



THE SHOOTING STAR



Sarasota Academy of the Arts

April 28, 2014

Volume 1, Issue 30

Principal's Corner

We will finish FCATs this week with 5th graders taking the math test on Monday and Tuesday morning and 8th graders taking the reading tests on Monday and Tuesday afternoons. There are only a few students who need to complete make-up tests and those should be completed by Tuesday afternoon. Then we wait until the end of May to receive the scores.

There is no more testing until the week of the 12th when the second graders and a few of the first graders will take the Stanford 10 Reading Comprehension test, The same week the 7th grade civics students and the 8th grade algebra students will take their end-of-course exams. A passing score on the algebra EOC is needed to earn the high school credit regardless of the student's class grade. The civics EOC averages in at 30% of the yearly grade.

There are events this week on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. The kindergarten through 3rd grades will go to the Van Wezel on Wednesday morning to see a play. The Governing Board meeting is Thursday morning and the PTO meeting is Thursday night. This will be the last PTO meeting for this year. Friday, the fifth graders will take part in a mock trial in social studies class sponsored by The Sarasota Bar Association. The trial will be presided over by Mrs. Andrea McHugh, Assistant State Attorney (and Mr. Matt's wife). The fourth graders will celebrate their hard work throughout the semester with a pizza lunch and "pajama party" through their Social Studies/Character Ed classes with Ms. Garabedian.

A letter will be mailed Tuesday to all students who will be in the 6th through 8th grades next year. We would appreciate a reply by May 12th so we can begin interviewing for new staff members for next year and scheduling students into classes. We are fortunate to be working with a master gardener who will be helping us expand our gardens and incorporate more gardening/landscape design into the science classes at all grade levels. Mr. Koci's third graders were busy pulling weeds and caring for their plants last week. Take a look at what they have growing - pumpkins, tomatoes, and beans.

There are several events coming up in May - a school-wide recognition ceremony for citizenship, attendance, character traits, and academic progress on May 23rd. You will receive more information about that soon. The kindergarten class and the 2nd grade class are planning special events for parents on the 16th. The eighth graders will go to Universal Studios on the 18th and 19th, performing in the park with the SMA choral students. There will be "moving-up" ceremonies for all grades towards the end of the month. Eighth grade graduation followed by pizza and a middle school dance will be May 29th and the fifth graders have an end-of-year field trip on that same day. Then we'll finish out the year with a school-wide luau on May 30th. The last day of school is officially Monday, June 2. Of course, the closest big event is the production of "Bye Bye Birdie" on May 7, 8, and 9.

Have a great week!

Upcoming Dates:

- April 30th - Van Wezel Field Trip
- May 1st - 8:00am SAA Board Meeting
- May 1st - 6:00pm PTO Meeting & 2014 - 2015 Committee Sign Ups
- May 2nd - SPIRIT DAY
- May 4th - Great Mother's Day 5K - Siesta Key Beach
- May 5th & 6th - Bye Bye Birdie Rehearsals
- May 7th, 8th & 9th - Bye Bye Birdie show at SMA
- May 23rd - Recognition Ceremony
- May 26th - Memorial Day
- May 29th - 8th Grade Graduation & Dance

Need Volunteer Hours?

Here is the Volunteer Spot Group Page that lists many opportunities for the next two weeks.

Please sign up today!

<http://vols.pt/jgnqww>



Honor Roll

We would like to give a special acknowledgement and thank our wonderful Honor Roll sponsors who provided the recognition certificates and coupons for our honor roll students. Thank you to Stardust Skate Center, Smuggler's Cove Adventure Golf, Chick-Fil-A on Fruitville Road, Lee Roy Selmon's, and the Broken Egg on Clark Road.

We had three honor roll ice cream socials this school year that were a huge success. A special thank you goes out to our awesome volunteers who donated items, and volunteered their time to help scoop and serve ice cream, dish out toppings, and award our students.

If you would like to be part of honor roll committee next school year, or if you know of any businesses that would like to offer rewards to our students, please contact Kelly Marsh at kmarsh@sarasotaacademyofthearts.com.



UPCOMING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

Moving Sets and Props back to SAA: We will need help getting everything back to SAA at the end of the last show (May 9th) <http://vols.pt/iqhxV9>

Ushers: Could you help take tickets and help people to their seats during the shows? <http://vols.pt/bjTDvX>

Playbill: Julie McHugh needs help putting the playbill together. Does anyone have any experience and could help us out? Please reach out to her directly. <http://vols.pt/XzRNcZ>

Office Help: Kathy will be out of the office on May 6th from 8:00am - 12:00pm. We need 2 people to help out during that time frame. <http://vols.pt/zCanXW>

Lunch Help: During the week of May 12th - 16th, we will need help serving lunch in the lunch room. We would like a couple of people to help out from 11:30am - 1:00pm. <http://vols.pt/YqpAVQ>

DON'T FORGET ...

Our last PTO meeting for this school year will be held this coming Thursday on campus. It will start promptly at 6:00pm. We will have sign-up sheets available for next year's committees and will need lots of helping hands, and appreciate your help and support. We also hope you will consider signing up to chair a committee. It's a great way to fulfill your volunteer hours and help to make a difference!