



THE SHOOTING STAR



Sarasota Academy of the Arts

November 25, 2013

Volume 1, Issue 11

Principal's Newsletter



Thank you to all of the students who brought in food for the Mayors' Feed the Hungry campaign. Overall over 50 tons of food was

collected and the students at SAA certainly did their part! I will have the exact numbers from the Student Government tomorrow. The officers and representatives counted and boxed all of the items which were picked up Friday afternoon. Our Student Government consists of Slade Williams, President; Hayley Walding, Vice President; Molly Boyas, Secretary; and Hajar Benjoud, Treasurer.

The Florida Charter Schools Conference proved to be very interesting. There's a lot of legislation under consideration concerning school choice in Florida. We'll keep you up to date as things progress. We were able to attend classes on a variety of topics and talk to school leaders across the state and we even won a couple of prizes. We talked to vendors about updating our technology so watch for new additions to the classrooms.

Last Friday was the ice cream social for honor roll students. All the students attending seemed to have a good time

and we look forward to having even more students participate at the end of second quarter. Thank you for all of the donations and assistance. Congratulations to the girls' basketball team on their win last week! There are only a few games left in the season. Come out and support the team!

You should receive progress reports this week. Please ask for them. Also watch for a letter from Mrs. Julie regarding upcoming performances and costumes. It's that time of year! Some of the middle schoolers will be performing at the Ringling Museum and at Downtown Disney. All grades will perform at area assisted living facilities as part of their community service.

Kelly Marsh has posted the [Show Schedule](#) under the Parent's corner tab on the SAA website so please review it when you get a chance.

We are in session only two days this week. Have a great Thanksgiving holiday! See you in December!

Cecilia Blankenship

Upcoming Dates:

- November 25th - Basketball Game against SLA
- November 27th-29th: Thanksgiving Break
- December 3rd - Basketball Game against Palmer Charter
- December 4th - PTO Meeting @ 6:00pm - NOTE: DATE CHANGE! It was originally scheduled for the 5th.
- December 5th - SAA Board Meeting
- December 5th - Basketball Game against SSAS
- December 6th - Spirit Day!
- December 9th - Basketball Game against Palmetto Charter
- December 16th - Frosty Follies





THANK YOU!! Thank you to all the awesome volunteers for coming out to make the Honor Roll Ice Cream Social last Friday a great event for our Honor Roll students. . . we couldn't have done it without you! Thank you also to everyone that contributed with donations of ice cream, and all the wonderful toppings! Our students worked very hard to earn such a great reward, and they enjoyed every minute! Without everyone's part in this event, it would not be possible!



Photos are posted in the Photo Gallery on the SAA website, see for yourself what fun they had!

Toy Drive for Sarasota Memorial Hospital

The needs of the pediatric unit at Sarasota Memorial Hospital are year-round as illnesses do not just happen around the holidays. Many children spend all kinds of holidays, birthdays, and special occasions in the hospital. While a toy does not make up for that lost time, it does help them forget about their troubles for a little while and escape into playtime. This drive is one of the few sources of toys for the pediatric unit for their year-round supply. Please help us make a difference, donate a NEW, UNWRAPPED toy and bring some smiles year-round to the kids at SMH! Take advantage of the upcoming Black Friday sales to get some great deals. Many companies are also offering free shipping this time of year!

If you'd like to participate, please donate a NEW, UNWRAPPED TOY for this drive. A collection bin is available in the SAA office, and toys will be collected now through **December 13th!!**



Communication

Did you know that all of our previous issues of the Shooting Star Newsletters are on the SAA Website? So if you ever miss an issue, you can always check it out online.

Also if you are not receiving our emails (we send several a week), then you are missing out on important information. Please be sure and keep your contact information updated, especially your email address. If you have changed any information since you registered your student, please contact Kathy Bechtel in the SAA Main office to update our files. She can be reached at (941) 377-2278.

Our PTO Needs YOU!

Our next PTO Meeting has been changed to December 4th because of several conflicts on the 5th. It's held at school at 6:00pm.

Our meetings cover all kinds of topics, not just fundraising efforts, and we discuss many things happening at school, future plans, and how YOU can be a part of it. Also, please note that the previous meeting minutes are posted online so that you can keep up to date with what's been discussed up until this point. Hope to see you on the 4th at 6:00pm!