



THE SHOOTING STAR



Sarasota Academy of the Arts

December 1, 2014

2014 - 2015, Volume 2, Issue 16

Principal's Corner

I hope everyone had a relaxing and enjoyable Thanksgiving. Are you ready for

December? There are only three weeks until the Winter Holiday, and upon return from it, only one week until the end of first semester.

This time of the year gets busy for everyone including the students. So check out the school calendar that Kelly Marsh sends you and the one posted on this website. (Remember that you have to refresh your page to show updates.) There are field trips for K-5 for Florida Studio Theatre and choral performances K-2. Picture retakes will be Thursday, Dec. 4. Then the middle schoolers leave to perform at Disney early Friday.

Progress reports will be coming home with the weekly packet for grades 4 through 8. The teachers of the younger students will be sending narratives or scheduling conferences in the near future. You can always go to the parent portal on Cross Point to see a breakdown of grades and attendance.

There is no testing scheduled for this week, but we are close to the dates for 7th grade EOC mid-term exam in civics and algebra mid-term EOC as well as the 8th grade assessment simulation for the new writing test. Students need to be present for the preparation. The writing assessment is being given in grade 4 through 8 with only 8th grade taking it on the computer. All of the students will have to read two passages then write a response to a prompt relating to what they have read. This is new this year. We will have the simulations for grades 4 - 7 after the winter break.

As mentioned last week, the middle school students were able to attend the student performance of "South Pacific" at the Asolo on Tuesday. The performance was wonderful and led to interesting discussions in classes later in the day. The students are to be commended on their "theater" manners and behavior. Another thank you to the Community Foundation for the grant to cover the cost of tickets and transportation.

We have had many students and teachers out of school with various viruses, ranging from winter colds to the flu. Please encourage your child to practice healthy habits, especially hand-washing during these times. If your child is running a fever of 100 or more, he/she should stay home. you know we want them here, BUT only if they are healthy.

Have a wonderful week!

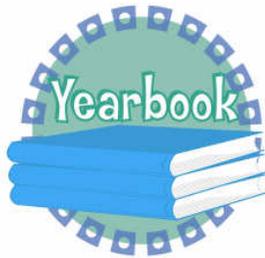
Upcoming Dates:

Be sure to check the [SAA Calendar](#) on the school website frequently as that has the most current information!

- 12/2: FST Field Trip
- 12/3: 1st & 2nd Grade at Woodlands Village
- 12/3: SAC Meeting @ 4:15pm
- 12/4: SAA Board Meeting @ 8:00am
- 12/4: Picture Retake Day
- 12/4: Kindergarten at Heron's East & Heron House
- 12/5 - 12/6: Disney Field Trip

Want to sign up to volunteer your time at SAA? Please follow the link below to see spots available.

<http://vols.pt/Jginqw>



It's time to order yearbooks! Be on the lookout for the flyer coming home this week! The order forms are due December 12th! The yearbooks are hard cover, full color books filled with lots of memories throughout the school year and will be handed out the last week in May. Be sure to pre-order yours as we are only ordering the number books that are paid for ahead of time. The books are worth every penny, and will be treasured for years to come, so be sure not to miss out!

Want to help spread some holiday cheer?

New, unwrapped toys needed for the kids in the Pediatric Unit of Sarasota Memorial Hospital. **Toys needed now through December 12, 2014**



The needs of the pediatric unit at Sarasota Memorial Hospital are year-round as illnesses do not just happen around the holidays. Many children spend all kinds of holidays, birthdays, and special occasions in the hospital. While a toy does not make up for that lost time, it does help them forget about their illness for a little while and escape into playtime.

This drive is of the few sources of toys for the pediatric unit for their year-round supply. Please help us make a difference, donate a new unwrapped toy and bring some smiles year-round to the kids at SMH!

Best wishes for a happy holiday season!

Picture Retakes - Dec. 4th

Hello SAA families, if you had any errors in your photo packages, incorrect names on student ID cards, or just want to have your student's photo re-taken, then please return the complete photo package to the SAA office. Photos will be retaken on Picture Day, Thursday, December 4th.

We have picture retake forms available in the office, so please drop off your complete original photo package by Tuesday, December 2nd, and stop by and pick up a retake form and send it in with your student on Thursday, December 4th.

SAA Now Tweets!

Yes, you heard that right! Sarasota Academy of the Arts has joined the Twitter world! Be sure to follow us @SAACarter and stay up to date with things happening around our



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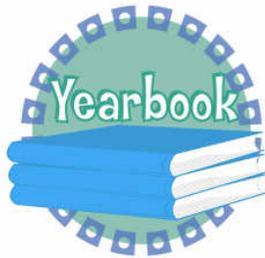
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