

Cardinal Connection

JUNCTION ELEMENTARY

SEPTEMBER UPDATES AND INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

Upcoming Events

September 4-14 • NWEA MAP testing

September 6 • Vision screenings

September 7 • Fall Carnival 5:00-7:30

September 10 • PTA meeting 5:00

September 12 • Skate Night 6:00-8:00

September 14 • Picture Day

September 17 • Fundraiser sales due

September 18 • 1st grade fieldtrip

September 26 • 2nd grade fieldtrip

Stay Connected

Junction Facebook Page (@JunctionElementary)

Junction PTA Facebook Page (Junction Elementary PTA)

Junction Website (turnerusd202.org)

Junction families,

We had a very exciting and eventful first few weeks of school. Our teachers have spent countless hours making sure their classroom are a warm and inviting place for students. The hallways are warm and welcoming and are already highlighting student work. I am constantly impressed and proud of how dedicated and hard working our staff is

It is an honor and privilege to serve as the principal of Junction. As we continue our journey into the new year, I would like to take time to let you know that my door is always open. I look forward to having the opportunity to work with you to ensure our students' growth and success.

The Junction staff and support personnel are committed to providing our students many opportunities both inside and outside of the classroom. We invite and encourage students and parents to work in partnership with us to seize opportunities that make a positive impact on our children.

Please know that we highly value home/school communication at Junction. It is vital and plays an integral role in each student's success. We encourage you to contact us if/when the need arises, and to stay in the know about your child's classroom, assignments, assessments, and school activities, as well as other events and happenings. Volunteering to work in the classroom, chaperoning field trips, joining PTA, or simply encouraging your child to do his or her best in class each day are just a few of the ways you can make a positive impact on our children.

In education,
Christy Compton-Haggard



Important Contact information

Front Office - 913-288-3600

Transportation- 913-288-3700

Attendance Line - 913-288-3606

Board Office- 913-288-4100

~ PE News from Mrs. Gilliland ~

The students have started the school year ready to run. Many already participated in our initial “Pacer” test for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades. This is our cardiovascular test that helps students determine what kind of shape their heart and lungs are in.

While our older students started out the year testing their fitness levels, the younger students tested their gross motor skills; ie. Skipping, hopping, jumping, leaping, etc. Please have your child show you these skills. If they are struggling, please practice with them at home, so that they can feel successful at school. YouTube has some great videos on how to teach these skills if you are not sure how to work with your child.

Being active is very important with regard to whole body development. Active lifestyles help with brain and bone development as well as coordination and physical fitness. Please make sure your child is wearing athletic tennis shoes to school, so that they may fully participate in Physical Education and recess activities.

Our students will begin working on sport’s skills this month. Please have them dress for success. Clothes that move and bend with the student are good. We do not want clothing that is too tight, or too loose or flowing. Safety is very important. If their clothing is not safe, they cannot participate safely. Being safe is a big part of their grade, so please help your child get a good grade and be safe.



Don't forget your running shoes on PE day!

Notes from Nurse Terry

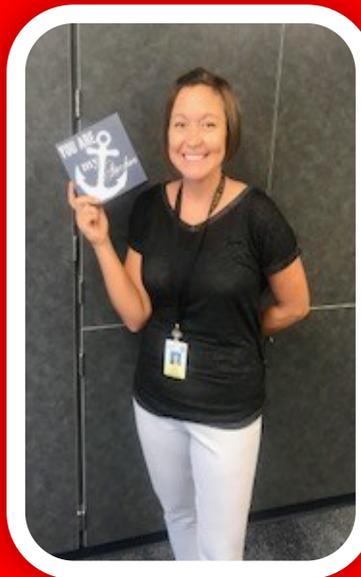
Nurse Terry would like to remind everyone of the following items:

Parents must bring all non-prescription and over the counter medication to the health room; please do not send it with a student.

All medication must be in the original container with written instructions by the physician. Before any prescription medication can be administered, a Medical Authorization Form must be completed and signed by the parent/guardian.

If your child is ill; please call the attendance line to report their absence. Students must be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school. If you have a doctors note, it is important to send it with your child when they return so their absence can be excused.

Congratulations to Mrs. Landry and Mrs. Nolan for being recognized as our “Anchor” award winners this month.



WE



KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten has jumped back into the first month of school with both feet! We have been working hard to learn and practice rules and procedures at school, as well as building our classroom communities. Students have worked together to create friendship murals, as well as a classroom friendship flower. Through these activities we have been able to discuss and celebrate our differences that make us special!

Students have loved the exploration time during centers to play with and manipulate both the math and literacy tools. Development of fine motor skills is critical in these early months of school as children are learning to write letters and numbers. We have been practicing letter and number formation with a variety of supplies. Students have been able to show their understanding of newly learned letters and grow their fine motor skills through the use of shaving cream, playdough, whiteboards, and the smartboard. Shaving cream was by far the class' favorite!

During our calendar time, we have begun learning how to spell our color words through the use of song. We will spend a week on each color and incorporate activities to better familiarize the students with the colors and how to spell them; ending each week with a color day on Friday! The first color we are learning is yellow. Along with Pre-K, Kindergarten will be participating in a yellow day on Friday, where they can wear the color and participate in fun activities.



MAP Growth Assessment

Students in kindergarten through fifth grade will begin MAP Growth testing the first week in September. We know that children learn better—and faster—when teachers have a clear picture of what each student knows and is ready to learn next.

How it Works ~ MAP Growth is a computer-adaptive test. If your child answers a question correctly, the next question is more challenging. If they answer incorrectly, the next one is easier. This type of assessment challenges top performers without overwhelming students whose skills are below grade level.

What it Measures ~ Once your child completes a MAP Growth test, they receive a RIT score. A RIT scale is used to accurately measure what students know, regardless of their grade level. It also measures growth over time, allowing you to track your child's progress throughout the school year and across multiple years.

What it 's Important ~ MAP data helps students and teachers identify areas of strengths and weaknesses in their learning. Teachers use this information to help plan learning activities to meet the individual needs of each child in their classroom. MAP Growth data will be shared with parents during fall conferences.