

# BRIDGEPREP MONTHLY BULLETIN

September/Septiembre 2018

www.bridgepreptampa.com

BridgePrep Academy of Tampa  
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## Principal's Message

Dear BridgePrep Family,

What a wonderful start to the 2018 - 2019 school year!! Our success would not be possible without our dedicated and supportive families. As you know, we take pride in all our students and enjoy recognizing exemplary behaviors. Our behavior system helps our students strive to make responsible choices and become role models for their peers. We attempt to use language as opposed to colors to help our students understand complements and consequences to their choices. Every student begins the day on "ready to learn" on a visual wheel in each classroom. From here, their choices determine whether they will move around the wheel to "Role Model", or "Stop and Think". Every student is given the chance to start over when they transition from one class to another. (ex: from Math to Spanish). These choices give them multiple opportunities throughout the day to reach their goal for exemplary behavior. We transition the outcome of the wheel to Class Dojo in grades K-4 and use only Class Dojo for grades 5-8. It is CRITICAL you connect with your homeroom teacher to set up your Class Dojo account.

We combine positive behavior system with our Character Trait of the Month. It is critical children are in the classroom by 8 AM to be a part of the character initiative we call Harmony. Our daily morning meetings are held the first 10 minutes of class in every homeroom. This is where children are recognized by their peers, engage in talking strategies to problem solve or compliment, and share their thinking as a team. We publicly recognize behavior through monthly "Citizenship Awards," postings on our school Bulletin Board and with our parents via Class Dojo. We hope to empower our students with the knowledge of positive reinforcement, collaboration, and succinct procedures sometimes needed to encourage smart choices.

We hope you will join us in this endeavor! Your weekend updates should share the Character Trait of the Month for family discussions. As always, we thank you for all you contribute to create a healthy, enjoyable, and academically successful school environment.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Harris

Christine Harris M.Ed.

Principal BridgePrep Academy

K-8 South Tampa

## Welcome BridgePrep Families!

### Welcome to Spanish

### ¡Bienvenidos!

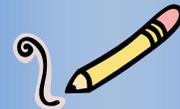
¡Hola! A warm greeting from the Spanish teachers. We are very excited to be part of your child education. Learning a second language is a great opportunity for their future. We encourage parents to motivate your children to practice the language beyond the classroom. During the month of August, while practicing procedures and routines in our classroom, we have been working with greetings and reading short stories. Soon we will incorporate technology in our classes, with Istation in Spanish.

National Hispanic Heritage Month is from September 15<sup>th</sup> to October 15<sup>th</sup>. During this time people recognize the contributions of Hispanic and Latino Americans in the United States and celebrate their heritage and culture. We will be working on a variety of projects during this time where students will learn more about the Hispanic culture and their contributions to this country.

We hope they enjoy their learning experience. ¡Adiós amigos!

¡Hasta la próxima!

## Upcoming Events



September 3<sup>rd</sup> – Labor Day  
(No School)

September 11<sup>th</sup> – Fall Picture Day

September 11<sup>th</sup> – Monthly PTC Meeting

September 13<sup>th</sup> – Grandparents Breakfast

September 17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> – Parent Teacher Conference Week

September 27<sup>th</sup> – Family Dinner Night

## Character Trait of the Month

### Respect

Showing high regard for authority, for other people, self, for property, and for country: and understanding that all people have value as human beings.

## BridgePrep Academy of Tampa Mission Statement

BridgePrep Academy believes every child learns best in a safe, nurturing and stimulating environment where high academic expectations, self-esteem, good character, and an appreciation for the arts are promoted. BridgePrep Academy's mission is to provide a challenging academic curriculum that will encompass an enriched Spanish language program, technology and experiences that will enable students to develop globally. BridgePrep Academy's goal is to educate well rounded individuals and enable students to reach their maximum potential.

## Classroom Collaborations

### Welcome to Kindergarten

Our first month has been all about learning the everyday procedures of school and focusing on the fundamentals.

We are learning to become a community of friends through our Harmony program.



### Welcome to First Grade

In reading we will be working on concepts of print as well as fiction vs nonfiction. Our writing will consist of a sketch and plan to form our sentences into paragraphs. Science is getting exciting with working as Scientists do, making observations with our senses to learn about the world around us. This month in math we are focusing on addition using pictures to solve and work through word problems. Creating addition sentences to solve.

### Welcome to Second Grade

We are looking forward to starting a new month next week and new fun activities.

In my science class we're learning how scientists think and what important tools they use to solve problems. We are practicing and preparing for our own inquiry, classroom projects, and our science project coming a little later this year. In Math we're writing different ways to write a number using place value and numbers in expanded form. Next month we will be working on counting within 1,000, patterns and place value to 1000, more expanded form of numbers, and number names to 1000. Yes, it gets more rigorous as we go but we will always find ways to have fun learning with manipulatives and math games. By the way, some of my students made a game for the class. Can't wait for them to try it out!!

Second grade has finished beginning-of-year testing and will now begin to address our curriculum! In September, we will be working on strategies and skills to make us great readers and writers! In reading, we will work on asking and answering questions about fiction and informational text. In writing, we will be creating personal narratives or stories. In social studies, we will be talking about how we can be good citizens in our communities by being aware of rules and responsibilities.

Student - "Can we read with our eyes closed?"

Teacher – "No, but we can close our eyes and visualize after we read."

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

## Classroom Collaborations

### Welcome to Third Grade

Hello parents! As the first month of school comes to a close and we enter the second, I would like to give a few updates. In math we will soon finish and test on our unit of addition and subtraction strategies. We will then begin our units on understanding multiplication and division. In science we will continue looking into the scientific method by conducting STEM Fair projects. Please be prepared to assist your child IF they choose to do their projects on their own. More information will be forthcoming. We will also begin investigating forms of energy.

The 3rd graders are wrapping up their baseline testing and we are reviewing a ton of dynamic data related to your child's reading and comprehension levels, as well as their potential for proficiency on FSA. I am looking forward to sharing this information with you during our conference week. We will be finishing our novel study of Because of Winn-Dixie and testing our knowledge of its major story elements. Please encourage your child to use Achieve 3000 at home. They need to complete the ENTIRE lesson. Ask them to explain these directions to you as we have reviewed their importance frequently. Of course I am always here for you if you have any questions!

### Welcome to 4<sup>th</sup> grade

Hello from the 4th grade team! Last month, we all got to know each other and learning each other's personalities. Now that the beginning few weeks is up, we are familiar with the rules and expectations, it is time to get down to business. This upcoming month, we will be doing some exciting activities. In Language Arts, we will begin a novel study on the popular book (and movie) *The BFG*! In Math, we will be studying multiplication and division, which is a very important part of math, not only in 4th grade, but beyond. Energy and motion will be the topics of study for Science.

### Welcome to Fifth Grade

We have had an exciting start of year! We build paper pencil boxes and tested them to see which could hold the most amount of pencils. We also build crayon towers and competed to see which team's tower the tallest. We are finishing up our beginning-of-year testing and are transitioning into our content for all subjects. In Social Studies we created our own Florida Maps, using what we have learned about reading physical & political maps. For Language Arts, we began reading our first Novel study *Tale of Despereaux* during our Book Club center.

### Welcome to Middle School

Hello Bridgeprep Bears! I hope you had a wonderful school year beginning. I'm so excited to have such enthusiastic and bright students in my classroom this year. The junior historians will be discovering the origin of the human species and the beginning of civilization. Our Civics students will be learning how to be a responsible citizen by acknowledging the rights and duties of a good American. Last but not least, 8th-grade senior historians will be researching and studying about the Age of Exploration. Ms. A's math classes are all in full swing. We are practicing old skills, encountering a lot of new concepts, and growing a lot in the process. It has been a challenging few weeks, but, to quote A League of Their Own, it is that hard that makes it great.

"An exciting month has been planned for our Science classes this September. 7th & 8th grades have been involved in their own experimental design. This is where the students are provided materials and guidance, but they actually create their own lab procedures! 6th grade will also be experimenting with some interesting labs, comparing variables from control groups with their experimental groups. As a first year Science teacher here at Bridgeprep Academy, I am amazed every time these students step into this Science classroom. Their brilliance and creativity continue to shine!

## Classroom Collaborations

### Welcome to Art

Art is fun!

We are learning about the elements of art and how to use them. We are going to keep learning how using lines and shapes we can create anything. Middle school students will keep learning about art history different art movements. I love watching my students have fun and make beautiful art!

### Welcome to Music

Hello BridgePrep Music Fans!

There is so much excitement in the music classroom!! We have been dancing to a "Paso Doble" from Mexico, singing patriotic songs and learning about how composers from the past have influenced our music as we know it today. During the month of September our elementary school students will continue learning two songs in Spanish: "Atencion, Atencion" and "El Arbol" Meanwhile, our middle school students will be learning about Latin Jazz, Latin composers and Latin instruments to honor our "Hispanic History Month"

Be on the lookout for our new BPA Chorus debut at our Family Dinner Night Thursday, September 27<sup>th</sup>.

Have a sweet musical day!!!

### Students enjoying a craft after listening to a Teacher Read-along at our Barnes & Noble Book-Fair



### Welcome to Gym

Hello BPA Bears!

The school year is getting off to a great start in PE! We have learned the rules, how to warm up and how to stretch so we do not harm ourselves while enjoying our sports!

Our Elementary and Varsity Soccer teams are working hard. We hope you can come out and cheer them on at their upcoming games this month. Go Bears!

Please remember that the students need proper shoes for PE.



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