



# THE SHOOTING STAR



Sarasota Academy of the Arts

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## Principal's Corner

Can you believe April is upon us? Spring pictures are Tuesday, April 1. We also have an auditor

from Tallahassee who will be checking to see that we are in compliance with regards to the Charter Schools Program grant. So if your child comes home Tuesday reporting that someone was in the classroom looking under desks and chairs, it's probably true! We are ready for them! Every desk, chair, table, and anything else we bought with CSP funds is properly labeled and documented. We were fortunate to be chosen to receive the grant and look forward to receiving the second half of it to use next year.

Thursday will be a great opportunity to take part in student activities including the Spring Book Fair (Wednesday and Thursday), an art show, and a recycled materials fashion show. If you still need volunteer hours, here's another chance to get them. Take a look at the section provided by Kelly Marsh for a list of volunteer opportunities.

Last week was a great week for volunteers! Thank you so very much to all the parents who were here or on field trips supporting our school. Thanks go out to Kristina Swain and the group of students who worked on the referendum campaign. (And thanks to all of you who voted on Tuesday!) So many of you chaperoned the K-5 trip to Florida Studio Theatre Wednesday. That is such a help to the teachers. Every week we see Leila Newcomb (Aurora's grandmother) come to help in the second grade classroom. We appreciate Jean Magee (Katie's mom) who greeted students in the morning carline and worked in the library. Lisa and Rob Martinez (Erik and Nicholas' parents), Karin Dennis (Madison's mom), and Maritza Washburn (Michael's mom) and Michael himself spent many hours Saturday cleaning the grounds and planting flowers. Thank you! And thanks go to Lili Saavedra (Daniela's mom) for helping with the furniture inventory Saturday. I'm sure I'm forgetting who else I saw this past week, but please know that we appreciate whatever time you can give. I'm sure it means a lot to your children as well to see you here. Thank you to everyone who came out to PDQ Thursday night to support the music program.

Teachers will be assigning the FCAT Explorer for homework this week and next in math, reading, and science. The students are working through the tutorials and powerpoints relating to the tests themselves during computer class each day. They are also working in the Rally review books in class. We need your help at home - talk to your child about the importance of preparing for the test, taking their time, and doing the best work possible. Be positive about the test. Tell your child you know that if they have studied this year and have worked on the FCAT Explorer and review tests, they will be successful! Encourage them to use the FCAT Explorer to review. And please return the signed letter sent home regarding the use of electronics during testing.

Students in grades 3 - 8 will be taking the last FAIR (reading) test this week of Tuesday and Wednesday during computer time.

Have a wonderful week!

## Upcoming Dates:

- March 31st– April 4th: SPIRIT WEEK!!  
Monday-Country  
Western Day  
Tuesday - Jersey Day  
Wed - Costume Day  
Thurs - Neon Day  
Friday - Mismatch Day
- April 2nd & 3rd - Book Fair
- April 3rd - Board Meeting at 8:00am
- April 3rd - SAA Family Night at 5:00pm
- April 3rd - Arts Fair from 5:00pm—8:00pm
- April 3rd - PTO Meeting at 6:00pm
- April 11th - Hispanic Fair
- April 19th - Rays vs. Yankees @ 7:00pm

## Need Volunteer Hours?

Here is the Volunteer Spot Group Page that lists many opportunities now through the end of April.

Please sign up today!

<http://vols.pt/Jgjnqw>



## VOLUNTEER HOURS REPORT:

You will be receiving a letter this week stating how many hours you have left to complete to fulfill the required volunteer hours for the 2013 - 2014 school year, as per your Parent/Student Contract. If you do not receive a letter, that means you have fulfilled your requirement and we would like to thank you for volunteering your time and the support you have given us. We simply could not do all that we do without our incredible volunteers!

Please be reminded that the hours report you will receive are hours volunteered through March 27th, 2014. These hours were pulled from the PALS system, based on what you inputted. So if you think you have completed your hours, and it is not reflected in that report, that could be because you have not entered those hours in PALS. If that is the case, please go into the office and update your records accordingly. Another report will be pulled on April 15th.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK:

Lots of opportunities are available this week and we are in desperate need of help on Wednesday & Thursday (but especially Thursday) as we have many slots that are not filled, and cannot run the book fair without volunteers. Go to this link to sign up . . . <http://vols.pt/Wz2tcj>

On Thursday afternoon, we have our SAA Family Night and need help setting up tables, checking people in, sorting through all the orders and getting the food served, as well as selling beverages. We have one hour slots starting at 4:00pm and will run it until 6:00pm. We have 10 slots available so be sure and sign up ASAP! <http://vols.pt/4KDbvg>

## SPIRT WEEK:

This week is SPIRIT Week! (March 31st - April 4th). Here are the themes for the week . . . Get creative and have fun!

- Monday - Country Western Day
- Tuesday - Sports Team / Jersey Day
- Wednesday - Costume Day
- Thursday - Neon Day
- Friday - Mismatched Day

## FAMILY FUN NIGHT, BOOK FAIR & STUDENT ART FAIR:

This coming Thursday, April 3rd, please join us for SAA's Family Fun Night at 5:00pm. Go to this link for details and the order form to pre-order your meals! Stay and enjoy the refreshments provided, and check out the Book Fair, the Student's Art Fair and don't miss the PTO Meeting which starts at 6:00pm - elections will be held that evening for the next school year.

Come be a part of our SAA community and get involved!