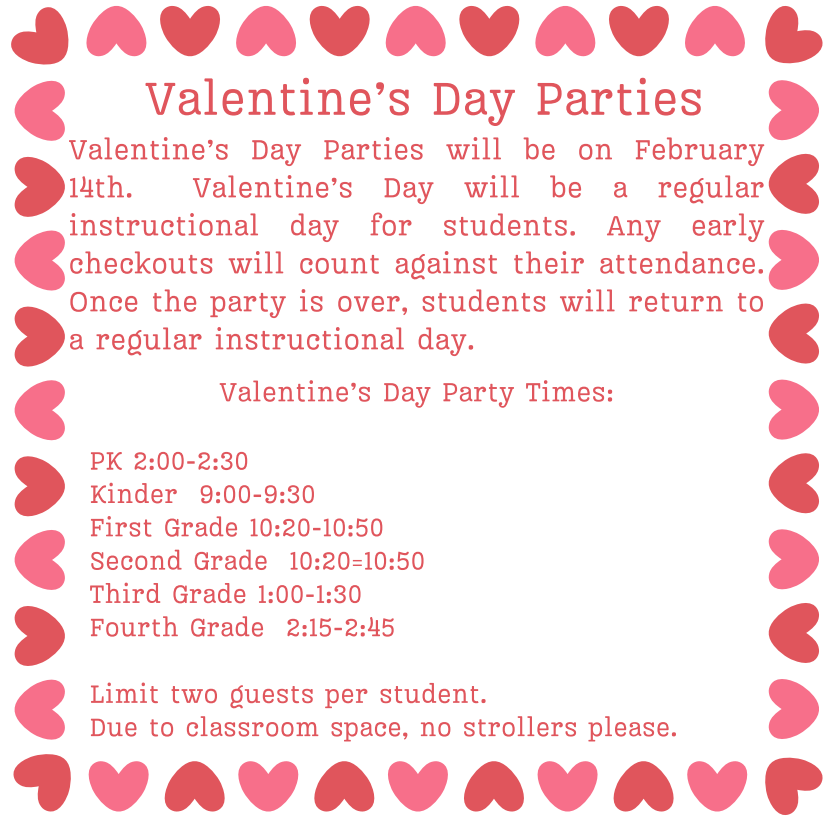
January 11, 2024

Kindergarten -- 8:30 am
First Grade -- 9:30 am
Second Grade -- 1:30 pm

January 12, 2024

Third Grade -- 8:30 am
Fourth Grade -- 1:40 pm

Parents and guardians, we welcome you to attend and celebrate your students at our awards program!!



Valentine's Day Parties

Valentine's Day Parties will be on February 14th. Valentine's Day will be a regular instructional day for students. Any early checkouts will count against their attendance. Once the party is over, students will return to a regular instructional day.

Valentine's Day Party Times:

PK 2:00-2:30
Kinder 9:00-9:30
First Grade 10:20-10:50
Second Grade 10:20-10:50
Third Grade 1:00-1:30
Fourth Grade 2:15-2:45

Limit two guests per student.
Due to classroom space, no strollers please.

Southside will host
Open House on
March 7th.

PK, Kinder, Third, & Fourth grades
5:30-7:30 pm come and go.

First grade Performance 5:30-
5:40/Open House 5:40-7:00 pm

Second grade Open House 5:30-6:30
pm/ Performance 6:40-7:00pm



Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss!
March 1, 2024

We will participate in Read Across America Day by celebrating Dr. Seuss' Birthday on March 1st. Southside will have various activities planned throughout the day, and we encourage your child to dress up as their favorite Dr. Seuss character.



SOUTHSIDE ELEMENTARY



PUT YOUR PAWS UP, PANTHERS!

Morning Drop Off:

If you arrive before the designated drop-off time of 7:30 am, please wait in line behind the orange cone at the beginning of the circle. This allows staff members and visitors to be able to park in the parking area at the front of the school. Emergency vehicles also need room to enter should an emergency arise. When staff members arrive to unload students, please pull all the way to the last person in a single line. Some parents choose to allow their child in an upper-grade level to unload on the sidewalk without an adult, which is allowable for our older students.

AFTERNOON Pickup:

Pre-Kinder students dismiss earlier than our K-4th grade students, and those parents have to get around the regular pick-up line.

In an effort to keep the congestion down for pick-up in the afternoon, we need our regular cars (K-4th grade) to stop at the stop sign on Manning Drive just before they turn on Paschall Blvd.

After the pre-kinder dismisses, then the regular car rider line (K-4th grades) may pull forward to the edge of the circle drive on Paschall Blvd. Please do not pull into the circle drive until you are motioned up as staff begin to walk outside. This allows for emergency vehicles to enter the drive should they need to.

Pick-Up Procedures for Car Riders:

Every vehicle must have a car rider tag visibly hanging on the rearview mirror all the way through the car rider line in order to pick up a student.

Once your student is loaded in the car, you may remove your tag so that we know your child is loaded. You may want to ask for extra tags if you will have a grandparent or other people picking up your child. If the car tag is not visible or not in the vehicle, the person picking up your child will not be allowed to enter the circle, and they will have to park and show their ID to verify they are allowed to pick a child up. As you pull into the circle, you may form two lines in the afternoon only. Please pull all the way into the circle to the far orange cone, and we will bring your child to you. Make sure you inform anyone who may pick up your child to stay inside the vehicle.

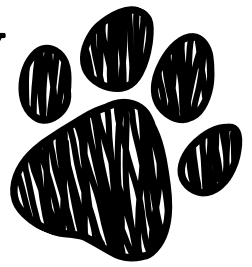
Help Us To KEEP ALL STUDENTS SAFE!!!!

Please remember that it is against the law to use your cell phone in a school zone. Actual accidents have occurred from distracted drivers. Please do not text or talk on your cell phone once you enter the school zone. WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU HARMED SOMEONE'S CHILD OR A STAFF MEMBER BECAUSE OF A PHONE? Thank you in advance for helping to keep our students and staff safe.





SOUTHSIDE ELEMENTARY



PUT YOUR PAWS UP, PANTHERS!

April 16th: 3rd ELAR

April 17th: 4th ELAR

3rd & 4th Grade

STAAR testing dates:

April 30th: 4th Math

May 1st: 4th Math

Our third and fourth graders will take the STAAR test on the dates above. We are letting you know early enough for you to be able to speak with Little League coaches about practice and game times the nights before these two important testing dates. We want to ensure that all students are well-rested in the evenings before taking the state tests. We also want to provide parents with enough time to be able to reschedule any doctor or dentist appointments. Although we do have testing make-up days, we find that students who test on the same day as their peers feel more comfortable in the testing environment. Finally, we want to give you enough time to schedule lunch visits. There will not be outside lunch visitors for any grade on these two testing dates. Due to different lunchtimes, outside food will not be accepted, but you may still pack your child's lunch and send it with them.

Spring Dance April 26th, 5:30pm—7:30 pm 3rd and 4th Grade

We are excited to announce that Southside will host a Spring Dance for our elementary school students! The dance promises to be a fun-filled event for our children to celebrate the arrival of spring and enjoy some time together in a festive atmosphere.

Field Day!!

May 16th:

PK: 8:30-10:30

Kinder: 8:30-12:00

1st & 2nd: 8:30-1:30

May 17th:

3rd & 4th: 8:30-1:30

Splash Kingdom 3rd & 4th Grades Water Day PK-2nd

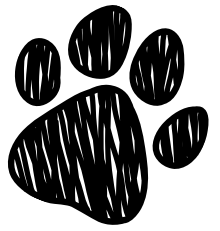
On May 22, we will have an **incentive trip** for our 3rd and 4th-grade students to attend Splash Kingdom. This is for students who show effort in their school work as well as making good choices for behavior. As we approach this date, we will notify parents of the cost.

Also, on May 22, we will have our annual Water Day for PK—2nd grades. We will send information home regarding this day for these grade levels as well.





SOUTHSIDE ELEMENTARY



PUT YOUR PAWS UP, PANTHERS!

Lunch Visitor Information

This year, across MISD Elementary schools, we will limit lunch visitors to two days per week. Visitors will be welcome to join their child for lunch on WEDNESDAYS and FRIDAYS only, due to safety and the need for additional staff in our cafeteria.

Please note that lunch visitors must be on the child's emergency contact information in Skyward and may not bring food to share with other children.

Lunch Prices:

Please remember that free and/or reduced meal forms are available in the front office to determine whether your child qualifies for assistance with breakfast and lunch. We will be sending those home in your child's folder this week.

Breakfast: \$1.50

Lunch: \$2.40

Extra Milk: \$.50

Extra Snacks: ice creams, chips, gummies, cookies, and other snack items will be from \$.50—\$.75

School Hours: 7:50 am—3:40 pm

- Staff will begin unloading car riders at 7:30 am.
- Your child will be counted as tardy at 8:00 am. If your child arrives late and no one is in front of the building, you must walk your child in. There is no way for us to know that your child is outside the building if you are late.
- Breakfast: Please have your child to school by 7:45 am to be able to eat breakfast. If you are late, they may still get breakfast, but it will be sent to the classroom with them at 7:50 am.
- Staff members will no longer be outside after 8:00 am as their day with students begins at this time.

Transportation Changes:

We will not accept transportation changes after 2:45 pm on the same day a child is to go home. You may send a note to your child's teacher or call the office before 2:45 pm if your child will go home a different way. A child will not be allowed to get on a different bus or become a car rider without a note or phone call from a parent. 903-880-1340

"Work hard,
be kind, and
amazing things
will happen." -
Conan O'Brian





SOUTHSIDE ELEMENTARY



PUT YOUR PAWS UP, PANTHERS!

Upcoming Events:

January 11th: Kinder, 1st & 2nd awards

January 12th: 3rd & 4th awards

January 15th: NO SCHOOL!

January 26th: Fun Friday

February 1st: 100th Day of School

February 7th: Valentine Pictures

February 9th: NO SCHOOL!

February 12th: NO SCHOOL!

February 14th: Valentine's Day Parties

February 20th: Class Pictures

March 3: Dr. Seuss Day

March 7th: Open House

March 11-15th: SPRING BREAK

March 18th: NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
(Staff Development)

March 19th: Easter Pictures

March 25th: Spring Pictures

March 29th: NO SCHOOL

April 1 & 2: Bad Weather Days

Upcoming Events:

April 4th: Opera performance at Southside

April 16th: 3rd grade ELAR STAAR test

April 17th: 4th grade ELAR STAAR test

April 26th: Spring Dance

April 30th: 3rd grade Math STAAR test

May 1st: 4th grade Math STAAR test

May 16th: Field Day

PK: 8:30-10:30

Kinder: 8:30-12:00

1st & 2nd: 8:30-1:30

May 17th: Field Day

3rd & 4th: 8:30-1:30

May 20th: Spring Awards

Kinder-- 8:30 am

First-- 9:30 am

Second--1:30 pm

May 21st: Spring Awards

Third Grade -- 8:30 am

Fourth Grade -- 2:00 pm

May 22nd: 3rd & 4th Splash Kingdom Trip
Pk-2 Water Day @ SS

May 23rd: Last Day of School





SOUTHSIDE ELEMENTARY



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PTO:

This year, we are organizing a new PTO on our campus.

If you are interested in being a part of this organization, please call the main office for more information.

Substitute Teachers:

We need substitute teachers at the school throughout the year to cover teachers for various trainings and teachers being out.

More information may be found on the MISD website, or you may call our campus.

Dress Code:

Please remember that faux hawks will not be allowed. A faux hawk is where the top or front of the hair is combed up into a mohawk style on top. Shorts, dresses, and cheer skirts must be mid-thigh when looking at a child from the front and back. A good rule of thumb is to make sure that the length does come to the tip of the longest finger when the arms are down. If cheer skirts do not reach this length, please have your child wear leggings underneath. Students are not allowed to wear tights or leggings without having a longer shirt to cover their bottom. Spaghetti strap-style shirts are very popular for little ones, so please make sure your child layers it with a tank-style shirt or wears a cover shirt. If you have questions regarding whether or not your child is in the dress code, please refer to the online version of the student handbook located on the MISD website under Southside, then Student Handbook.

“The time is always right to do what is right.” – Martin Luther King, Jr.

