

Ross Local Schools

MORGAN ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2019

Our Mission:

Morgan Elementary School exists to help each unique child reach his or her full potential. We aim to equip all children to:

- Make responsible contributions within their communities, their country, and the global society
- Function productively in the world of technology and the world of work
- Lead richly literate lives
- Continue to grow in understanding and respect for themselves and others



A message from our principal, Mr. Tom Perry:

Just a reminder that third and fourth grade state tests in reading and math will begin this month. We appreciate parents for scheduling appointment around the testing dates. If you know of a conflict, please contact your child's teacher ASAP.

Grade 3: 4/12, 4/17, 4/25, 4/29

3427 Chapel Road Hamilton, OH 45013
Website → <http://morgan.rossrams.com/>

Phone: 513-738-1986 Fax: 513-738-0347
Find Morgan on Twitter → [@MorganRossRams](https://twitter.com/MorganRossRams)

Grade 4: 4/11, 4/16, 4/26, 4/30

We have some events planned to help finish the year in an exciting way. Our Awards Programs will be held in the gym as follows:

Tuesday, May 21st

A.M. Kindergarten 10:30 A.M.

P.M. Kindergarten 2:30 P.M.

Wednesday, May 22nd

Grades 3 & 4 9:30 A.M.

Grade 1 @ 1:30 P.M.

Grade 2 @ 2:30 P.M.

Field Day is scheduled for Thursday, May 23rd. Students are encouraged to come to school prepared to be in the sun most of the day. Hats, sunscreen, blankets, sunglasses and water bottles are permissible for Field Day.

As the end of the year approaches, parents have asked about how students are placed into homerooms for the upcoming school year. Students are divided and placed into classes based on, but not limited to, gender, ability, special needs, and teacher recommendation. The goal is to create a class of students that will allow the teachers to meet the individual needs and ensure that the students achieve the educational goals of Morgan and the Ross Local School District. Because this procedure takes an enormous amount of time and is based on many various factors, **it is NOT our policy to take parent requests for placement.**

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please give us a call at 738-1986.

Important Dates: April

April 1	School Resumes
April 2	Bookmobile
April 17	2nd Grade Music Program, 7:00 P.M., RHS
April 18	Easter Parties
April 18	Progress Reports
April 19	No School
April 23	Spring Pictures

May

May 6-10	Staff Appreciation Week
May 8	PTO Staff Appreciation Luncheon
May 9	PTO Meeting

May 10	4th Grade Fun Day
May 14	Bookmobile Book Pickup Day
May 15	COSI Visits Morgan
May 21	Kindergarten Awards 10:30 A.M. & 2:30 P.M.
May 22	Awards Program Grades 1 - 4
	Grades 3 & 4 - 9:30 A.M.
	Grade 1 - 1:30 P.M.
	Grade 2 - 2:30 P.M.
May 23	Field Day & Last Day for Students
May 23	Report Card
May 24	Last Day for Teachers

Students of the Week for March

Week of March 4 : Allie Robinson, Lily Hargis, Hunter White, Sheldon Henderson, Colton Stidham, Kinzie Schafer, Eli Foster, Jesse Donley, Aiyla Adams, Emma Reitenbach, Logan Summe, Lane Summe

Week of March 11: Rose Claypool, Camryn Mueller, Aiden Beckman, Analyse Aleson, Waylen Fontaine, Landan Becker, Rory Weber, Abby Aleson, Ryker Keller, Morgan Minges, Presley Fritz, Terra Willsey, Owen Mckean, Samantha Schultheiss, Avery Werling, Jace McIntosh, Maya Johnson

Week of March 18 : Bailey Cole, Nathan Schnell, Charlotte Taylor, Bentley Ellis, El-Leigh Shoemaker, Blake Drennen, Ben Acree, Colin Rolfsen, Claire Reisenburg, Wylan Robbins, Liam Zorb, Rachel Richardson, Nadia Kessen, Luke Hesselbrock, Kaylin Commins, Oliver Reed, Collin Baker

3rd Quarter Honor Roll

High Honors: Brayden Meade, Jacob Gilbert, Jayden Brown, Meadow Martin, Aiden Beckman, Aiyla Adams, Jaylyn Ewing, Ripley Carroll, Joseph Godbey, Sam marcum, Dominic Valentino, Leah Vangen, Julianne Combs, Savannah Schlamb, Haylee Houpe, Bryan Pence, Jocelyn Alexander, Briana Frazier, Reese Holland, Morgan Aller, Collin Anter, Anna Schaefer, Cash Alvis, Paige Baker, Josiah Lynch, Hunter Roberson, Kelsy Voss, Wyatt Bulach, Ledger Angel, Quinn Laurens

Honors: Travis Tallent, Nora Haenning, Krew Brown, Kaylin Commins, Cohen Rice, Caleb Dunn, Callie Morison, Chelsey Herald, Diesel Casey, Aubrey Eads, Lily Foster, Piper Rieke, Taylor Cain, Kaine Scheidt, Cody Harville, Landon Smith, Easton Menkhaus, Taylor Bertram, Braiden Jaspers, Collin Schneider, Braxton Plvan, Trey Partin, Ethyn Lewis, Prestin Walters, Jacob McConnell, Violet Kimbrough, Kainen Sawyers, AJ Sparks, Charlie Armstrong, Keegan Bush, Anthony Krabbe, Josey Smith, Zachary Stevison, Megan Fields, Adelyn Marcum, Olivia Werling, Abby Aleson, Avery Maupin, Kailyn Ponder, Maddie Reed, Andrew Brunner, Reagan Philpot, Logan Slaughter, Ashton Withrow, Brycen Gognat, Morgan Minges, Eli Langworthy, Jace McIntosh, Daniel Schneberger

News from Preschool (Mrs. Byron and Ms. Theiler)

We hope everyone had a fun filled Spring Break! This month we are discussing spring, bugs, flowers, Easter, Earth Day, and reduce, reuse, and recycle. Concepts that will be addressed include: the difference of trash and recycling, items that can be recycled, where our trash/recyclables are taken, keeping the environment clean, weather, and differences in clothing to match the changes in weather. Skills that will be assessed and practiced include: alliteration, rhyming, print concepts, classifying objects, letter recognition, and gross motor. Please send in recyclables that include: paper (newspapers and magazines), plastic, and aluminum by the end of April. Thank you for the egg cartons, the students enjoyed making their caterpillars. The Easter party will be held on April 18th Am: 11:55 Pm: 2:55. Thank you for your continued support!

News from Kindergarten (Mrs. Lomax, Mrs. Shoemaker)

Welcome back from Spring Break! I hope the time off has left everyone well rested and eager to finish out the year strong with our learning. Our focus this month is to continue learning new words and put into practice our reading strategies to become the best readers we can be. These strategies include: Looking at the picture clues in the story. S-T-R-E-T-C-H the words out slowly by putting the sounds together. Get your mouth ready for the first letter or part of unknown words. Find little words inside the big word. Skip over the word to read the rest of the sentence then, hop back and try the word again. In math, continue practicing simple addition and subtraction problems using counters for help with making number stories. In Science, we will be discussing the weather/climate and living/non-living things. We will finish the year with writing informational pieces. We will be looking at nonfiction material and writing about the facts we learned. Thanks parents for working with your children at home. Don't forget, you

may use Raz-Kids to help support reading at home. Go to the Morgan media page and click on Raz-Kids.

News from 1st Grade (Mrs. Bittner, Mrs. Hughett, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Martin)

As April starts and spring break has ended, we are hitting the ground running. The phrase says April showers bring May flowers. This is also true in our classrooms. The end of April brings testing, so then April will bring preparing for those tests so that our students can bloom and show their best abilities on the test.

In writing we will be working opinion pieces, which is a change from what we have been writing all year. This time we have to give our likes and dislikes about topics with good reasons to back it up. We will be talking about different types of books, toys, food, and sports to express our thoughts and feelings.

In math we will be focusing on everything we have learned about to this point in the year as well as working on practicing our addition and subtraction facts, counting, and using strategies to solve problems that are with higher numbers. We will be going back to reviewing all the concepts this year, so lots of things to do in math.

In science we will be talking about force and motion. We will learn how objects move and how materials can change or be changed by different factors.

In reading we will continue working on the three parts of the reading stool: accuracy, comprehension and fluency keeping the end goal of a level I in mind. We are working to get all students to this level both in fiction and non-fiction. Continue to work on retelling and reading at home.

In Social Studies we will be learning about Economics and the difference between needs and wants. We will also be studying money and different kinds of currency.

We hope everyone is ready to put in the work to review and continue learning more in this upcoming month!

News from 2nd Grade (Mrs. Broering, Ms. Dorsey, Mrs. Hindery, Mrs. Morehead)

Happy Spring! April will bring a jam-packed schedule with test review, MAP testing, our Reds field trip and our second grade music concert!

Second Grade is currently working on end of year review in math. We finished up our last unit at the end of March and are in full test prep mode to help review past skills that were taught earlier in the year. Second grade will be MAP testing on April 15 and 16. ***Please make sure your child eats a superb breakfast and gets lots of rest the night before. :)***

In reading, second grade has dived right into learning about Fables, Myths, Legends, and Fairy tales. We have been learning about the elements of each and how they all classify as being a part of a larger genre called Folktales. Folktales are stories that are told orally and are passed down from generation to generation. Folktales typically teach a moral/lesson which is the skill second grade has focused on most during this unit so far.

We will hopefully have a visit from our local meteorologist from Channel 5, Randi Ricco, the first week of May. We will be learning about the weather after MAP testing and all the instruments used to predict the weather. We will monitor the forecast each day and observe weather patterns across a two to three week period. Afterwards, we will begin our economics unit to round out the year! :)

Have a fabulous month and we thank you for your support!

News from 3rd Grade (Mrs. Dunn, Mrs. Lanham, Mrs. McEldowney, Mrs. Smith)

Although we saw it coming, nothing seems to truly prepare us all for the craziness of April and May in third grade! It is a busy but exciting time. We enjoyed a wonderful visit with our Cincinnati Financial Pen Pals on April 5th. This is such a wonderful program and we are so appreciative of the people that willingly give of their time to invest in our students.

As we all know, the state reading and math tests (AIR) are coming up very soon. While we do not want to build anxiousness in our students, we also want them to realize the importance of these tests. Students should really focus on taking their time reading the passages. Questions on these tests call for students to go back to the passage and find their answers, so students need to have a solid understanding of what they read. Please encourage your child with positive words and strong advice leading up to these tests.

We are finishing up our math standards by studying geometry concepts. Students tend to really gain a deeper understanding of geometry vocabulary in third grade through exploring shapes and their attributes. Please continue to encourage your child to spend time practicing their multiplication and division facts. The math AIR tests will take place on two days (75 minutes each day) and will call for students to draw upon everything they have learned this year.

In writing, students have been reviewing both opinion and informational writing in response to what they read in a text. Students are focusing on organization, elaboration, and mechanics (punctuation and spelling). Third graders need to be able to use evidence from what they read and apply it

into their writing. This is a difficult and complex requirement, but with repeated practice students can begin to apply this writing move to their writing.

We look forward to a strong finish to the end of third grade for all of our students! Do not get spring fever too early! We still have some work to do! Let's do this!

News from 4th Grade (Mrs. Castle, Mrs. Elliott, Mrs. Miller, Ms. Williams)

Happy Spring!! We have a very busy April ahead of us. We continue to prepare for our State testing in English/ Language Arts and Math. Please help kids remember to keep practicing their Reading skills and Math skills at home too. Parents can help their son or daughter do their best by making sure they get plenty of rest on the nights before the test and eat a good breakfast on the morning of each test. The boys and girls do a much better job on the tests if they take the tests with their classmates, so please make every effort to have them here at school each morning on time. Your support really helps your child. We are all proud of our fourth graders who have worked very hard, and we know they will continue to do their best. Our ELA tests will be on April 11th and 16th!

In Social Studies, the students are learning about our State and National Governments. We all have rights and responsibilities when it comes to being good citizens and we are discussing how we can be our best to make our community wonderful. We will soon be progressing into our study of economics as we head into the end of the school year. We are looking forward to an exciting field trip that will take us to Wright Patterson Air Force Base. We will be touring the museum.

The writing piece we have been focusing on this quarter is literary essay. We will be reading literature and responding to it by focusing on

character traits, what the author is inferring, the mood or tone of different pieces of literature, and the theme or lesson of a story.

In Math, we have finished adding, subtracting, multiplying, comparing, and making equivalent fractions. We also learned how to write fractions into decimals and how to compare decimals. We have started heading into geometry and will be finishing the year with some measurement. There seems to be no end to the amazing skills of these 4th-grade mathletes! As we near the AIR test for math, we will be taking a short break to review concepts and prepare for the tests which will be April 26th and April 30th. Please make sure your student is present on those testing dates!

In Science, we are finishing up our study as paleontologist. Students have been digging up lots of information. We will also get to look up close at a variety of objects using microscopes. We will end the month studying matter and forms energy.

News from Art (Mrs. Beyersdoerfer) **Music** (Mr. Thatcher) **P.E.** (Mrs. Steigerwald)

ART: Thank you for a very successful Art Show this year! We are working on our portfolios and end of the year projects. Artwork will come home in portfolios at the end of the year!

MUSIC: Upcoming Music Concerts: April 17th Grade 2 Concert 7:00 p.m. RHS

PHYSICAL EDUCATION: We are finishing up our testing for the Ohio Department of Education and additional fitness items. Talking about how we can interpret our scores and what the tests show us has been our discussions. Help your student realize and participate in 60 minutes a day to make their heart strong! We will conclude the year working on striking skills with both our hands and an implement, along with kicking and dribbling skills. Preparations have begun for Field Day!

News from Title I (Mrs. Roberson, Mrs. Shumate, Mrs. Volker)

It's hard to believe that April is already here and the end of school is right around the corner! Our groups have made A LOT of progress this year and we are very proud of all of them! We appreciate all of your time and effort helping your child become better readers. Summer is coming and reading with your child is especially important so they maintain all their reading skills. We are having a Family Literacy night to share some ideas with you about how you can make summer reading fun and productive. Please join us at here at Morgan on May 14 from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM. There will be reading games and activities as well as a free book and a treat.

In Kindergarten, we are practicing to read and write words with short vowels and silent e long vowel words as well as words with digraphs (ch, sh, th, wh). We continue to work hard to learn our sight words so we can read quickly and smoothly through more difficult books. For comprehension, ask questions after reading such as what was the setting, who are the characters and was there a problem/solution in the story. Thank you, parents, for continuing to work on sight words at home and listening to your child read every night!

First grade students are continuing to review hunks and chunks, blending sounds, and applying those skills to reading and writing. Along with these skills, we are also using our reading strategies that students have learned in the classroom (i.e., Flippy Dolphin, Stretchy Snake, Chunky Monkey, and several more). We are reviewing the setting of the story, characters, retelling, and genre. Comprehension is also an important element as we work on fluency. We continue to write words and sentences using hunks and chunks, short and long vowels, blending, and sight words. We are working on using capital letters at the beginning of each sentence, space between the words, and punctuation at the end of each sentence. Keep up the great work, first grade!

In second grade, we are focusing on vocabulary and text evidence. We are not only learning the meaning of the words we read, but also how to use them properly. Parents can help by using unfamiliar words as they speak and encouraging students to use them when they write. When a student stumbles upon a word they don't understand, encourage them to use context clues to find the meaning. Finding evidence in the story is an important skill in 3rd grade, so we are introducing this now to help prepare students for next year. Since comprehension is integral for all readers, we are also focusing on comprehension for our second graders. We are not only reading the text fluently, but making personal connections and inferences. Way to go second grade!

Third grade students are reading lots of nonfiction and chapter books. We are reviewing text features. When reading nonfiction at home, have your child point out the headings, captions, labels, diagrams, key words, table of contents, index, glossary, maps, and

illustrations. We are also working on word parts, prefix and suffix, in particular, which change the meaning of the word. Keep practicing reading comprehension strategies with your child too. Students benefit so much when a parent will review what they've read with them. Practice makes perfect! Great job third grade!

Fourth grade students are delving into books that require some deeper level thinking. Students are looking for the author's purpose. Why did the author write this? Were they trying to persuade, entertain, explain, or describe something?. As we read nonfiction stories, we are looking to see if description, problem and solution, order and sequence, cause and effect, or compare and contrast are used by the author. As students begin to read more challenging books, vocabulary gets trickier. We are learning to use context clues to figure out the meaning of a word. Sometimes we find out that a word has multiple meanings. We too are putting our writing skills to work. We are also trying to make good connections through writing. Students will read about a topic and then try to relate that back to something they've experienced. Awesome job fourth grade!

News from the Office (Mrs. Kohlman, Mrs. Gentry):

Just a reminder to send in a note if your child is going to be picked up after the Easter Parties on Thursday, April 18th. Also, if anyone other than the parent picks them up, they must be on the Authorized Student Pick-up section of Final Forms.

Student Council News:

Pop Can Tabs will be collected until May 3. Please make sure you have your child's name and classroom teacher on the container so the class can get credit for them.

Morgan PTO Newsletter

2018-2019 PTO Officers

PRESIDENT

Michelle McKean

VICE PRESIDENT

Mindy Kelley

TREASURER

Michele Beckman

SECRETARY

Chrissy O'Connor

If you have any questions about room parent responsibilities, please contact Sara Schoenecker at: SLschoenecker@gmail.com

MORGAN CAFETERIA NEWS

It's Been a Great Year in the Cafeteria and May brings a lot of good things. As we close out the school year please keep an eye on your child's lunch account. Make sure they have enough money for lunch (and Breakfast if they eat that). Starting Monday, May 6, we are not permitted to let the students charge. Please keep this in mind when you are putting money on their account.

Did you know we do Birthday Baskets? That's right, we'll do the work for you. We make our Fabulously tasty chocolate chip cookies, in a cute basket with some small surprises. The cookies are Smart Snack approved and NUT FREE. We ask for a week notice and that you pay for the cookies in Advance of the Birthday. Cookies will be delivered at lunch or to the Preschool or Kindergarten class . The Cookies are .30 cents each. Please call the Cafeteria @ 868-4523 to order your Basket.

MILES FOR MATTHEW



5k Run/Walk

In memory of Matthew Jester to benefit Type 1 Diabetes
JDRF of Greater Cincinnati

May 11, 2019

Morgan Elementary School
3427 Chapel Rd., Hamilton, OH

Register at www.milesformatthew.com
MUST register by May 3rd to receive a race T-shirt. Can't make the race? Learn about our Virtual Race option.

Raffle Prizes
Tickets will be sold at the race for a chance to win great prizes!

Parking
If you need to leave as soon as the race is over, please park at St. Al's.

Questions?
email milesformatthew5k@gmail.com

Register online by May 9th for a discounted rate \$25 (18 and over) \$20 (under 18) or \$30 for all ages on race day.

» **7:30 am**
Registration/Packet Pick up

» **9 am**
5K Run/Walk

» **10:00am**
Kids Fun Run
5th grade and under FREE
with required Race Day Waiver