



THE SHOOTING STAR



Sarasota Academy of the Arts

January 12, 2015

2014 - 2015, Volume 2, Issue 20

Principal's Corner

Good afternoon! What a beautiful day! We are so fortunate to be here in Sarasota with temperatures in the seventies!

Tomorrow (Monday) starts the second semester and with it more preparation for state-mandated testing, as well as the spring musicals. It will take the involvement of teachers, parents, and students to carry us through successfully. Every school has the same testing calendar, but since SAA is a performing and visual arts charter school, we also have those activities on our calendar. Both areas take a lot of work!

Our second through fifth graders are working daily in computer lab honing their math skills through the Success Maker program and the fourth and fifth graders continue to work in IXL as well to improve their math. Kindergarten through third grade have added Raz-kids, an online reading program, to their schedule. The fourth through eighth graders are working diligently on their writing skills. We're counting on these supplements to the teacher instruction and assignments to support our students in reaching a level of proficiency in math and English language arts. (Even the themes of the kindergarten through fourth grade musicals relate to their math and language arts skills!) Please encourage your children to put forth their best effort to master the skills. Students should spend part of their homework time on these topics and should visit the FSA site to practice. Continue to read nightly and practice math facts.

The third through fifth graders will continue with their FAIR testing in reading this week. Please be on time daily as the testing starts first thing in the morning. We still have a few students who are late almost every day. It is especially important in grades K through 4th that students are on time because that is the reading block. It is so important that students become proficient in reading; it affects everything they study. Along the same line, please remember that Literacy Week is coming up and we hope you will participate. There is information on the weekly events attached to the information packet for this week.

Please remember to send in your enrollment information for next year. There have been a few changes to the parent/student contract which will be sent home shortly. We are certainly hoping all of our students will be returning!

Watch for information regarding the end-of-year trips for all of the classes. We have some great things planned and will be sending notices home soon. The middle schoolers will be sponsoring some fund raisers to help defray the cost of buses. We want everyone to be able to participate.

Have a wonderful week! Don't forget school is closed Monday and Tuesday of NEXT week (January 19th & 20th).

Cecilia Blankeship, SAA Principal

Upcoming Dates:

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

- 1/12/15 - Student Council Meeting @ 4:00pm
- 1/15/15 - SAA Board Meeting @ 8:00am (Open to the Public)
- 1/15/15 - Spring Musical Auditions (6pm - 9pm)
- 1/17/15 - Ringling Bridge Run (Run Club)
- 1/19/15 - MLK Day - No School
- 1/20/15 - Professional Day - No School
- 1/21/15 - SAC Meeting (School Advisory Council) @ 4:15pm



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The SAA Run Club will be participating in the Ringling Bridge Run on Saturday, January 17th. Please contact Sabrina Lugo at slugo.lawoffices@verizon.net for more details.

Yearbook Deadline:

We have extended the deadline to January 16th to purchase the 2014-2015 yearbook! We know that the holidays were a busy time of year, and the yearbook order might have gotten overlooked. So if you did not purchase a yearbook back in December, you still have time!



Don't miss out on this great opportunity to provide a wonderful keepsake for your child and celebrate and remember the school year. If you would like to purchase a yearbook, please fill out the form that was sent home back in December, or pick one up in the office. Orders that come in after that date cannot be accepted as we have a deadline to meet.

The money should be placed in the envelope provided. Please note that orders will not be accepted without payment.

The yearbook is going to be amazing, so don't miss out!

Student Council Meetings

The Student Council will meet on specific Mondays, from 4:00pm - 4:45pm. See the dates below. If your student is a Student Council Member, they are required to attend.

1/12/15	3/16/15
1/26/15	4/6/15
2/9/15	4/13/15
2/23/15	5/04/14

January 26th - 30th is literacy week at Sarasota Academy of the Arts. As part of this activity, we are collecting books old or new. We will be using these books in our school. We will also give students the opportunity to earn books to take home with them.



If you have books at your house that your children are tired of or have out grown we would love to have them. Any type of book in any condition is fine. Please send them in with your child or drop them off in the SAA office.