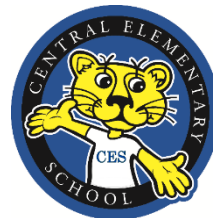


The Cougar News



November, 2017

Central Elementary School, 608 Johnson Road, Central, SC 29630

<http://www.pickens.k12.sc.us/CES>

(864) 397-1400



A model school-wide Title I School

November Tidbits

Can you believe we are one fourth of the way through this school year? Where does the time go? October ended with an amazing Title I Fall for Learning Family Night. Thank you so much to everyone who came out to our event. Report Cards were sent home on Monday (10/30) and we have parent conferences coming up on Tuesday, November 14th from 3:00 – 6:00 PM. Parents are asked to attend at least one parent conference a semester; meaning two a school year. We hold parent conference evenings twice a year to help with busy schedules. However, many teachers have already started having 1st semester parent conferences. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's academics and/or learning experience at any time throughout the year, please do not hesitate to contact his/her teacher(s). We are here for you and, most importantly, your child!



Thanksgiving Break

Thanksgiving Break is November 22nd - 24th. School will be closed on these days. November 20th and 21st are full days of school (7:30 AM - 2:30 PM). Students will return to school on Monday, November 27th. We hope all of you enjoy nice food, family time, and fellowship over Thanksgiving break.

SDPC Attendance and Tardy Guidelines:

Regular attendance in school is essential for children to obtain maximum benefit from public school education. Unless the child is ill, parents are responsible for seeing that he/she attends school each day, arrives on time, and stays the whole day.

The school will record student attendance on a daily basis. A student must attend a minimum of 170 days to be considered for promotion unless exempted by the special consideration conditions.

Attendance Guidelines

Absences may be excused for the student's illness, death in family, serious illness in the family, or absences that have been pre-approved by the principal.

A written note from parents/guardians, specifying the reason for the absence, is required within 3 days of returning to school.

When absence total exceeds 10 days a medical excuse from a licensed physician will be required for any additional absences.

Excessive absences or tardies are referred to the truancy office and legal action may be taken. If your child should be placed on court order attendance this will remain in effect until your child's 17th birthday.

Excuse for Absences

School Board Policy states that within three days of a student's absence a written excuse from a parent/guardian must be sent to the school. A valid excuse must be dated and must list the date of absence, the reason for absence, the telephone number, and signature of the parent. If no excuse is given to the school within three days, the absence is counted as unexcused.

A student who has more than 10 absences (excused or unexcused) during the school year may not be eligible to receive credit or to be promoted.

Pre-arranged Absences

Excused absences for non-school sponsored activities or recognized religious holidays must be requested of the school principal prior to the event. Before a decision is made, the principal may review and consider the child's attendance and academic record. These absences are still counted excused or unexcused at the discretion of the principal.

Early Dismissal

These should be restricted to medical appointments or other unforeseen conflicts in schedule. Convenience is not an acceptable reason. A note stating the reason for the dismissal with a phone number where the parent can be reached should be sent to the homeroom teacher. You will need to come into the office to sign your child out. If another person is sent to pick up your child, they must be on an approved list that you have given the office and they may also be required to show an ID. An excessive number of early dismissals may also be referred to the Director of Student Services (Truancy Officer).

School Times

1. Students may enter the building at 7:25 a.m. (For your child's safety, please note that there is no supervision before 7:25 a.m.)
2. The school day starts at 7:50 a.m.
3. At 8:00 a.m. students are counted tardy. Parents must accompany the student into the front office to obtain a tardy pass.
4. All students are dismissed at 2:30 p.m.

Workshops to Help Parents

This semester we're offering **technology** parent workshops based on feedback parents have given us about the areas they'd like to learn more about to help their child on projects or just with school in general. We're offering sessions on Windows 10, Excel, PowerPoint, and Microsoft Word. These workshops are designed to help give you the information and tools you need to help your child at home and school. Each workshop will last one hour and 30 minutes. Childcare will be provided for the 6:00 PM workshop.

Those attending these workshops are encouraged to bring questions and/or projects they need help with.

This month's workshop topics: Windows, Excel, and PowerPoint

When: Monday, November 6, 2017 at 1:00 PM or 6:00 PM (childcare provided)

Where: Central Elementary's Parent Resource Room & Computer Lab



Title I News

Central Elementary is a Title I school based on the percentage of students participating in the free and reduced lunch program. Being a Title I school is important to CES because of the opportunities this distinction allows us to provide for the students and families of Central. This distinction allows us to add teaching positions to help maintain lower class sizes, provide additional services for our students, provide unique experiences, provide a Title I facilitator to implement CES's Title I plan, maintain a parent resource room, and a provide a family liaison. Central, also, has additional funds to purchase needed student and classroom supplies. We continue to work to build a library of materials for parents to sign-out for use when working with children at home and to provide after school tutoring to children in need of a little extra help.



Did you know that we have a Parent Resource Room? At Central Elementary, we are here to help you with your child's school needs. If your 4Ker is having trouble tying his or her shoes, we can help! If your 3rd grader can't memorize his or her multiplication facts, we can help! Whatever the need, we want to help! Schedule a time to come in and meet with our Title I Curriculum Specialist, Mrs. Ashleigh Cobey. Her contact information is ashleighcobey@pickens.k12.sc.us, (864)397-1451, or send her a message through our school Facebook page. We hope all of our parents will take advantage of this wonderful opportunity.

Central Elementary's Calendar of Events

November

2nd: Book Fair Ends

6th: Parent Workshop: Windows, Microsoft PowerPoint & Excel; 1:00 and/or 6:00 PM (Childcare will be provided for the 6:00 PM workshop.)

13th: Parent Workshop: Central 101; 11 AM at the Central-Clemson Library

14th: Parent-Teacher Conferences; 3-6 PM

14th: Parent Workshop: Central 101; 5:30 PM Childcare will be provided

22nd – 24th: Thanksgiving Break

28th: Interims Go Home

29th: Parent Workshop: Read to Succeed Information Session for Parents of Kindergarten-3rd Graders; 8:30 AM and 1:00 PM

December

1st: **PBIS Cougar Leader Breakfast** (invitation only)

4th: Parent Workshop: Microsoft Word Basics; 8:30 AM and 1:00 PM

19th: ROAR Celebration

19th: ½ Day of School (dismiss at 11 AM)

20th - - Jan 2, 2018: Christmas Break

Note: Students return to school on Wednesday, January 3, 2018!

Note: Events bolded are Title I sponsored events.