



THE SHOOTING STAR



Sarasota Academy of the Arts

April 6, 2015

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Principal's Corner

I hope you enjoyed your mini-vacation with your families and the students returned to school refreshed and ready to tackle the last quarter of the school year. Teachers had to submit their grades submitted by noon today, so you should now be able to see just where each student stands academically after that time. Report cards will be sent home the week of the thirteenth.

If you come to the office to drop off or pick up students, you will see the equipment on campus as the new playground is installed. As you know, we were fortunate to have been awarded the charter school start-up grant when SAA opened. We are in the last stages of implementation and have been able to use the funds for many projects we could not have afforded otherwise. Since 2013 we have used the money to purchase most of the furniture, all textbooks and instructional aids for two years, active boards for all of the classrooms, computers for the computer lab, and about \$7000.00 worth of library books. We have recently added sixty Dell laptop computers and 60 Android tablets that will be in the hands of students at all grade levels as soon as teacher training has been completed. The arts program is being expanded and enhanced by the addition of sound equipment for the music department, items for the art department, and audio-visual equipment for the theater department. Funds were also used to purchase computer software and professional development courses to further enhance the knowledge and skills of the teachers.

On Monday, K, 1st, and 6th will have the hearing screening and students in K-3 will take part in the fire safety program. Eight 7th graders will travel to Tallahassee Monday evening to participate in the Rally in Tally on Tuesday in support of charter schools. Last week the 6th graders attended the Embracing Our Differences exhibit which will be on display at Sarasota Island Park throughout April and May.

There is no FSA testing this week, but please be aware that next week, 4/13-16, the 5th, 7th, and 8th graders will be testing in science and English. This week we will be using the i-Ready program to progress monitor the kindergarten through 2nd graders. The third and fourth graders have finished all of their standardized tests for the year!

Please watch for information from Mrs. Julie regarding the elementary music programs. Posters and tickets will be available this week. You can continue to buy tickets for the middle school performance through the Players Theater box office.

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!

- 4/6/15 - 4/9 (K - 2 Ready Progress)

- 4/6/15 - Student Council Meeting @ 4:00pm

- 4/8/15 - SAC Meeting @ 4:15pm

- 4/10/15 - Ice Cream Truck @ SAA

- 4/13/15 - 8th Grade FSA ELA

- 4/14/15 - 8th Grade FSA ELA and 5th Grade Science

- 4/15/15 - 7th Grade FSA ELA

- 4/16/15 - 7th Grade FSA ELA



RAYS SPIRIT NIGHT - April 18th, 2015

Ticket order forms are due tomorrow for the Spirit Night with the Rays on April 18th when the Rays take on the New York Yankees.

Lower Level tickets will be offered for \$24 (\$50 value) and Upper Level tickets for \$19 (\$26 value). A portion of each ticket sold will benefit Sarasota Academy of the Arts. Additionally, the school with the most participation will get a visit from Rays' mascot, Raymond, and the Rays Street Team during the 2015-2016 School Year!

We have attached a ticket order form to this newsletter. It is also available on the SAA website.

The **deadline to order tickets is Tuesday, April 7th by 9:00am** (please note we cannot accept orders after this date - NO EXCEPTIONS!)

Missing Volunteer Hours in PALS

We have pulled a report of all the volunteer hours up to this date and there are a TON of hours missing in the PALS computer. We know many of you have completed hours, by going on numerous field trips, PTO functions, assisted in the classrooms, helped out at school events, etc. but these hours not properly reflected in PALS.

Inputting your volunteer hours is CRUCIAL for us to receive the Golden School Award and retain our 5 Star status, of which the application is due in a few weeks.

PLEASE input all your volunteer hours into the PALS system by Friday, April 10th.

We count on all our volunteers and appreciate your support so much, but so many of you have not logged your hours into the computer so we (and you) are not getting credit for them.

Thank you so much for your understanding and your assistance in bringing your hours up to date!