

March 2021

Hamilton Innovator

Mr. Pfeiffer, Principal

Mr. Fuller, Assistant Principal

Mrs. MacDonald, School Administration Manager, 21st Century Site Coordinator



Here's What's Happening Around Hamilton!

Kindergarten- Kindergarten engineers just finished building bridges! We learned about the types of bridges and tested each for their strength to ensure a toy car could get across safely. We had some awesome designs! We are continuing to learn how to be fantastic readers! Please continue to practice the Sight Words with us. In math, we will begin learning numbers 11-20!

First Grade- First grade engineers will apply their knowledge of the necessities of life to design a winter sanctuary for birds. Students will use the engineering design process to ensure that the birds will have food, water, and shelter. In math, students are using place value to add two-digit numbers and will soon be subtracting. We will learn about measurement through literature and hands on experiences. We are working hard to become confident readers! Remember to practice reading and sight words at home to ensure your student's success.

Second Grade- Our 2nd graders have been working hard! Students had opportunities to work with their classmates to solve problems and uncrack codes. They found museum artifacts, escaped a pirate ship, and helped a Leprechaun! In math, students worked on addition and subtraction within 1,000. Please practice math problems at home to strengthen this area. In ELA, we are reading the book, *Charlotte's Web*. We appreciate your support!

Third Grade- Third graders are currently working in math on analyzing graphs, telling time, and measuring objects in inches and centimeters. They are also solving word problems on elapsed time. Students are reading informational texts to work on skills such as, main idea, text structure, and the relationship between events. In science, students are continuing to learn about plants. They have enjoyed growing and observing plants in the classroom, out in the garden, and at home! Please continue to check planners and make sure students complete their homework nightly in order to practice the skills they are learning in class.

Fourth Grade- This month, fourth graders will complete their unit on fractions and decimals in math. They will then learn about angle measurements and plane shapes. In reading, they will be comparing the themes, topics, and patterns of events in stories, myths, and traditional literature from different cultures. They will also be practicing writing for the upcoming FSA Writing test in April. In science, they will be learning about plant reproduction and complete an Engineering Design Challenge regarding pollination. Please continue to have students read at home every night.

Fifth Grade- 5th grade is continuing to prepare for the FSA Writing Assessment on April 5th. We will be holding small group rotations focused on specific writing skills. Students will rotate each day and work on elements of the writing process. At the stations, students will be analyzing exemplar models as well as reviewing models and working together to improve their writing. In science, we start our next engineering design challenge: Animal Adaptations. Students will research animals, their biomes and their characteristics/adaptations that help them survive. Students will choose an animal to redesign it to fit in different biome. We are so excited to see what new animals our innovators can invent!

Upcoming Events

March 1

March Math Madness Begins!
Math Fluency Fridays all month long!

March 1 - March 5

Book Fair Week! #Hamiltonreads!

March 4

PTA Sprit Night: Andy's Frozen Custard
5-7PM

March 15 - March 19

Spring Break, No School

March 24

Report Cards available in Skyward

April 5

FSA Testing Begins- Writing, Grades 4-5
FSA ELA, Grade 3 Session 1

April 6

FSA, ELA, Grade 3 Session 2

April 26

Numeracy Week begins!

More information to follow!

STUDENT SHOUT OUT!

Congratulations to 5th Grader, Geiry Rivas, for being named SERTOMA's Student of the Month for November. She earned a plaque, hat, and a \$50.00 check for being a super student! Way to go, Geiry!



News and Notes

A note from the Principal:

Regrettably, we have a tremendous number of students arrive to school tardy every day. When your child arrives tardy, he or she misses instruction, disrupts class upon entry, and waits in a long line of other tardy students in the front office. We want to limit your child's exposure to other students who are not in their class, while also giving them time to eat breakfast and start their day of learning on time. School doors open at 8:05 a.m., but we ask that you have your child at school no later than 8:30 a.m. Hamilton thanks you in advance for getting your children to school on time.

Title I Information

If you missed last month's Parent FSA Information Meeting, a link to the virtual event is located on our Website. <http://www.hamilton.scps.k12.fl.us/>

Music News

In Music, we have been celebrating Black History Month with a lot of jazz! Kindergarten and 1st grade have been dancing and improvising their own jazz rhythms using words and animal sounds. 3rd - 5th learned to play the blues. 2nd graders are finishing their weather gadget commercials using Garageband on the iPads. Since we were not able to do a show this year, 4th and 5th grades learned to sign "Lift Every Voice and Sing" and created a video to share with everyone. Some awesome staff members came together and sang for the video! Check it out on our website and Facebook page or at this link: <https://youtu.be/4kFB-5CaVuE>

Magnet Update

We are proud to announce that Hamilton Elementary School of Engineering and Technology's SECME team competed last month and was awarded the OVERALL WINNING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL for the fourth year in a row!

Student Spotlights

We are proud to announce our candidates for the following awards:

SASA Student Leader of the Year Award: Brooklyn Meade for her leadership qualities in and out of school. She is a member of our Young Men and Women of Excellence, SECME team, and on the WHAM news crew.

SASA Phoenix Award: Norman Vasquez Bumgardner for his success and leadership despite recent hardships and roadblocks.

Staff Spotlights



Congratulations to Hamilton's Teacher of the Year Mrs. Susan Kuhn! She has been at Hamilton for 9 years, most recently as our amazing Educational Technology Facilitator and Rocket Reader Teacher. She was recently recognized at the district's TOY event.



Congratulations to Hamilton's Employee of the Year, Mrs. Michelle Davis! She has been at Hamilton for over 30 years as our FTE clerk. She was recently recognized as a TOP FIVE finalist for SCPS Employee of the Year! We are so proud of you!

Parent Corner

The Hamilton Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is accepting nominations for leadership! Elected leadership positions are President, Secretary, and Treasurer. We are looking for dedicated volunteers who want to see students at Hamilton thrive and succeed. The Hamilton Elementary PTA works to support all students by providing programs that better students, staff, and families. Anyone can become a member and any member is eligible for leadership positions! Please send an email to hamiltonptafl@gmail.com before March 31 if you are interested.

Parent Tip of the Month: Don't skip the 20 minutes of reading each night!

Student A Reads 20 minutes each day	Student B Reads 5 minutes each day	Student C Reads 1 minute each day
3600 minutes in a school year	900 minutes in a school year	180 minutes in a school year
1,800,000 words	282,000 words	8,000 words
90th percentile	50th percentile	10th percentile



Recent Highlights

Hamilton SECME Team wins AGAIN!

Ms. Vickers and her SECME team competed at the regional competition at UCF (virtually) and took home the **OVERALL WINNING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** award for the **FOURTH** year in a row!

Want to see more highlights?

Have you "liked us" on Facebook?

<https://www.facebook.com/hamiltonelem/>

Are you "following us" on Twitter? @hamiltonengtech

Have you checked out our website lately?

www.hamilton.scps.k12.fl.us