



THE SHOOTING STAR



Sarasota Academy of the Arts

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Principal's Corner

If you attended the music performances with kindergarten through fourth grade last week, you saw how SAA is trying to deliberately reinforce basic skills topics through music. And if you visited Selby Library, you saw how they are being reinforced through the visual arts. Students learn through different means and they express what they have learned in many different ways. Thank you to the parents who were able to attend. Your support is invaluable to your child and the teachers. We know many of our students are involved in activities outside of school and that it is hard to attend everything. The fifth grade performance had to be canceled Thursday because too many of the students could not attend that evening. But, we hope you will be here tomorrow night to see and hear what they have been working on in music class.

This week we will be celebrating February birthdays, Valentine's Day with K-5 parties and the 6-8 dance, and Honor Roll for 3rd through 8th grade students. One change we have made in the Honor Roll Ice Cream Social is that we feel it is important to recognize not only the product of the students' work - high grades - but also the process - continuous improvement. Every student is offered the opportunity to make improvement. The process recognizes more than ability; it recognizes effort and determination that might show up as just one grade point higher even if it is not all As and Bs. Truly the two, process and product, go hand in hand. It is vitally important that students, regardless of the starting point, continue to improve. We want to encourage a striving for excellence, not an acceptance of complacency.

Congratulations to all of our students that are demonstrating good work habits and show they are continuing to learn new things. Congratulations to our honor roll students. May they continue to challenge themselves.

Congratulations to the students who participated in the Jump Rope for Heart and Hoops for Hearts. The kindergartners outdid themselves in raising funds and wearing red on Friday. Ask them about the pies for Coach! Thank you for supporting these efforts.

We will be starting the after school program tomorrow to provide math and reading support for those students who need it. We have 28 signed up and cannot take any more names at this time. Please send a snack as it's a long day already. Please remember to pick up by 5:30.

Have a wonderful week!

Cecilia Blankenship, Principal

Upcoming Dates:

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

- 2/9/15 - 5th Grade Music Program @ 5:30pm

- 2/13/15 - Hoops for Heart (6-8)

- 2/13/15 - Valentine's Day Dance (Middle school)

- 2/16/15 - President's Day (No School)

- 2/17/15 - Re-enrollment Forms are DUE!

SAA 2015 Pet Drive

Join us in helping local animals! Bring in blankets, leashes, collars and toys for dogs and cats, to be donated to the Sarasota Animal Shelter and Sarasota Humane Society. Please make sure ALL TOYS are new to avoid health issues.



Honor Roll Ice Cream Social this Thursday!

We will be having our 3rd Quarter Honor Roll Ice Cream Social for our 3rd through 8th graders this coming Thursday February 12th from 1:00pm - 4:00pm. We are also inviting our students that have shown improvement this past quarter.

We will need lots of help with set-up, passing out ice cream and clean up. Volunteers are needed from 12:45pm-4:00pm and must be PALS approved prior to volunteering. We have 15 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. Here is the volunteer schedule for the afternoon, and classes will be staggered in 30 minute increments. 3rd Grade at 1:00pm - 1:30pm, 4th Grade 1:30pm - 2:00pm. 5th Grade from 2:00pm - 2:30pm, 6th Grade 2:30pm - 3:00pm and 7th Grade from 3:00pm - 3:30pm, and 8th Grade from 3:30pm - 4:00pm.

Parents are welcome to attend, and if you are able to volunteer, please sign up through Volunteer Spot. Thank you for all your support!

Bob Evans Fundraiser

The Bob Evans Fundraiser is on Monday from 7:00m—8:00pm. You can stop by the location on Fruitville Road anytime between those hours, and be sure to bring your flyer that was sent home last week. It will need to be presented at the restaurant when you check out in order for us to get credit!



Valentine's Dance

The Valentine's Masquerade Dance will be held this coming Friday from 7:00pm - 10:00pm for our middle school students. Admission is \$5.00. Boys bring a drink item, and girls bring a snack item. If you would like to participate in the pet drive that the Student Council is putting on, Middle School students can bring in donations to the dance.

Family Fun Night!

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, February 24th for our Annual Family Fun Night at Stardust Skate center. Details were sent home last week, be sure to get your ticket order by February 20th!

