



THE SHOOTING STAR



Sarasota Academy of the Arts

February 3, 2014

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Principal's Corner

Happy Groundhog Day! Although it looks like six more weeks of winter up North, the weather is supposed to warm up here pretty rapidly. We are hoping that's true!

The PTO meeting will be this Thursday from 6:00 - 6:30 followed by a speaker from the sheriff's department. He will be speaking on and answering questions about internet safety, cyberbullying, and bullying. This should be an informative evening so we hope to see many of you here. We will have something else for students to do because some of the information is too "adult" for them. It was suggested at the last meeting that students whose parents attend be given a homework pass for that night and we are exploring whether that is feasible or not. Parents get to earn volunteer hours for attending!

Report cards will go home for middle school students on Monday. We have not received the ones for the elementary students but expect them to be delivered at the beginning of the week. As soon as we receive them, we will send them on to you. Please sign the envelope and return it to your child's homeroom teacher or to the office. There is also a tear-off that you can return if you have comments or wish to set up a conference.

The deadline for re-enrollment is quickly approaching - February 14. We have received a number of new applicants but want to fill spots with our current students first. So please be sure the application is returned by the 14th. February 14 is also the date for the kindergarten through 5th grade Valentine's Day parties and the Middle School Valentine's Dance. You should have received information about the parties during the day and how you can help out and about the dance Friday evening. Please contact us if you have not as this is another opportunity for volunteer hours.

This month we are starting an after-school program for girls in 5th through 8th grade with the theme of fitness! Students will work on general fitness and drills and skills for girls' basketball for next fall. Whether your daughter plans to play basketball or not, this will be an opportunity to "get in shape". The girls will meet with Traci Williams, parent and organizer, from 4:00 - 5:15 Monday through Thursday. It is not necessary to be here everyday and there is no cost. Please contact Traci at info4traci@yahoo.com for more information. She will be assisting with basketball next year and is excited to start preparing now.

We are continuing with "Run Club", guitar and ukulele lessons, Jump Dance for the youngest students, and rehearsals for leads in "Bye Bye Birdie" in the afternoons as well. The computer lab is open and supervised until 4:30 every afternoon for students who need to work on research papers or projects.

The second graders celebrated the Chinese New Year Friday with a parade through the classrooms. They were quite an impressive set of dragons! Thank you, second graders for sharing what you are learning in class!

Watch for dates of special events in February. There are a number of activities planned.

Have a great week!

Upcoming Dates:

- Enrollment Period: Jan. 1st - Feb. 14, 2014
- February 3 – 21st: Pasta for Pennies! Please send in your loose change!
- February 6th @ 8:00am – SAA Board Mtg.
- February 6th @ 6:00pm - Guest Speaker on Internet Safety & Cyber Bullying / PTO Meeting
- Friday, February 7th is SPIRIT DAY!
- February 14th: Valentine's Parties (K-5)
- February 14th: Middle School Dance from 7:00-10:00pm.
- February 17th: President's Day - No School
- February 18th - Class / Groups / Teams & Panorama Picture Day
- February 20th from 6:00-8:00pm: Family Fun Night at Jump n Fun!
- February 21st: Honor Roll Ice Cream Social
- February 22 - Drama & Dine



VOLUNTEER SPOT GROUP PAGE:

Last week we posted a link for all of our volunteer opportunities, however most of them still have many openings, include the one for this coming week. We still need someone to help on Wednesday, February 5th in the afternoon, while Kathy Bechtel is out of the office. Please click on the link below to go to the group page for SAA and you will find a ton of opportunities to fulfill your volunteer hours.



Please click here: <http://vols.pt/Jgjqw> to sign up for Sarasota Academy of the Arts activities on VolunteerSpot today!

We also have posted many other opportunities from now until the end of April, and these spots are on a first come basis, so be sure and sign up ASAP!

Thank you again for helping out, we appreciate it so much!

Pasta for Pennies

Monday kicks off the Pasta for Pennies Student Council service project.

For the next few weeks, we will help people who are sick with blood cancers like Leukemia, Lymphoma & Myeloma. When someone has a blood cancer, they have to go through treatment for a long time – sometimes as long as three years or more. Did you know that some of the treatments for blood cancers are chemotherapy, radiation and a bone marrow transplant?

Here's how you can help us: Each homeroom will collect coins, cash, checks, online donations to compete for a pasta dinner from Olive Garden. Proceeds benefit The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. The school-wide goal is \$600. Of course, we hope to do way beyond that.

Your participation is crucial. Please help us surpass our goal and help to make a difference in the fight for a cure!



February is Boxtops Collection Month. Please send in any Boxtops you have been saving up. SAA earned over \$300 in the first campaign towards upgrading the art room, and we'd like to earn \$1,000 by the end of the year. Once again, "Star" Bucks can be earned for every 10 boxtops turned in and the class that collects the most "Star" bucks will win a prize!!