THE SHOOTING STAR

Sarasota Academy of the Arts April 23, 2018 2017 - 2018, Volume 5, Issue 31

Principal's Corner

Another packed week has passed. In case you missed something, the third graders had a wonderful evening at the museum with their "Wax Museum" of historical figures. All of the figures, dressed in the costume of their period, had their prepared speeches to share with visitors. It was obvious they had researched their person, prepared their display boards and were ready to share. It was a most enjoyable and impressive evening. A special thanks to the Beta Club and Student Council members who helped set up the area and serve the refreshments provided by the PTO and third grade parents.

Saturday the expected rain held off so the spring drama show, "Bring a Chair and Food to Share", could be presented in the reading garden as planned. Students and guests shared refreshments and settled back to watch the performances of the drama and dance students. These students have a love of theater and demonstrated their enthusiasm by giving up afternoons and a Saturday to share what they do. Many of these students are also in the Spring Musical, *Footloose*, and along with academics devote many extra hours to their art. I know they appreciated the families who came to watch them.

It is exciting to see the arts department presentations expand from mainly musical theater to include the drama and visual arts departments. We have had choral productions, drama, and the talent show, as well as musical theater this year. The second graders will be presenting their original plays in May and you will soon have an opportunity to see what students in the visual arts programs have been doing. Please join us for the student art and reading fair in the evening of May 3rd. Student art will be displayed throughout the campus for you to enjoy.

Monday the kindergarten class will present *Winnie the Pooh* at the Glenridge Performing Arts Theatre. Tickets are $10.00 per seat. You can buy them at the door if you have not already purchased yours. The show starts at 6:00 PM.

Other scheduled events -

- First through fourth graders will go to the Van Wezel Friday morning to see *Mummenschanz You & Me.*
- Governing Board will meet for a work session Thursday at 8:30 AM.
- 5th grade Math FSA - Monday
- 4th grade and 8th grade ELA/Reading FSA Tuesday and Wednesday
- 5th grade Reading/ELA FSA and 7th grade Math FSA - Thursday and Friday

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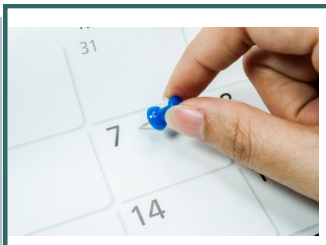

Upcoming Dates:

Be sure to check the SAA Calendar on the school website frequently as that has the most current information!

Monday, 4/23/18
- 5th FSA Math
- 9:30am Kindergarten Rehearsal
- 5:30pm Winne the Pooh (K)

Tuesday, 4/24/18
- 4th FSA ELA
- 8th FSA ELA

Wednesday, 4/25/18
- 4th FSA ELA
- 8th FSA ELA

Thursday, 4/26/18
- 5th FSA ELA
- 7th FSA Math

Friday, 4/27/18
- 5th FSA ELA
- 7th FSA Math
- 9:30am 1st - 4th Van Wezel

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In answer to the questions regarding safety and security, we are continuing to explore ways to heighten security at SAA. As you are aware from media reports, there are many unknowns as to how to best comply with the legislature's mandates. We are gathering information and prices on cameras and better fencing/gates. And we are expecting more information from the district office to help us in decision-making in May. We do know that the amount of designated money we get from Sarasota County Schools for next year includes about $11,000 for safety and security and about $2000 for mental health programs. We will keep you informed as we prepare to be ready for the 2018-19 school year.

We are just past the mid-point of the final quarter so Dr. Kopacz and I are carefully checking all student grades. You can see where your child stands through the parent portal. While we certainly expect all of our students to progress to the next grade, we will be sending letters to parents of students about whom we have concerns. Even if a student is struggling now, there is still time to improve grades in the next five weeks. Encourage your child to keep up with assignments and study for tests. I trust all of the eighth graders are continuing to finalize their plans for next year. (Don't forget Graduation is on May 21 at the Knights of Columbus Hall.)

Have a great week!

Cecilia Blankenship
Principal

Volunteer Hours Report

Letters went home a couple of week ago regarding your volunteer hours. If you believe the hours are incorrect, make sure that your student is listed in your volunteer account, as that's how hours are linked (by family) and reports are pulled by student.. It's a simple fix to update your volunteer account information. If you have any questions, feel free to get in touch with Kelly Marsh at kmarsh@sarasotaacademyofthearts.com

LOG VOLUNTEER HOURS

Don't wait until the last minute. **All hours MUST BE LOGGED IN to the Volunteers Count computer (located in the office) by May 1st** at the latest.

SAA Art Show & Reading Fair

Thursday, May 3rd

4:30-6:30

Free admission
Free Hot Dogs
Note: ***Parents must be present for students to attend***

*4th grade bake sale
*5th grade will be selling drinks