



THE SHOOTING STAR



Sarasota Academy of the Arts

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Principal's Corner

Last week was the final week of the first quarter and teachers have almost all of the grades entered. The deadline for them to finish is Wednesday, Oct. 29. After that date, you will be able to view your child's report online through the parent portal. Sarasota County is no longer printing report cards, but if you do not have access to a computer or printer, we will print you a copy. You can, of course, print your own copy from any computer. Please let us know by calling the office or sending an email if you need assistance accessing the site or printing a copy.

As I am sure you have heard on the news, Sarasota County School's network was down last week and some areas are still not functioning. This does not effect our students as we are on an independent network. It does affect you if you were trying to email the teachers through gradebook. For the time being, please email outside of gradebook. We are scheduled to have the civics and algebra benchmark assessments this week; however, that may have to be postponed as they are accessed through Angel Learn, a district site.

We are encouraging students to practice tests through the FLDOE website, www.flassessments.org. They will be practicing here at school as well to prepare them for the technology end of the tests. You can have them access the practice website at home to assist with this. Please remember to encourage your child to read nightly and to practice math facts to increase math fluency. Whether we like the testing methods or not, accountability is necessary. All of us must work together to support our students and give them the tools they need to be successful.

The weekly information packet will have letters regarding the music program for kindergarten and middle school as well as a coupon for Chick-Fil-A (October 30). Please look for them. Halloween parties will be on Friday, Oct. 31. Students may dress up, but should remember the dress code is still enforced. We are requesting that "scary" or "horror" masks not be worn. There will not be a middle school Halloween Dance. Instead there will be a Fall Dance on November 14 for students in grades 6 to 8.

Fall picture make-up date has been changed to Wednesday, November 12.
Have a great week!

Upcoming Dates:

- 10/29 - 5th Grade at Woodlands Village Field Trip
- 10/29 - Secret Garden Show for 3rd Graders
- 10/29 - Blood Drive at SAA (11:00am - 2:00pm)
- 10/30 - ChickFila Fundraiser
- 10/31 - K - 5 Halloween Parties
- 11/2 - Daylight Savings Ends (Don't forget to set your clocks back an hour!)
- 11/5 - Advanced Show Choir at Bay Village (9:30am - 12:00pm)
- 11/5 - Advanced Show Choir at Woodland Village (5:00pm - 8:00pm)
- 11/6 - Honor Roll Ice Cream Social
- 11/7 - Fall Festival

Want to sign up to volunteer your time at SAA? Please follow the link below to see spots available. There are TONS this time of year so don't delay meeting your required hours.

<http://vols.pt/Jgjnqw>



SAA is participating in a lifesaving blood drive with SunCoast Blood Bank in honor of one of our students, Hannah Marsh! Hannah, a Sarasota Academy of the Arts 6th grader, was diagnosed with a rare immune disorder, known as Hemophagocytic Lymphohistiocytosis (HLH), when she was 5 years old. She was completely transfusion dependent requiring blood and platelets for four months while waiting on a bone marrow match. This blood drive is being held to celebrate her 6 year transplant anniversary and to pay it forward. A Bloodmobile will be on campus on Wednesday Oct. 29th from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Please sign up through Kelly Marsh to make an appointment to give the gift of life. Appointments are available from 11:15am through 1:45pm in 15 minute increments. She can be reached via her cell at 941-350-3767 or email at kmarsh@sarasotaacademyofthearts.com.

Calling all Middle School Families

We are excited to present the official SAA Middle school T-shirt for the 2014 - 2015 school year. Please help us in congratulating Erik Martinez, 6th grader. He was the winner for this year's middle school shirt design!



We will need to order a minimum of 48 shirts so please get your order in by October 31st. They are \$10 each and will be printed on a royal blue T shirt.

If any of our K-5 families want to order the shirt as well, just note that smaller YOUTH sizes are not listed on the order form, but you can just write in the size you want, just make sure you note somewhere that it is YOUTH size that you want. The same goes for shirts on the larger size. Please note that there may be an additional charge for larger sizes.

We will use these shirts on Spirit Days, various school events, and field trips throughout the year.

[Click HERE to order](#). Please turn in the order form, with payment (cash or check) payable to SAA.

Fall Festival - Save the Date!

Sarasota Academy of the Arts invites you to join us at our Fall Festival on Friday, November 7th from 1:00pm - 5:00pm. We will need TONS of PALS APPROVED volunteers throughout the day as well as some cakes for the cake walk and donated baked goods! If you make a cake or donate some baked goods for the Bake Sale table, you'll get one hour of volunteer time!

Be sure to check the Volunteer Spot Link to sign up!
<http://vols.pt/Dpxdy8>

Honor Roll Ice Cream Social

On Thursday, November 6th, we will have the 1st Quarter Honor Roll Ice Cream Social. We need help with set-up, passing out ice cream and clean up.

Volunteers are needed from 12:45pm-4:00pm and must be PALS approved. Sign up through the following link at Volunteer Spot: <http://vols.pt/n9cy8L>

We have many volunteer slots available, and many items needed. If you sign up to donate an item, please make sure we have it in the office THE DAY BEFORE so that we can plan accordingly.