



# Croc Chronicle

CONNERTON ELEMENTARY  
24-25 FAMILY NEWSLETTER

## May 26-30 Peek of the Week

Monday 5/26	<b>NO SCHOOL!</b>
Tuesday 5/27	<b>-FAST testing makeups</b> <b>-5<sup>th</sup> grade kickball tournament – students vs staff!</b> <b>-Kindergarten Water Day</b>
Wednesday 5/28	<b>-3<sup>rd</sup> grade picnic</b> <b>-Wax Museum project in media center</b> <b>-5<sup>th</sup> grade graduation at PVMS at 6:30</b> <b>-Wear Class Colors or Spirit Shirt</b> <b>-Wind Down Wednesday Read Aloud at 7:00 (“Connerton Elem. School” Facebook page)</b>
Thursday 5/29	<b>-5<sup>th</sup> grade celebration (all day)</b> <b>-1<sup>st</sup> grade picnic</b> <b>-2<sup>nd</sup> grade celebration</b>
Friday 5/30	<b>-5<sup>th</sup> grade clapout 10:00</b> <b>-4<sup>th</sup> grade luncheon</b>

### Student Absence

Please click on the link to excuse your child from school: [Absence Form](#)

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Spotlights

Check out our 5<sup>th</sup> grade Spotlight posts on Facebook! All fifth graders are invited to participate; please check with your child’s teacher for more information.

### Like/Follow our Facebook page

Our goal is to connect with you more effectively and keep you updated on all the wonderful activities and events happening at our school.

This is a fantastic opportunity for you to stay informed and see firsthand the amazing things our students are doing. We encourage you to join our Facebook community and spread the word to fellow parents.

Here's how you can participate:

1. Search for our Facebook page at **Connerton Elem. School**
2. Click "Join" and follow our page.

Thank you for your support and involvement in making our school community stronger.



We know that our staff is second to none and works hard each and every day to make Connerton a great place to learn and thrive! What we don't always know are the specifics of what our staff has done to make the student and family experience GREAT! Please take the opportunity to let someone know how much you appreciate their hard work. You can use the link below or use the link on the Connerton website.

**WE LOVE ALL THE LOVE YOU'RE SHOWING US!! WE FEATURE ALL OF YOUR SHOUT-OUTS IN OUR STAFF WEEKLY NEWSLETTER AND IT MEANS THE WORLD TO EVERY PERSON WHO IS SPOTLIGHTED...THANK YOU AND KEEP THEM COMING!**

[Staff Shout-Out](#)

[PTA Information](#)

[Order Connerton Spirit Gear](#)

**CONNERTON  
ELEMENTARY PTA**

ATTENTION: TEACHERS, PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS, FAMILY AND FRIENDS

**STEP #1**  
**JOIN PTA TODAY**  
BY BECOMING A PTA MEMBER YOU ARE ADVOCATING ON BEHALF OF ALL CHILDREN, INCLUDING YOUR OWN. ONLY A \$5 MEMBERSHIP FEE AND NO FURTHER COMMITMENT IS REQUIRED. SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT THE LINK.  
<https://coes.givebacks.com/>

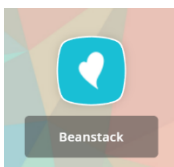
**STEP #2**  
**VOLUNTEER/DONATE**  
WE CAN DO A LOT TOGETHER. EVEN JUST ONE HOUR OF YOUR TIME IS TRULY VALUABLE AND APPRECIATED.  
NO TIME? NO PROBLEM. THERE ARE MANY PROGRAMS WITHIN CONNERTON ELEMENTARY THAT COULD USE EXTRA FUNDING.  
EMAIL US FOR MORE INFORMATION  
[connertonpta@gmail.com](mailto:connertonpta@gmail.com)

**STEP #3**  
**STAY IN THE KNOW**  
AS A PAID MEMBER YOU'LL RECEIVE E-MAIL COMMUNICATION REGARDING UPCOMING SCHOOL EVENTS AND WHAT THE PTA HAS PLANNED.  
**DID YOU KNOW?**  
THE CONNERTON CROC'S NAME IS CHAMP

[Don't forget to log your reading on Beanstack!](#)

**Keep reading and logging those minutes!**

Step 1 - Find the Beanstack app on the myPascoConnect dashboard.



Step 2 - Select the green tab on the far-right side.

Welcome back, Kacey! Connerton Elementary School

**[Webinar] Learn More About the 2025 Winter Reading Challenge**  
 Join us on Nov. 13 at 3:00 PM ET to learn about our 2025 Winter Reading Challenge: Be a Reading Machine, sponsored by Baker & Taylor. We'll cover challenge prizes, tips for success, resources, and more!  
[Register Here](#)

**83,136** / 750,000 minutes Update Goal

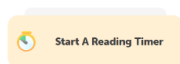
[View Reader Experience](#)

Step 3 - Select “Log Reading” on the top left side to start the timer or use the calendar to log past minutes.

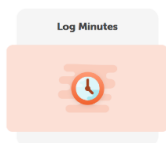
**Log Reading** **Write a Review**

Step 4 – Select how you want to keep track:

What do you want to log?



OR



Step 5: If choosing, “Log Minutes,” enter the book title and log your reading.

Learn more about R.A.C.E. to Read Pasco! (Link to <https://bit.ly/467mSDg>)

## Volunteer Information

The District made several changes to our volunteer requirements and application process for the 2024-2025 school year. Effective 7/1/2024, all volunteers will be required to complete a Level 2 background screening every 5 years. This background check will review records in the state of Florida as well as the national FBI database. The cost for this screening is \$41.25 and volunteers will be responsible for paying this cost. The District will pay the yearly monitoring fee for each volunteer. To keep your prints current, you must complete the Raptor application yearly. If you do not reapply by the deadline provided, you will be responsible for the cost associated with a new background screening.

Before you can be approved to volunteer for the 2024-2025 school year, you will need to complete a Raptor volunteer application and this background screening.

You can access the 2024-2025 Volunteer Application on July 1st, 2024. This application will be posted on the Volunteer Programs page of our website at the following link: <https://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/hreq/page/volunteer/>.

The District partners with Fieldprint for fingerprinting appointments and processing. Fieldprint has locations throughout the county and many sites are open outside of regular work hours, including weekends. The code listed below is now active. We would encourage you to be printed as soon as possible to avoid any delays once the application opens. Please use the following directions to schedule a fingerprinting appointment:

1. Go to the following link: [FIELDPRINT SCHEDULING](#).
2. Select “sign up” if you have never utilized Fieldprint before.
3. Select “I know my code” from the dropdown menu when prompted to do so.
4. Enter the following code, “FPPASCOVECHSVol”.
5. After selecting your appointment, you will be prompted to make the payment.

The following is a list of offenses that disqualify individuals from approval. [Disqualifying Offenses](#).

Any other felony offenses, crimes against children, and/or violence will be reviewed in accordance with the District’s Professional Review Committee. This committee is responsible for reviewing background screenings for employees, vendors and volunteers.

Please note the average processing time for reviewing and approving background screenings is 30 days. We encourage you to complete your volunteer application and background screening early so that you can be approved to volunteer for upcoming events and opportunities for the 2024-2025 school year.

We know this additional background screening places a financial responsibility on our volunteers, but the District believes this step is necessary to ensure we have up to date background information pertaining to all adults that interact with students and staff on our campuses. Our students’ safety is always our first priority.



# Resources and Tips for Parents of Third Graders

Pasco County Schools aims to ensure that all third-grade students have the necessary reading skills to be successful in grade four and beyond. To be promoted to fourth grade, a student must score a Level 2 or higher in reading on the statewide standardized English Language Arts assessment. The English Language Arts assessment will be administered in May.



## Reasons to read more

Beers, Kylee & Probst, Robert. *Disrupting Thinking: Why How We Read Matters*. 2017



**Builds Knowledge**



**Improves Achievement**



**Increases Motivation**



**Increases Vocabulary**



**Improves Writing**



**Builds Background Knowledge**



**Improves Understanding of Text Structures**



**Develops Empathy**



**Develops Personal Identity**

**Encourage your child to read at least 30 minutes a day and to finish a chapter book per week.**

**To access digital text for your child to read at home:**

As a courtesy, Pasco County Schools provides all students with access to digital resources through myPascoConnect. Please assist your child in selecting appropriate books, articles, videos to build knowledge around topics of interest.

**Help your child select texts they want to read.**

- Talk to your child about their interests (i.e. space, sports, dance, music, animals, video games, robotics, and etc.)
- Make connections to topics they are learning in science, social studies, reading so they can continue to build content knowledge.

**Encourage your child to read different types of literature and informational text.**

Here are some sample questions you can ask your child when they are reading.

### Literature/Fiction

*Fables, fairy tales, folk tales, legends, myths, poetry, verse, mystery, science fiction, historical fiction, etc.*

- What lesson did you learn from the story?
- What challenges does the main character face and how do they overcome those challenges?
- How do the illustrations contribute to your understanding of the text?
- What are some of the key events in the story?

### Informational/ Non-fiction

*Magazines, newspapers, non-fiction books, research, speeches, infographic, biography, etc.*

- What are you learning from the text?
- What have you learned from the text features in the text?
- What are the most important points and details presented in each text?
- What are you still wondering that you want to learn more about?



Section 1001.25(5), Florida Statutes (F.S.), is to be promoted to fourth grade, a third grade student must score a Level 2 or above on the statewide standardized English Language Arts Assessment. Also, a parent of a student in grade 3, who is identified anytime during the year as being at risk of retention, may request that the school immediately begin collecting portfolio evidence.

[www.pascoschools.org](http://www.pascoschools.org)

Pasco County Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex/gender, religion, national origin, marital status, disability, age or genetic information in its educational programs, services or activities, or in its hiring and employment practices. For more information about equity policies, visit: <https://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/page/teachers>



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