

# Welcome to the 2024-2025 School Year!



Mrs. Bilowus's Class

Grade 4

# All About Mrs. Bilowus

## Favorite Resources

- \*Brainpop
- \*PearDeck
- \*WIXIE
- \*Google Suite
- \*Scholastic News
- \*ESTI Mysteries



## About Me

- \*From Flanders, NJ
- \*Oldest of 3 siblings
- \*Grad of Grove City College
- \*Married Nov. 2023



## Favorites

- \*Hiking
- \*Pizza
- \*Music
- \*Videography
- \* Movies
- \*TEACHING!



# Daily Schedule

## Fourth Grade Schedule

8:35 - 8:55	Arrival
8:55 - 9:15	Morning Meeting
9:15 - 10:15	Math
10:15 - 11:00	Content
11:00 - 12:00	Specials
12:00 - 12:30	Lunch
12:30 - 1:00	Recess
1:00 - 1:30	Falcon Time
1:30 - 3:25	Language Arts
3:25 - 3:35	Pack & Stack
3:35	Dismissal
































































This  
year we  
will focus



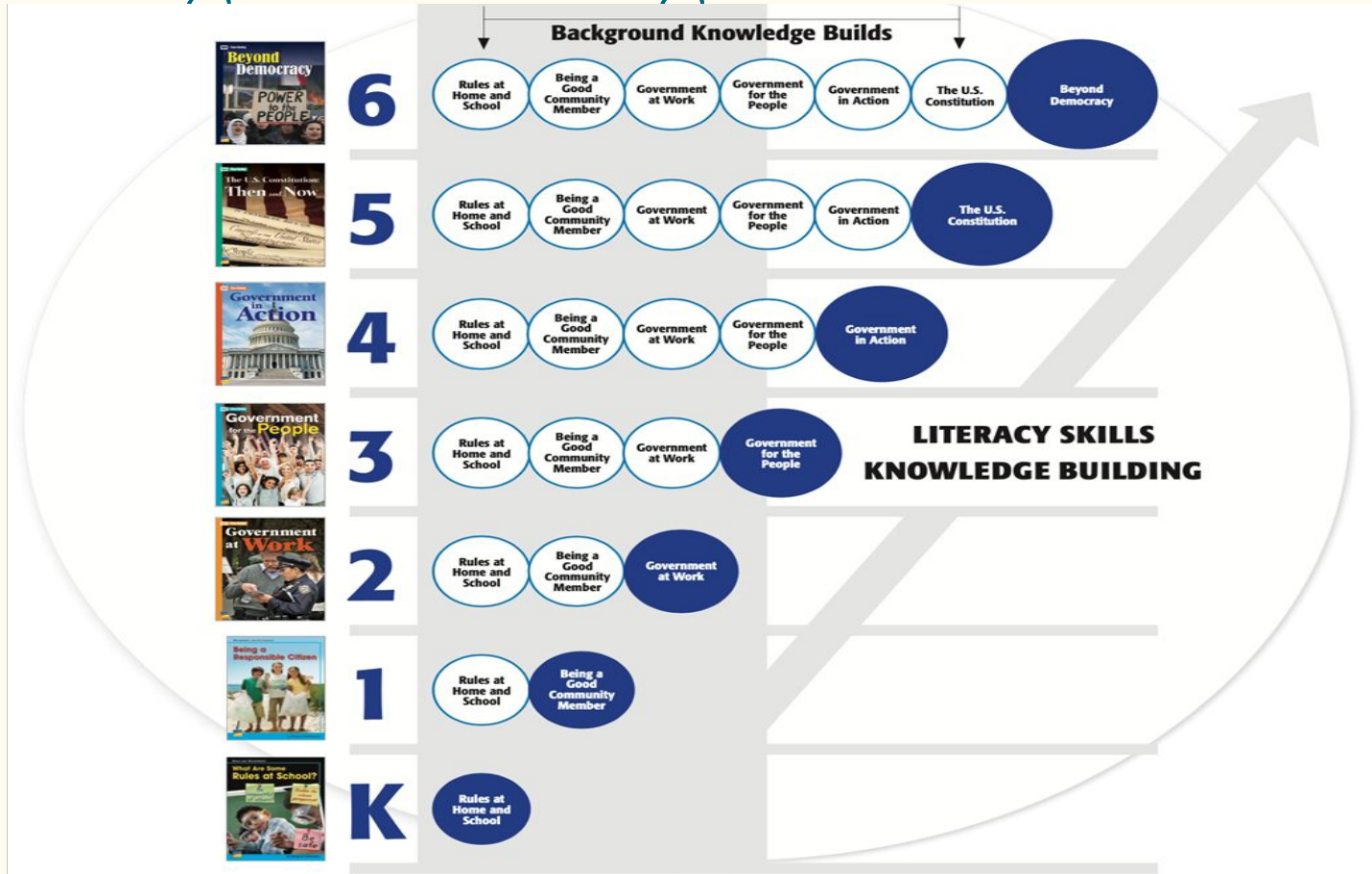
# Our New Curriculum for K-6



# Common Topics, K-6

Unit	Knowledge Strand	GRADES						
		K	1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>1</b>	<b>Life Science</b>							
<b>2</b>	<b>Character Matters</b>							
<b>3</b>	<b>Government and Citizenship</b>							
<b>4</b>	<b>Perspectives in Literature</b>							
<b>5</b>	<b>Technology and Society</b>							
<b>6</b>	<b>Themes Across Cultures</b>							
<b>7</b>	<b>History, Culture, and Geography</b>							
<b>8</b>	<b>Earth Science</b>							
<b>9</b>	<b>Economics</b>							

# Growing Knowledge over Time



# Essential Questions Get More Complex

## Unit 1: Life Science

### **Plants and Animals Have Needs**

Why do living things have different needs?

Kindergarten

### **Animal Adaptations**

How do living things survive in their environment?

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

### **Relationships in Nature**

What roles can we play in the balance of nature?

6<sup>th</sup> Grade



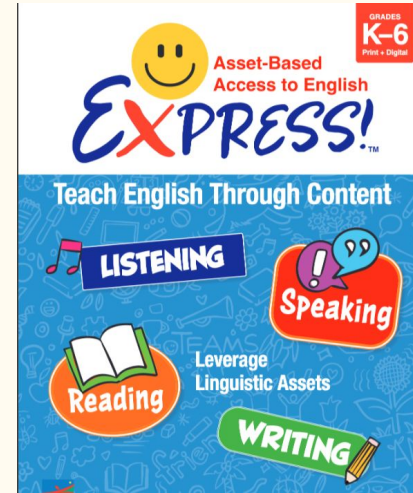
# Core Instruction & SWD

Benchmark Advance has numerous scaffolds and supports to assist all teachers in providing core instruction responsive to the needs of students with disabilities.



# Core Instruction & Multilingual Learners

Benchmark Express is the English Language Development curriculum that complements Benchmark Advance in providing tier 1 instruction for multilingual learners.



Benchmark Advance includes scaffolds and supports for multilingual learners.

# Core Instruction & AAP

All students receiving Advanced Academic services will participate in Benchmark Advance, which includes extensions for advanced learners. In addition to inquiry-based research embedded in Benchmark, each quarter will focus on at least one supplemental AAP ELA curricular resource to be used throughout that quarter.

## Advanced Academic Programs (AAP)

Fairfax County Public Schools offers a continuum of advanced academic services for students K-12 that builds upon students' individual strengths and skills and maximizes academic potential for all learners.

# Math

- To develop fluency with whole number multiplication and apply an understanding of the inverse relationship between multiplication and division
- To develop an understanding of decimals as part of the base ten number system
- To develop an understanding of the connections between fractions, decimals, and whole numbers
- To apply understandings of fraction models to represent addition and subtraction of fractions

# Advanced Math

- To refine and extend understandings of division of whole numbers
- To develop an understanding of and fluency with the relationship between fractions and decimals
- To develop an understanding of and fluency with computation of decimals and fractions

If you have any questions about Advanced Math, please email Becky Timm, AART @ [retimm@fcps.edu](mailto:retimm@fcps.edu).

# Number sense routine

Which doesn't belong?

9	16
25	43

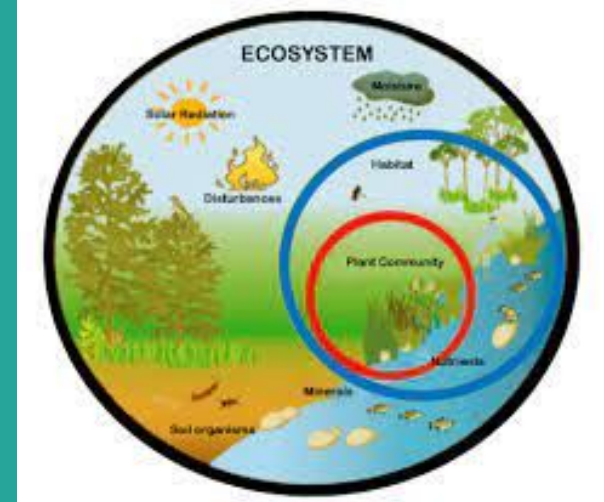
# Number sense routine

What is the same? What is different?



# Science

- Scientific Investigation
- Virginia Ecosystems
- Space
- Oceans





# STEM Challenge



# STEM Challenge

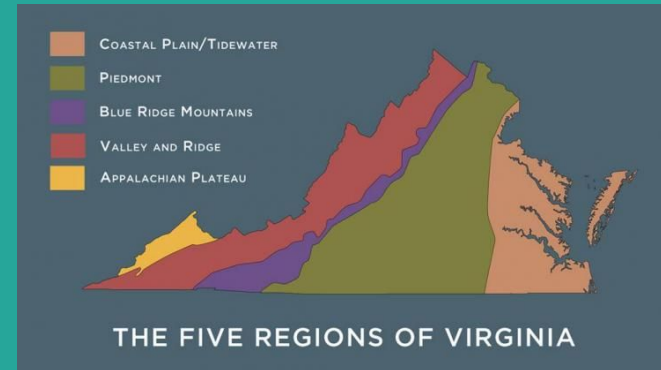


- Creativity
- Collaboration
- Problem Solving



# Social Studies

- Rights and Responsibilities
- Analyzing and Using Primary and Secondary Sources
- Geography
- Virginia History
- Reconstruction and Segregation
- Civil Rights
- 20th Century Virginia



# *Responsive Classroom*

We will promote an  
academic, socially,  
and culturally  
responsive learning  
environment for our  
students.



# ONE

SCHOOL | COMMUNITY | WORLD

#ONEkindactVienna

**ONE** Kind Act can change the world

...

We are continuing our ONE  
campaign and growing our  
growth mindset.

**You Belong Here !**



# Communication

Dear Families,

Wow! What a wonderful first week of school! We enjoyed getting to meet our fourth grade classes and learning about each of the students.

Here are some friendly reminders:

- On **Wednesday, August 31st from 6:00-7:30** we will host our Back to School Night! More information to come, but please save the date!
- **Registration for Strings closes on September 6th.** Please see the additional information below from Mr. Barger.

Please see the information below for the week in review and looking ahead to next week!

Week in Review	This past week we worked on building a classroom community. The students also worked as a team to complete a fun cup-stacking STEM challenge. We are impressed with how well our students are collaborating and following our classroom routines.
Looking ahead	Next week we will cover the following concepts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Language Arts</b> - Creating a community of readers and writers</li><li>• <b>Math</b> - Learning about our students as math mathematicians as well as exploring the ST Math computer program.</li><li>• <b>Social Studies</b> - Explore primary and secondary resources as we begin our Virginia geography unit. Students will also learn about our One Kind Act Campaign!</li></ul>

Weekly Newsletters  
will be shared with  
you this year via  
email.

# Conferences

- Sign-up genius will be sent out to you in October to begin signing up for conferences.



# Report Cards and Standard Based Grading

Report Cards will be available in  
ParentVUE on

**Tuesday, November 12th @ 6am**

\*paper copies will be sent home for Q1



# Grade Level Events

- National Symphony Orchestra
- Gunston Hall



# Volunteer Opportunities

- Courtyard Cleanup
- Room Coordinators
- Celebrations
- Field Trips



“No significant  
learning can occur  
without a significant  
relationship.”

~James Comer

# 3 Hour Early Release Days

We have **7** Mondays where the students will be released at 12:35pm to allow for teacher planning and professional development.

September 23

October 28

December 9

February 24

March 17

April 28

May 19





# FLINT HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

*parent teacher association*

Please consider joining, if you haven't already!

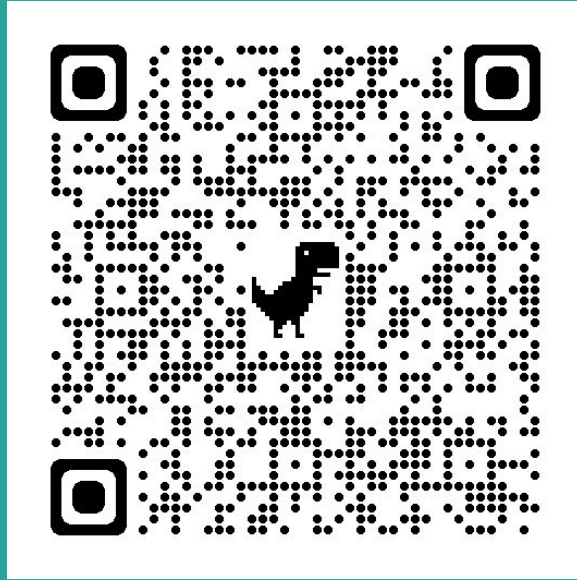
FLINT HILL  
PTA

[Learn more  
about our PTA](#)

The PTA supports our school by:

- Classroom Technology
  - Teacher Materials
  - Field Trip Expenses
  - Teacher Training
  - Community Building
- And so much more!

# Questions?



Thank you for coming!

# Before you leave....

- Please see your child's hopes and dreams
- Look at the mind map t-shirts in the hallway
- Write a note to your child