



Knightly News

Message From The Principal: Tracy Wainwright



I have enjoyed welcoming each and every student, parent, and faculty/staff member to Upson-Lee Primary School for the 2019-2020 school year. During the first month of school, our students have been learning classroom and school routines and procedures. They are learning the ROYAL rules of being "READY, RESPECTFUL, and RESPONSIBLE" each day. As a faculty/staff at ULP, we are making every effort to build positive relationships with our students and to create a learning environment in which they feel safe.

During the month of August, students participated in beginning of the year assessments that are used to make instructional decisions to support the needs of each student. We have begun our instructional units in each content area, and we ask that you help us ensure that all students receive this important instruction by making sure your child is at school on time every day. When students arrive after 7:50 a.m. or leave before 2:45 p.m., they miss valuable instructional time. When possible, avoid scheduling doctor appointments, dental appointments, etc. during the school day. We have updated the attendance matrix in your child's agenda that outlines the steps we will take to assist you in keeping track of the number of absences, tardies and early dismissals.

Also, please assist us with transportation changes. If your child's transportation needs change, please submit the change in writing. For the safety of the students, bus transportation changes cannot be made over the telephone. If you need to change your child from a bus rider to a car rider, we ask that you please notify us before 2:00 so that we have enough time to deliver the message to the student and teacher.

We look forward to working with you this school year. We have an "open door" policy at Upson-Lee Primary, and you are always welcome at school. We realize that one of the most important components of a good school is the partnership between the school and parents, who work together for the best interest of children. A close partnership between home and school can be developed when teachers and parents communicate regularly regarding student progress.

ULPS provides opportunities throughout the school year to foster partnerships between home and school. Parents may volunteer to be a VIP Reader, join the PTO, volunteer in the classroom, help during the career caravan, attend school meetings, and help in many other ways. Getting involved in school lets your child know you think his or her education is important.

Thank you for sharing your child with us! We are looking forward to a great school year!



Kindergarten

Kindergarten News (Class of 2032)-

We have had a fabulous start to our Kindergarten year! We have been working hard on learning our ROYAL behavior and our daily routines. We have enjoyed learning about our new friends and teachers. Kindergarteners have been talking about the people in our neighborhood and about being a scientist and what they do. We are also studying the alphabet and will soon begin reading our Kindergarten leveled readers. In math, we are learning to write and count numbers 0-20. Thank you, parents, for helping us have a smooth start to the school year! We look forward to teaching your child this year!



First Grade

First Grade News (Class of 2031)-

We are off to a great and busy start in first grade! Please review the rules and behavior expectations with your 1st grade student. We encourage parents to read with students every night and practice sight words (which should be in your student's HW binder or folder). In math, students should count to 120 nightly. We are working on adding and subtracting numbers up to ten. In social studies, we will be learning about our national heritage. We will study patriotism and geography. Students will learn about finding their city, county, state, nation, and continent on a map or globe. In science, we will begin to learn about the weather and seasons.



Upcoming Events:

- 9/4 -10: Book Fair
8:00 AM - 2:30 PM
- 9/4: Grandparent's Day
Breakfast & Book Fair
Kindergarten

Progress Report
- 9/5: Grandparent's Day
Breakfast & Book Fair
First Grade
- 9/6: Grandparent's Day
Breakfast & Book Fair
Second Grade
- 9/12: PIE/ School Council
8:00 AM
- 9/16: Student Holiday /
Professional Learning
Day
- 9/24: VIP Reception
Media Center
9:30 AM
- 9/25: Fall Picture Retakes
- 9/25-27: Career Days
- 9/27: Fun Friday
Bus Reward
- 10/1: 2nd Grade PTO Program
TUFAC 6:00 PM



Second Grade

Second Grade News (Class of 2030)-

Welcome to second grade! We have had a great start to this school year! Our second graders have been busy learning a phonics program called Wilson Reading, which will help us to become fluent, phonetic readers. The students have started writing and reading narratives during language arts. In math, the students have been busy learning bundles of 10's and 100's. During social studies, the students have been learning about rules, laws, and government. Please make sure you read for 10 minutes each night to improve your reading skills. We are looking forward to having an exciting year in second grade!



Mrs. Campbell's second grade class loves learning!



Media Center News



Reading is the most important skill you can teach a child. Of all the skills children learn, reading is the one you can influence the most.

Your child recently visited the media center to learn about proper book care and how to locate a book. Second grade students were introduced to the fiction section where they can check out chapter books and to the nonfiction section where they can find books with facts and information.



Ask your first grade students about the naughty pigeon who is not allowed to check out library books, because he doesn't take care of them. Through a short video, students learned the proper way to care for their library books and how to locate a book in the media center.

Kindergarten students went on a "book hunt" to find a really good book! They started with the book We're Going on a Lion Hunt. Students put on their "binoculars" and found signs to guide them through the media center to locate their first library book!



September 4-10, 2019, we invite you to visit our Scholastic Book Fair and experience a celebration of reading that provides families the opportunity to get involved in a universal mission: *encouraging kids to read every day so they can lead better lives*. Giving kids access to good books and the opportunity to choose their own books will motivate them to read more. And, like most acquired skills, the more kids practice reading, the better they will get. Hope to see you there!

Book Fair Dates: September 4-10, 2019

Shopping Hours: 8:00 AM - 2:30 PM

CAMP

Greetings from the CAMP teachers!

We hope that your summer was lots of fun and that you are ready for an exciting school year!

The CAMP teachers have been working to prepare a great year for you!! Our CAMP classes have changed a little this year. Mrs. Burgess, Mrs. Barrow, and Mrs. Johnson are in the media center. Mrs. Burgess will be doing some cool activities to incorporate science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (STEAM). Mrs. Barrow will be teaching keyboarding and basic computer programming (coding). Students will check out library books during their media and coding CAMP class with Mrs. Johnson. Mrs. Kilby will continue to teach our music classes. We look forward to their fabulous PTO programs this year. Mrs. Prince will be teaching media arts. This is new and exciting for students as they will be learning how to use the computer for presentations and productions. Mrs. Gardner is teaching the visual arts, and Coach Miller and Coach Foy are planning a great year in physical education! We are looking forward to a super 2019-2020 school year here at ULPS!

PARENT TIPS FOR SUCCESS at ULPS
 Michele Daniel, Family Engagement Coordinator
 706-646-9405/ mdaniel@upson.k12.ga.us



Michele Daniel is the Family Engagement Coordinator for the system. She is located at ULPS. Please stop by her classroom/office to meet her and see what she has available for you! Please remember to take our 2019-2020 Fall Parent Survey: <https://forms.gle/5yRig779TLEdD8WT6> The survey takes approximately 5 minutes to complete and you only take it once per family.

Welcome parents! We want your child to have a great year, but we need your help! What can you do to support your child's success at ULPS? Be sure that you are doing the following:

- ***Be sure that your child is at school and on time.** No learning takes place when your child misses school.
- ***Be a role model.** Your kids should see you reading, working through problems, learning from mistakes, etc. ... Be enthusiastic about learning! Talk to your child everyday about what he/she has learned.
- ***Keep on reading.** Read every night with your child. Good reading is the greatest predictor of school success. We work hard to ensure that your child gets good instruction and help at school, but all children need reading practice at home.
- ***Be involved.** Know what's going on in the school and classroom – support it, enrich it.
- ***Applaud the effort.** Praise hard work and persistence –not just outcomes. Make praise specific. “Way to go! You learned one more word than you did last week.”
- ***Communicate.** Stay in touch with the teacher. Write a note in the agenda, e-mail, text, or call for a conference, etc. Teachers want to hear from parents!
- ***Never give your child an excuse NOT to do well.** Regardless of how you feel, always talk positively about the school and teacher in front of your child.
- ***Be sure your child does his homework, but DO NOT do it for him.** Try to set a specific time and place for homework every day. Stay close to help your child, if needed. Homework is a review; so, if it takes too much time and your child is really struggling, let the teacher know.

Check out the school website (ulps.upson.k12.ga.us) and district website (upson.k12.ga.us) to keep up with what is going on in our schools. We are also on Facebook (Upson-Lee Primary).



**Georgia
 Parent Mentor
 Partnership**

Welcome! It's going to be a great school year! This is my 3rd year as the parent mentor for this system. I would like to take this opportunity to tell you about my job and briefly introduce myself. The Georgia Parent Mentor Partnership is an initiative by the Georgia Department of Education, created in 2001 to improve the relationship between parents (and guardians)

whose children receive special education services at school. Thomaston-Upson Schools has participated in this program since 2009.

It is important for you to know that every parent mentor must have a child who is/has received special education services. My husband and I have two boys, Jess (26), and Jacob (21). Both graduated from ULHS. I taught in the system for 33 years and retired at the end of 2017. In August of 2017, I began this wonderful job! I have always wanted to help other special needs students and parents to try to make their journey easier, and I hope I can fulfill that dream.

My oldest son, Jess, has a rare genetic disorder called Tuberous Sclerosis. He has seizures, is non-verbal, and very developmentally delayed BUT is a sweetheart. He loves people and attention. He currently attends the local day program in Thomaston. He also lives in a residential setting/house in Thomaston with three other fabulous young men and wonderful caregivers. We are truly blessed! My youngest son, Jacob, graduated from ULHS in 2016. He attended Southern Crescent and graduated from there in July 2017. He is currently working as a welder for a local company and is working on starting his own business, West Georgia Welding Service, also. I am very proud of my boys.

I believe in public education and the importance of community support and grassroots advocacy. I also strongly believe when parents are actively involved in their child's education (whether they are receiving special education services or not), children do better in school, and life beyond school.

I am available for parents at my office which is located at Upson-Lee Primary School, by phone 706-646-9470, or by email lmcswain@upson.k12.ga.us. I also try to make myself available to parents through home visits, trainings, educational meetings, and IEP meetings throughout the year. I look forward to meeting you and your child. Please remember, I am here to help and offer support to parents, children, our schools, and our community.

LORI MCSWAIN

THOMASTON-UPSON Schools Parent Mentor

ULP Knights of Honor



Kindergarten

Back: Eva Guzman, Tucker Fogarty, Rylan Robinson, Jaylah South, Aubree Kate Kelly
 Middle: Colton Tyson, Kyran October, Kingston Respress, Oakleigh Henry, Arabellah Spraggins
 Front: Rowan Basilici, Emma Mercer, Rose Helms



First Grade

Back: Africa Jones, Owen Prater, De'Aja Skelton, Abby Seeley, Mason Reviere
 Middle: Ronald Hand, Mckenzie Allen, Jordan Bridges, Jase Gross, Charlotte Stinchcomb
 Front: Destiny Bedgood, Jessie Conaway, Ariyah Bell



Second Grade

Back: Alivia Scogin, Sam Thompson, Mackenzie Cochran, Olivia Childs, Brayden Williams
 Middle: Emmalyn Cook, Caden Ragsdale, Wesley Hall, Noah Craig, Behrett Simonds
 Front: Messiah Williams, Brayden Rudy, Asher Wilson

GOAL

Musical!

Join us as we sing about the value of good sportsmanship, setting goals, being a part of a team and more!

2nd Grade PTO Chorus Program

TU Fine Art Center

Oct. 1 at 6 PM