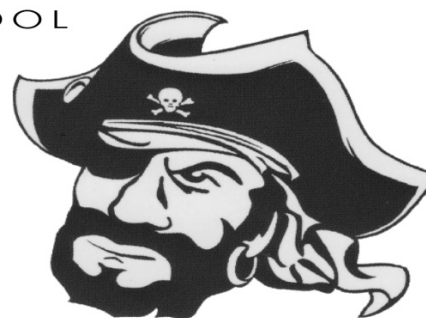


FAIRHOPE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL  
www.fairhopeintermediate.com

*The*  
**PIRATE'S**  
*pride*



***The Captain's Log**, by Principal Broughton*

It is so right to have the kids back! Smiles and laughter linger in the halls as they build a new community of friends and teachers. We are focused on the learning of each child. We have high expectations for the students and ourselves. I coined a phrase early in my journey of parenthood and each morning as my children headed out the door to school, I would remind them – "You're living to learn and learning to live". I didn't quite realize the gravity of my statement at the time – I just knew that my children were responsible for their learning and that learning was a life-long journey. I knew that sometimes learning was as easy and joyful as eating ice cream, but I also knew that sometimes learning was difficult – even painful and required extreme determination. As we begin a new journey of learning with your child, there is excitement in realizing the potential they hold in creating their own future. We will provide the building blocks and you will be the mortar providing strength and guidance throughout this journey. The plan is clear – be innovative, creative, consistent and curious!

**September**

- 6 Bike to School Day
- 9 Scantron Testing Window Opens
- 11 Reading Testing
- 12 Math Testing
- 19 Frios Spirit Night: 3:00-8:00  
downtown at the Sweet Shop
- 30 Red Ribbon Banquet

**Perseverance, commitment, courage – these are words of success!! We will lead, guide and model success for your child – We will support and cheer them on in the difficult times – Now let's get going!**

**Words to help you with our new grading guidelines**

**Why are we talking about grading?**

**County-wide, we are focused on the integrity of grades – Fairhope Intermediate has always tried to be fair and honest in our grading. We have not inflated grades with coloring sheets or crossword puzzles just so Johnny makes the A Honor Roll however, we can still communicate why we do what we do in a better way. Your child will earn the grade they receive by the work they produce.**

\* **Formative Assessments:** These are teaching tools intended to allow teachers to gather data and adapt/adjust the instruction to meet the needs of the students. These can be formal or informal in nature because they are simply intended to give the teacher a quick snapshot of how students are comprehending the standard. Teachers will be grading a minimum of 4-6 of the formative assessments but they may choose to gather data more frequently with formative assessments so that they can adapt their instruction as needed. For ex. I'm teaching double digit multiplication – I'm going to assess students along the way – change or re-teach as needed before the final test or summative assessment.

\* **Summative Assessments:** Final Tests – These are given at the end of a unit and intended to reflect what your child learned. If your child scores 59 or below – we will reteach and retest one time – no more or we would be compromising the test itself. The scores will then be averaged and recorded. We will continue to have student-led conferences so that they can explain to you what happened and why. I believe the kids will rise to the expectations set before them. You nor I can make them do what they need to do nor, can we do it for them. Let's just insist and encourage them!

