



THE SHOOTING STAR



Sarasota Academy of the Arts

November 18, 2013

Volume 1, Issue 10

Principal's Newsletter



We have several things of note on the calendar this week. Mr. Matt and I will be attending the Florida Charter Schools Convention Tuesday through Thursday

in Orlando. Kelly Marsh will accompany us as a Governing Board member. We are looking forward to learning new ways to make our school better. Since we were fortunate enough to receive one of the start-up grants from the Florida Department of Education, we will spend Tuesday morning on procedures for using the grant money and reporting. While we are gone, you can contact Mrs. McHugh or Ms. Owens if you need immediate assistance. Both have been school principals and will be glad to help you.

The elementary students (K-5) will attend Florida Studio Theater on the 19th. Please return the permission slip if you have not done so, and don't forget to wear your SAA Spirit Shirt! A snack will be scheduled before leaving at 10:45 with lunch upon return at 12:45.

The middle school students will have a schedule change on the 20th so they can tape their winter show. Boys will eat lunch at 11:30 and tape from 12:00 - 2:00. Girls will have classes during that time and tape from 2:00 - 4:00 while the boys have classes.

We will have our first SAC meeting Thursday at 5:30, it will only last 1/2 hour. Please attend if you have signed up for this committee. Also, please let me know if you cannot attend.

Friday we will have an Ice Cream Social ceremony for our Honor Roll students. Please be on the lookout for envelopes containing their awards certificates and other special recognitions that will be coming home on Tuesday.

Please continue to send in canned goods for the Mayors Feed the Hungry Campaign. This is being coordinated by the SAA Student Government Council. Pick-up is planned for the morning of the 22nd.

This week congratulations go out to The Sarasota Seminoles football/cheer team, and particularly team members Jai Heckman and Cameron Kiser-Gilmore. The team won the third round of their playoffs and will advance to the "Super Bowl" in Lakeland. Let me know when other students compete or win awards or perform services that are noteworthy as we want to share in their successes!

Please return the signed report card envelopes to the office. Mid-quarter progress reports come out soon!

Have a great week,
Cecilia Blankenship

Upcoming Dates:

- November 18th - Basketball Game against Imagine School Palmer Ranch
- November 19th - FST Field Trip
- November 19th - Basketball Game against Imagine School North Port
- November 22nd - Honor Roll Ice Cream Social (see Page 2)
- November 25th - Basketball Game against SLA
- November 27th-29th: Thanksgiving Break
- December 3rd - Basketball Game against Palmer Charter
- December 5th - SAA Board Meeting
- December 5th - PTO Meeting



Mayors Feed the Hungry Thanksgiving Food Drive

The Food Drive ends this week! All items will be picked up on Friday, November 22nd so please continue to send in non-perishable food items.





UPCOMING EVENTS

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Volume I, Issue 10
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A signed [Note from Home](#) must be turned in for all Absences, Tardies and Early Dismissals. We've custom-made one for you for your convenience. It's located on the SAA Website under the Parent's Corner tab as a drop-down item.

Feel free to print it out, and either fax it to the office at 941-404-4492, or send it in with your student. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Bechtel in the office at 941-377-2278.



PALS Clarification & Level 2

Please remember that you CAN NOT volunteer or fulfill your required hours if you are not PALS approved. There are MANY parents that have not gone through the process yet and we want to make sure you are able to fulfill your volunteer hours, and able to meet the Parent/Student contract obligations.

Also, if you are planning on chaperoning for any out-of-county field trips (i.e. Disney trip in December), you must first be PALS approved, then you will need to obtain Level 2 clearance through the PALS office. This requires a more in-depth background screening, along with fingerprinting.

The Level 2 background check and fingerprint screening takes a couple of weeks to complete, so the sooner you do that, the better. You will need to call the PALS office to make an appointment for Level 2 screening. The cost is \$38. 941-927-9000, X 31500.

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Honor Roll Ice Cream Social

On Friday, November 22nd we will have the First Quarter Honor Roll Ice Cream Social. Students in 2nd through 8th grade, who earned straight As, and Honor Roll will be invited to attend. We need help with set-up, passing out ice cream and clean up. **Volunteers are needed from 1:30pm—4:00pm and must be PALS approved.**

Friday, 11/22: 2nd-5th 2:00pm – 2:55pm

Friday, 11/22: 6th-8th 3:00pm – 3:55pm

This is a great way to fulfill some of your re-

quired volunteer time for the year while celebrating our honor roll students. Volunteer spots are filled on a first come, first served basis so please contact Kelly Marsh to sign up: kmarsh@sarasotaacademyofthearts.com.



We are also asking for donated items such as ice cream, ice cream scoops, disposables bowls, spoons, sprinkles & various toppings such as M&Ms, marshmallows, chocolate syrup, and anything else you can think of to make this a spectacular event for our students that have worked so hard this quarter. These items can be dropped off the day before or during the morning drop off. Thank you for all your support!



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