



# Cougar Cubs Are Special!

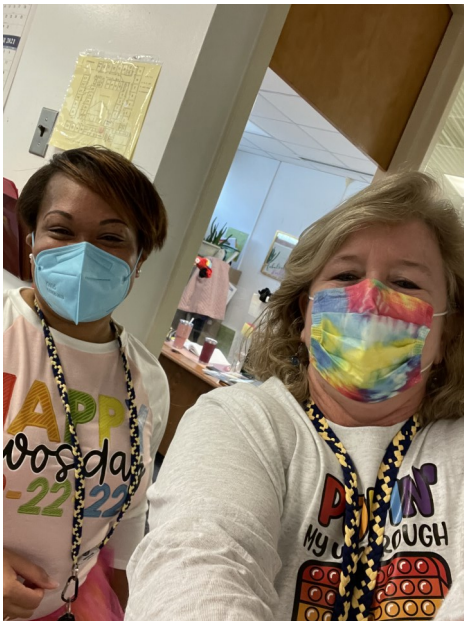
## Principal's Corner

Happy 100th day of school for the 2021-2022 school year!

Time is going by so quickly! As I reflect back on the past 100 days, I am grateful and proud. Our Cougar Cubs continue to work hard and strive for growth in reading and math. Our teachers and instructional staff are reviewing data and using that information to inform their instruction to help our Cougar Cubs. Our support staff continues to keep our Cougar Cubs safe and healthy while they are at school. Our amazing parents and guardians are continuing to support our Cougar Cubs unconditionally by working along side our staff. As you can see, it is a team effort. I sincerely appreciate your support!

My best,

Mrs. Nelin :)



## Calendar of Events

### March

- 7- Begin SES Book Read Dog Days
- 8-School Board Meeting
- 3- Interims are posted
- 10-Asynchronous Learning Day
- 10- Virtual Parent Teacher Conferences 2pm-7pm (Please sign up with your child's teacher.)
- 18- Jack and the Beanstalk Performance

### April

- 4- 4th Nine Weeks begins
- 8-Report Cards go Home
- 12-School Board Meeting
- 15-Asynchronous Learning Day
- 18-22-SPRING BREAK!



Encourage Your Child to  
READ, READ, READ More!

**SURRY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

1600 Hollybush Road  
Dendron, VA 23839  
(757)267-2558

**We are on the web—  
surryschools.net**

**CHARACTER COUNTS**

**Each month we put focus on character building.**

September - Respect

October - Responsibility

November - Trustworthiness

December - Kindness

January - Forgiveness

**February - Love**

**March - Perseverance**

**April - Honesty**

May - Sincerity

June - Honor



**Like us on Facebook!!**  
**<http://tinyurl.com/naz9y48>**



Scan the QR Code to be taken directly to our Facebook page.

**Surry Elementary School is Fully Accredited!** The school's report card may be viewed at:

<http://www.surryschools.net/education/school/school.php>

or on the VA Department of Education website:

<http://www.doe.virginia.gov>

**Pre-K Team**



**“The Alphabet Rap”**

A-B-C-D-E

Pre-K is the place to be.

F-G-H-I-J

We do our best every day.

K-L-M-N-O

Reading, writing, watch us grow.

P-Q-R-S-T

Adding numbers 1-2-3.

U-V-W-X-Y

It's our goal to try, try, try.

We finish with the letter Z.

School is Cool, don't you agree?

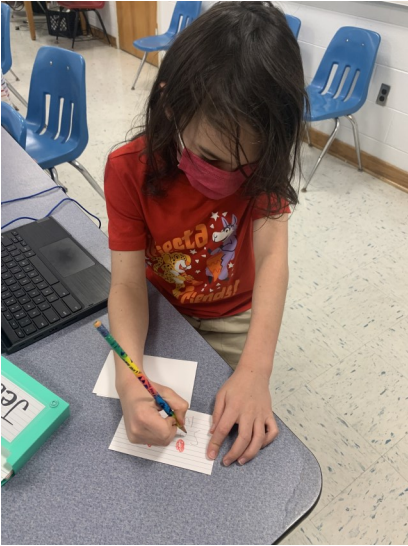
**Kindergarten Rocks!**

Kindergarten has continued to work hard during the second nine weeks! Our kindergarteners have worked to improve their skills in reading, writing, math, science, and social studies. While the first part of the nine weeks focused on review material, the second half of the nine weeks was introducing new material. In reading, we learned about CVC words, sight words, harder rhyming words, and beginning sounds. We even started to read sentences made up of sight words too! While in math, we learned the concept greater and less, 10-frames, and started addition with sums up to ten. We learned about shadows, weather, and used the scientific method in science. Winter holidays, position words, and Black History Month were our focus in social studies. While we learned many new things, we also had fun! Right before Winter Break, we completed a winter celebration where we created small winter themed crafts and activities! One of the favorites was paper snowflakes! While the third nine weeks will be busy, please continue to do your best. We are asking all kindergarteners to continue to practice letters, letter sounds, numbers, counting to 100, and sight words nightly! Keep working hard cougar cubs!

The Kindergarten Team

Mrs. Stewart, Ms. Godette, Ms. Pruitt, and Mrs. Edler

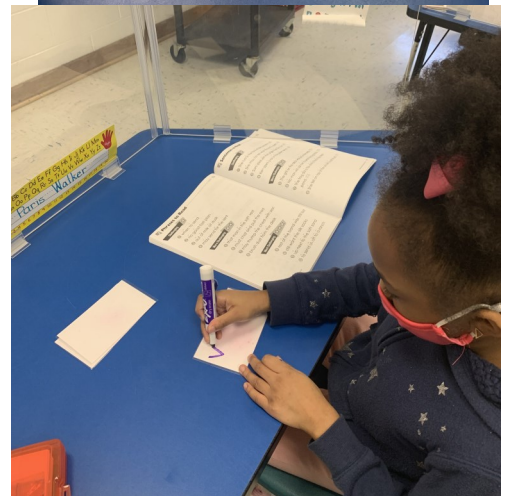
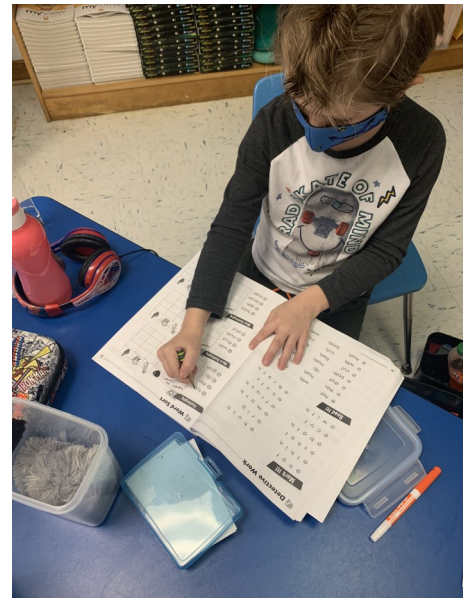
## First Grade News



The first-grade students at Surry Elementary School are having a BLAST with their new Reading Series –Really Great Reading. The students are enjoying many of the activities that the series has to offer. Some of the activities include finger stretching, whale talking, and stomping with syllabards. These activities have enhanced their vocabulary, word identification, sentence structure, and their overall reading ability.

In conclusion, the Really Great Reading program is a series of lessons focused on the essential foundational skills that all students should master in their early reading education.

At SES we are very fortunate to have invested our time and resources in the Really Great Reading series for our children.



## Second Grade

The second graders here at SES have been working hard on their Black History Month research projects! Each student was assigned a famous African American in our nation's history to become experts on and present their findings to their classmates. The students loved being able to research their own historical figure and teach the rest of the class something! The presentations were great and we all learned so much about the trailblazers of our country!

## Third Grade

The Third Grade Cougar Cubs have been working hard this year! We grew our own lettuce in Science class and the adults we gave it to said it was delicious! In Social Studies, we have created "Welcome to Africa!" brochures for time travelers to visit ancient places. We will use concepts we have learned in Math and Reading to expand our garden this spring.



## Fourth Grade

The fourth grade students have been busy with some new, exciting things! In December, we traveled to the Ferguson Center for the Arts at Christopher Newport University, where we experienced the Virginia Regional Ballet's performance of "The Nutcracker." Students were excited to see the play acted out, as they had learned the storyline in their Reading classes. We have been exploring exciting topics in class, including the Solar System, the American Revolution, and the New Nation! Students have completed their 1<sup>st</sup> semester benchmark testing, and are looking forward to celebrating Digital Learning and the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school on 2/22/22! GO COUGAR CUBS!

## Music Notes

**PreK** - We have been practicing keeping the beat in different ways as well as getting more comfortable singing as a group and by ourselves. Our recent favorite songs have been "No More Pie" and "Aiken Drum."

**K** - We have been exploring different types of voices we can use (speaking, singing, whispering, shouting). We have also been playing listening games where we identify other students' voices without looking or matching instrument sounds to their picture.

**1st** - We are continuing to practice basic rhythm patterns with ta, ti-ti, and rest. We are also starting to notate simple melodies using Sol and Mi.

**2nd** - We have been looking up the most recent US Olympic Medal count to create body percussion rhythm patterns to perform along with an Olympic Fanfare.

**3rd** - We have been studying different genres of Music starting with Salsa. Now, for Black History Month, we are highlighting famous Soul singers like Aretha Franklin and will begin a short Hip Hop unit soon.

**4th** - We are doing the same Music Genre lessons as the 3rd grade, but are also continuing to play games to practice naming the notes on the Treble staff.



I love hearing from families that students are coming home singing songs from our class or are now listening to artists they just learned about. Thank you for making music a part of their lives at home.

In Harmony,  
Mr. Cook

## Library News

Please congratulate the Cougar Cubs! They reached their goal of 3,000,000 words by Valentine's Day. The new goal, in honor of one of Mrs. Nelin's favorite holidays, is 4,000,000 by St. Patrick's Day.



The AR Wall is looking GREAT, but there is always room for more students to join. Watch for Class Dojo updates almost daily of students joining the Wall or moving through the Point Clubs.



You may have noticed the Black History icon on the bottom of your K-4th grade child's Library Canvas page. That links you to a portal that has African American biographies and stories. You are welcome to listen to them with your child. First Graders through 4th Graders may take AR tests on any of those books. The books are organized easiest to hardest and are categorized by biographies and stories. Enjoy!

## Physical Education (PE)

We have been having a lot of fun learning in physical education class. Especially on Wellness Wednesdays. We mostly make sure the students are active and having fun with a plethora of activities. It is very important that the kids get to have that time during school especially to make school more enjoyable for them. We are always open to ideas, so if anyone has any suggestions please feel free to contact the resource team at the school.



## News From Nurse Debbie

*ViSSTA Testing has proven to be a great success at SES. We currently have 34 individuals signed up that are testing weekly, just in our building. GREAT JOB SES!!! It took the last four weeks to work out all of the kinks, but I think that goes with everything in life, right?! So THANK YOU to all: staff, parents, guardians who have helped and supported me along that journey in helping me figure out that process. If at any time you would like to enroll in the testing process, it's not too late.*

1. Click this link: <https://exovavatesting.com/>, fill everything out until you receive a "barcode." (only needs to be done once)

2. Make sure you let me know you have registered yourself (staff), your student, (parents/guardians.)



3.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1nzYnfXJ2WNzWSfEBBKiKLCp\\_hQCryRT3/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1nzYnfXJ2WNzWSfEBBKiKLCp_hQCryRT3/view?usp=sharing), print this paper consent and send it back to school.

*Our **KINSA Thermometer** program has also proven to be another great success at SES. We have distributed 120 FREE thermometers to families within our school. I don't know about you all, but that makes my heart smile. Of those 120, 80 have been activated, 40 still have not. The program only works as well as we do. So with that being said, if we have 40 families who do not utilize the thermometers accordingly, then that's essentially 40 illnesses that can easily go missed if not reported. There are two more dates left for this school year to order; the current order window closes March 6th. The last order window closes April 3rd. To order:*

1.Text JOIN to 24020

2.Download the Kinsa App

3.Order the thermometer in your app

**\*\*Did you know, because of YOUR participation in this program, I have been able to walk around OUR school and hand out LYSOL wipes.... Not the small bottles, but the big ones to EVERY teacher and Instructional Assistant, not once but TWICE this school year??? THAT IS AMAZING!! THANK YOU, and THANK YOU LYSOL AND KINSA!!!** □

**COVID-19 Vaccinations**, while these are not mandatory, I urge you if you have taken your child/student to be vaccinated to please let me know so I may update their Student Health Record. We have held numerous vaccine clinics at SCPS, a 2nd dose clinic to follow up from the 2/9/22 clinic will be held 3/2/22 at SES, more information to come on this. In the meantime, parents will NOT need to be present, however, consent must be signed electronically via the links that will be sent out closer to that time. I am asking for you to reach out to me via Class DoJo as well to let me know if you sign your child/student up. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

**COVID-19 Rapid Tests** Ever feel like you want to say something but then are VERY AFRAID to for fear of jinxing yourself???? That's me, right now! So I maybe have a small supply of those handy dandy Binax Now Rapid Tests we all grew to love so much "before Christmas," when then everything disappeared..... I think what may make everyone's lives easier is if I have consent on

file here at school and it seems “feasible,” for me to reach out and if you say “OK” if your child isn’t feeling well I can test them here in my office IF a test is available, if negative, they may return to class. Return to class only under the circumstances of having no fever and they truly seem well enough to remain at school. If you’d like this to be an option for you, please fill out the consent and return it to me. **\*\*All test results will be sent home with your child.\*\***

**-BinaxNow Rapid Test Consent Form-SES** <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1i5grX4-xnKh2VkwOM-0Nbh7ma2KJ59srB9jvURO7yMA/edit?usp=sharing>

Thank you all for trusting me day in and day out with all of your amazing and beautiful children. They are truly a blessing!



**Mrs. Brittle’s Third graders working in the raised garden beds located in the courtyard**

