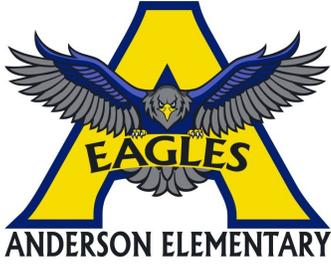


### Anderson Elementary School The



3910 West Fair Oaks Avenue  
Tampa, FL 33611  
(813) 272-3075  
Website: <http://anderson.mysdhc.org>  
Twitter: [https://twitter.com/Anderson\\_Eagles](https://twitter.com/Anderson_Eagles)  
A Hillsborough County Public School

- Upcoming Events\* .....
- Dec. 12-Winter Concert
  - Dec. 20-Freestyle Friday, Sno Cones & Student of the Month
  - Dec. 23-Jan. 3 Winter Holidays
  - Jan. 6- Students Return/Early Release
  - Jan. 13-Early Release
  - Jan. 16-End of 2nd Quarter
  - Jan. 17-1st day of 3rd Quarter
  - Jan. 20-No School
  - Jan. 31- Freestyle Friday, Sno Cones & Student of the Month
  - Feb. 6-Class Pictures
  - Feb. 7-Awards Assembly
  - Feb. 14-No School
  - Feb. 28- Freestyle Friday, Sno Cones & Student of the Month
- \*tentative and subject to change\*

Dear Anderson Family,

Our Veterans' Program was very patriotic. We appreciate our military. The Great American Teach In (GATI) was a great learning experience for our students. Our Winter Concert was amazing!

We have a very busy academic second semester. We ask for your assistance in making sure students arrive to school on time and are not signed out early, as well as attend school regularly. I will continue to monitor and notify families of students with excessive absences, tardies and/or sign out early from school. As the second semester approaches, we do not want students missing instruction.

Families will be invited to attend the Awards Assembly on Feb. 7. See Page 6 Anderson's Winter Reading Bingo Challenge and let's read!

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. With all of us working together, we can ensure that all our students are successful! Merry Christmas and many blessings in 2025!

Lydia G. Sierra, Principal



Dear Anderson Family,

As we wrap up PM2 testing, students are setting goals to ensure their success. Teachers are conferencing with students and guiding them as they work on individual goals. In December, we completed PM2 FAST and STAR Testing, and students will begin additional progress monitoring assessments (iReady) starting the week of January 13.

While your child's teacher has likely communicated their progress with you, please feel free to reach out to them for the latest updates on your child's academic progress and recent data. There is a lot of learning happening, and we love celebrating all successes, big and small! We value and appreciate your support and look forward to continuing to work together.

Mrs. Kim, Assistant Principal



### Anderson Elementary School



### VPK

VPK has moved into a new theme for the month of December. Our focus is on comparing and contrasting. We are learning things such as: living and nonliving, real and make believe and shapes. We are also concentrating on rhyming words, syllables and compound words. In a few weeks we will also include opposites. It is great to see the students engaging in learning and growing. VPK is a great place to learn and play! Happy Holidays!

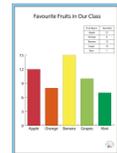
Mrs. Divecchio, Mrs. Mortellaro & Mrs. Zubizarreta



### Kindergarten

Happy Holidays!!! In ELA, we are continuing to learn more letters and letter sounds through UFLI. CVC words are words created using a consonant, vowel and a consonant. The more letters and sounds we learn the more CVC words we are able to read and write! In Writing, we are working on sentence structure still. We will be implementing a writing incentive called " 5 Star Writers". If a student composes a sentence with a capital letter, finger spacing, punctuation, neatly written and a picture to match their name will be put into a drawing for a reward at the end of each week. In Math, we have been learning to compose and decompose numbers to 10. We also will be learning how to create and read data from a bar graph. We are so incredibly proud of how hard all our students have been working! At home we still encourage you to work on giving your child CVC words to read and write and you can even push them to use CVC words in a written sentence.

Ms. Seback, Ms. Casperson & Mrs. Parks



### Staff Spotlight

Hello Eagles! I am Veronica Schaffner, and this is my first year here at Anderson. I graduated from the University of Florida. I have been teaching in Hillsborough County for 14 years as a teacher in Grades 1-3 and I also worked as a Reading Coach for several years. I am thrilled to finally be in my dream position as a Library Media Specialist. I love sharing my love of reading with students and now I get to do that all day every day! I hope you will check out the 'Reading Corner' of the newsletter for more information about all the happenings in the Media Center.

## First Grade

Happy Holidays first grade families! Mrs. Zaritsky and Mrs. Covington (Ruiz) wish you well and we are looking forward to a bright new year in 2025! In the months of December and January your child will be reading and learning about changes over time. In ELA, they will read fiction and non-fiction texts aligned with this theme and they will practice retelling the text using a topic and key details and using story elements. Students will continue their daily phonics instruction with UFLI and will be learning about different word endings ( \_ce (s), \_ge (j), \_es, \_ing, \_ed). In Science, students will learn about Earth Sciences (daytime and nighttime sky and harmful and beneficial factors of the sun). In Math, students will be learning how to solve comparison word problems, equality and equations to 20 and place value within 100. In Social Studies, students will learn about the different holidays celebrated around the world this time of year.  
Mrs. Zaritsky & Ms. Covington (Ruiz)

## Second Grade

In December and January Second Grade will be reading and understanding informational and expository texts, partitioning shapes, telling time, representing numbers to 1,000 and investigating physical properties of matter. We will have our field trip to Zoo Tampa on January 30. Please fill out the proper paperwork if you would like to chaperone. Winter break is a wonderful time to relax, reflect, and make memories with your loved ones. We hope you enjoy the holidays and look forward to the new year! Thank you for all your support!  
Ms. Mallory & Ms. Voytko



## Third Grade

Hi all you terrific Third Graders and families! We are doing a lot of learning this school year! In Reading, we are learning about the author's claim/author's perspective, character development/character perspective, comparing/contrasting texts and text features/structures! In Writing, we are really focusing on how to form an opinion and respond to a prompt here opinions are stated and supported by text evidence. In Math, we are building our fact fluency with facts 0-12s, as well as building our understanding of fractions, plotting/ordering/comparing fractions and finding equivalent fractions! In Science, we have been leaning about different physical properties and various ways that we can measure/describe objects. We will be learning about the law of gravity and outer space! If you haven't already, it is not too late to join PTA! Be sure and join today!

**Important dates coming up:** Jan. 6- Students return to school-Early Release Day, Jan. 13- Early Release day, Jan. 16- End of Quarter 2, Jan. 20- No School, Jan. 31- Free Style Friday/Student of the Month Awards, Feb. 14- Non-Student Day, Feb. 17- President's Day- Full day/Hurricane make up day, Feb. 28- Free Style Friday/Student of the Month Awards

Ms. Schulz & Ms. Embry



## Fourth Grade

Students completed their FAST PM2 in Reading and Math and their next assessment is the iReady Diagnostic. In Reading, we are focused on comprehension and FAST type questioning. In Math, we will be working on Equalities and Angles in January. In Writing, we are focusing on elaboration and organizing a four-paragraph essay. The Speech Contest is approaching in January. We will be working on speeches, and the contest will be held in February. As always, thank you for your continued support in the classroom.  
Ms. Vadala & Ms. DiGangi



## Fifth Grade

Fifth Grade is full steam ahead in December ! Following taking the Reading and Math FAST Assessments December 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, we are using the data to plan instruction for the coming months and determine student learning and growth so far.

Online programs-We are seeing such good results from students who are consistently working in iReady ( at home and school) and Achieve3000. Reminder that students are required to get 45 minutes and 2 passed lessons per week in Math and 2 passed lessons in Reading in both iReady and Achieve. Weekly classwork expectations are posted on Canvas.

Students earn the opportunity to attend "Happy Hour" our weekly Fun Friday incentive.

Getting our Fiction on!- We recognize that in recent years, many students have shifted from watching shows and movies on kid-based networks to watching a lot of short clip videos on platforms such as YouTube and TikTok. While it can be fun to learn how to beat a level on a video game or check out a new trend or fashion tip, students do miss out on practicing some critical skills by not including any fictional shows or movies when they watch TV. By watching something that is fictional, students get the opportunity to predict, infer, summarize, imagine, connect and even further develop verbal language skills. So next time they need some downtime, encourage them to watch an animated movie, or check out a sitcom for their age group!

Students have started STEM Fair and have identified their topic for the project. Please go over topic with students to make sure materials for the project can be obtained. Ask your child for updates as the days go on up to break!

Mrs. McIntyre & Mr. Becker



### PTA

Our first movie night of the year was an awesome success! Gingerbread Workshop is happening in the media center Dec. 9th - 13th and PTA's online auction will end December 12th at 9:00pm. You can see the wonderful items up for auction here: <https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fapp.givebacks.gives%2F82ef9&data=05%7C02%7Clydia.sierra%40hcps.net%7C70b870870e4943a2c4b408dd189f7703%7C10a8fd9c2ff4e0d9c191fe2c188164a%7C0%7C0%7C638693795382405480%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiilwLjAuMDAwMCIsIAiOiJXaW4zMilskF0ljoITWFpbCIsldUjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=y0k9Q5X%2FPHqp70IKzZbNfbYzndvqHM3P%2FrCT7TA16Vw%3D&reserved=0>

Please Like us on Facebook at <https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2FAndersonPTA&data=05%7C02%7Clydia.sierra%40hcps.net%7C70b870870e4943a2c4b408dd189f7703%7C10a8fd9c2ff4e0d9c191fe2c188164a%7C0%7C0%7C638693795382424769%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiilwLjAuMDAwMCIsIAiOiJXaW4zMilskF0ljoITWFpbCIsldUjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=lrugUINFvfl%2BHKedkQs5DSpQc5yTny8LC9yEKsf4E%3D&reserved=0> to see all the things PTA is doing for our school.

You can also check PTA's regularly updated events calendar at <https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fanderson.givebacks.com%2Fw%2FAEvents&data=05%7C02%7Clydia.sierra%40hcps.net%7C70b870870e4943a2c4b408dd189f7703%7C10a8fd9c2ff4e0d9c191fe2c188164a%7C0%7C0%7C638693795382436462%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiilwLjAuMDAwMCIsIAiOiJXaW4zMilskF0ljoITWFpbCIsldUjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=lu9FP9%2BcV5EzciDzH%2BcP%2FFYskbvYzNW2nKsiltodgc%3D&reserved=0>

Thank you for supporting PTA!

**Make sure your child arrives to school on time.**



Students look great in their school uniforms!

### PTA/SCHOOL EVENTS TO THE END OF DECEMBER

Below is a tentative list of event dates for fall semester (subject to change):



- December 5-Movie Night & Gingerbread Workshop
- December 9 to 13-Gingerbread Workshop
- December 12-Winter Concert & Silent Auction
- December 20-Freestyle Friday & Sno-Cones

Please Like Us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/AndersonPTA>. Keep up to date on all the details throughout the year, including changes to the calendar, upcoming events and shoutouts to our staff and students on doing great things!



**Anderson Elementary.....  
Together We Glow!**



### Welcome to the Art Corner!

This school year is flying by, and students have been working hard! We've learned about different line forms, intuitive drawings and how to use primary and analogous colors.

All grade levels did a beautiful job creating patriotic art to honor our Veterans! Students are currently studying the famous Japanese artist, Yayoi Kusama. She's known for her obsession with polka-dots and massive art installations. Students are having fun finishing up their Yayoi Kusama inspired pumpkins!

"After all, well, moon is a polka dot, sun is a polka dot, and then, the earth where we live is also a polka dot." - Yayoi Kusama



Ms. Gonzalez, Art Specialist

**School Board**  
Jessica Vaughn, Chair  
Karen Perez, Vice Chair  
Nadia T. Combs  
Lynn L. Gray  
Stacy A. Hahn, Ph.D.  
Patricia "Patti" Rendon  
Henry "Shake" Washington

**Superintendent of Schools**  
Van Ayers

### **AGP is Glowing & Growing**

We are thrilled to announce our AGP at Anderson has doubled since the start of the school year! We are GROWING! We are continuing to identify students who have a need for services from a program for the gifted. If you think your child might meet the gifted qualifications, please do not hesitate to contact me [maryam.hope@sdhc.net](mailto:maryam.hope@sdhc.net) or 813-272-3075. During December and January, our AGP 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade Scientists, Engineers and Inventors are preparing for Hillsborough Annually STEM Fair at the Tampa Convention Center! This is a great opportunity for our students to GLOW by showcasing their knowledge of using the Scientific Process to solve real world problems. The STEM Fair will be at the Tampa Convention Center on February 12, 2025. Our AGP students will represent Anderson with their experiments, inventions or improved solution-based on scientific data! This is our “super bowl” in the AGP/Science world! We know our projects will be a touchdown!!! If you are interested in being a judge for the district Science Fair, please contact Michele Wiehagen at 813-892-1555.

See Flyer Below for more information.

Ms. Hope, AGP Teacher



Si usted tiene dificultad en entender la información de ésta u otra correspondencia de la escuela, por favor venga a la oficina principal. If you do not understand information, please contact the school office.

Visit our Website: <http://anderson.mysdhc.org/>



Follow us on X/Twitter: [https://twitter.com/Anderson\\_Eagles](https://twitter.com/Anderson_Eagles)

Thank you to the following business partners for supporting our school:

- Playgrounds
- Hungry Howie's
- Metro Diner
- Carrabba's
- Gasparilla Pizza
- Astro Skating
- First Watch
- Wright's Gourmet House

THANK YOU to all of our PTA Gift Basket and Gift Card Donors!

- Universal Orlando Resort
- Palma Ceia Little League
- Splitsville - Tampa
- Topgolf - Tampa
- Kendra Scott - Hyde Park
- Wawa Foundation
- Cooper's Hawk
- Toffee To Go
- Glazer Children's Museum
- Wright's Gourmet House
- Clearwater Marine Aquarium
- Brew Bus
- Shake Shack
- Irish 31
- Crayola Experience Orlando
- Mister Car Wash
- BarkBox
- MOSI
- 3 Daughters Brewing
- Sport Clips - Azeele Plaza
- Jeni's Ice Creams
- WonderWorks Orlando
- Tampa Bay Rowdies



**Guidance Events**

Upcoming Events for December and January

Students of the Month Assemblies: December 20 and January 31  
Students will be recognized at an assembly in our Reading Courtyard.

Character Trait of the Month (December): Trustworthy

Character Trait of the Month (January): Respectful

Winter Reading Challenge from Mrs. Tasso, Reading Coach

Students can complete Winter Bingo and return to Ms. Sierra on Jan. 6 to receive a treat.



# Winter Reading Bingo



Read a book with a blue cover.	Ask two questions while you read a nonfiction book.	Read a new book or one you haven't read in a while. Make a prediction.	Read a book by the window.	Make a cozy tent with blankets and read in it!
Make a connection to something at home or school while you read.	Write your own story! Use a stuffed animal for inspiration.	Read a book about winter!	Read two pages in a book with great expression to someone in your family!	Read a poem. Find one online if you don't have a book of poetry at home.
Read a book using a flashlight.	Take a picture reading your favorite book. Send it to your teacher!	Free Space Happy Snow Day!	Read a book to a pet or stuffed animal.	Read a book with a number in the title.
Read for 10 minutes without stopping!	Read a story with someone. Think of a new title for the book!	Read a fiction story and retell the story to someone in your family.	Write a list of 10 rhyming words!	Listen to someone read a story.
Ask a family member to choose a book for you to read!	Find "th" 10 times in a book!	Read a book in bed.	Read a book. Then write and draw a picture about your favorite part.	Read a book under the table.

Hello from the Media Center! This month I want to share some of the digital reading resources offered by Hillsborough County.

To access the resources below go to [www.Clever.com/in/HCPS](http://www.Clever.com/in/HCPS). From there you'll find the HCPS Hub and choose the Virtual Library folder



	<p><b>Virtual Library Catalog</b></p> <p>Be sure to choose Anderson Elementary to start and then you can search for any physical book in our library!</p>
	<p><b>myOn</b></p> <p>An oldie but a goodie! myOn has a great selection of unique digital titles available on demand. The county also runs <b>reading challenges</b> during school breaks where students can read and have the chance to win prizes.</p>
	<p><b>Boundless eBooks K-5</b></p> <p>This site hosts eBooks and audio books purchased by the county. It works on a check out system like the library so digital copies are limited but you'll find many popular titles. Be sure to choose Anderson Elementary and sign in using your student number.</p>
	<p><b>Comics Plus</b></p> <p>Do you like reading Graphic Novels and comic books? Well, this site will be your new best friend! You'll find well-known titles like the Big Nate series and Avatar as well as new series. From biographies to Manga to STEM/STEAM titles... The only question is, what will you read first?</p>

**BONUS**

	<p><b>Hillsborough County Public Library Cooperative</b></p> <p>Did you know that every Hillsborough County student also has access to public library resources using their student number? No physical library card is needed! Students can borrow physical books, check out eBooks and audiobooks, connect with tutors, and receive homework help all through the public library's <b>HAAL Pass</b> program. Visit your local library or scan the QR code for more information.</p>
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# BOOKS & BUNDTs

Reading Makes Life Sweeter

## Who

Pre-K through Elementary  
School Students

## What

Students will receive a  
Free Bundtlet for each  
month that they read  
400+ minutes.

## When\*

September 1st, 2024  
to May 31st, 2025

## Why

Reading at an early age  
enriches children's brains,  
increases vocabulary and  
test scores, introduces  
readers to the world around  
them and helps develop  
their imaginations.



Does your child want a  
**Free Bundtlet every month?\***

Have him or her  
read for at least  
**20 minutes a day,  
5 days a week!**



## JOIN OUR "BOOKS & BUNDTs" YOUTH READING PROGRAM

It's easy, free and delicious!

Turning your child into an enthusiastic reader is as easy as 1-2-3!

- 1 Record child's time spent reading on the monthly tracker.
- 2 Bring the completed reading tracker to the bakery listed.
- 3 Celebrate your child's accomplishment with a **Free Bundtlet** and an award certificate he or she can hold on to long after the cake has been enjoyed!

**Tampa-South**  
1155 S. Dale Mabry Hwy, Suite 5  
Tampa, FL 33629  
(813) 515-6891

[tampa-south@nothingbundtcakes.com](mailto:tampa-south@nothingbundtcakes.com)

A Youth Reading Program by



