



THE SHOOTING STAR



Sarasota Academy of the Arts

December 15, 2014

2014 - 2015, Volume 2, Issue 18

Principal's Corner

Isn't it amazing the way we try to cram so much into a few hours at this time of year? Most of us are busy getting ready for the holidays but we still have five more days of school to deal with!

On Monday morning the 2nd through 8th graders took a simulated writing assessment from 8:00 to 10:15. This will give both the students and the teachers a first look at the new FSA Writing Assessment. The format is entirely new this year and in 4th through 8th grades, the real test in March will become part of the English Language Arts Assessment score. Second and third grades will be assessed on material appropriate to their grade levels. The others will be assessed on a reading passage and prompt determined by the district. Students who are absent will take the assessment later. We feel this is important even though it is not graded because it will give the students a good idea of what to expect later and how long it will take for the various parts. It will also give the teachers a good indication of what areas need to be retaught or emphasized.

Wednesday and Friday will be the Civics Midterm EOC for the seventh graders. Each class will test for 90 minutes beginning at 8:00. Because the testing window ends on the 19th there will be little chance for make-up tests. Please be on time.

The last of the choral presentations will be this week with the fifth through eighth grade program Monday night at Glenridge Performing Arts Center:

- Fifth grade arrive at 5:30; performs at 6:00
- Stellar Force arrives at 6:25; performs at 6:50
- Good Vibes arrives at 7:05; performs at 7:30
- High voltage arrives at 7:45; performs at 8:10.

High Voltage performs again on Tuesday evening. The fifth grade performs on Wednesday morning. The third and fourth grades perform Thursday morning. Holiday parties and/or activities will be Friday. Please check your child's teacher website for detail particular to each class.

All of us on the staff of SAA wish you a joyful and meaningful holiday.

Upcoming Dates:

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

- 12/15: Student Council Meeting @ 4pm
- 12/15: Holiday Show (5th - 8th)
- 12/16: Civics Jam (4:00 - 5:30pm)
- 12/16: High Voltage at Sunnyside (4:30pm - 7:15pm)
- 12/18: PTO Meeting at 6:00pm
- 12/20: Frosty 5K (Twin Lakes Park)
- 12/22 - 1/2: Winter Break





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Come on out on Saturday, December 20th and cheer on our students, and some of our parents at the Frosty 5K taking place at Twin Lakes Park (off Clark Road & I-75). The Frosty 5K starts at 8:00am.

We love our volunteers!

There is always more work to do, than hands to do it, but Sarasota Academy of the Arts would like to recognize all of our volunteers for donating their time and effort to make SAA such a wonderful environment for our students and staff.

It is hard to put into words the importance of our volunteer service, but we simply cannot do what we do without their help and support.

We would like to recognize the following volunteers for going above and beyond to help our school:

- Jill Hutton (20 hours)
- Frederick Thibault (32 hours)
- Leila Newcomb(35 hours)
- Danielle Beatt (100 hours)
- Amanda Leuck (115 hours)
- Kelly Marsh (250+ hours)

If you have not logged in your hours for the 1st semester, please come into the office this week and make sure your PALS account is up to date as we will be pulling a report on Friday.

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.

12/15/14	3/16/15
1/12/15	4/6/15
1/26/15	4/13/15
2/9/15	05/04/14
2/23/15	



Be sure and check out the photo gallery page on the Sarasota Academy of the Arts website. We try to update it regularly with past and current activities.

If you've taken any photos during field trips, performances, or various events, please send photos to kmarsh@sarasotaacademyofthearts.com to be used in the yearbook and on the SAA website.