



THE SHOOTING STAR



Sarasota Academy of the Arts

May 14, 2018

2017 - 2018, Volume 5, Issue 34

Principal's Corner

This past week we had the last of the elementary plays with the fifth graders presenting *Peter Pan*. Once again we were able to see some very talented students who spent so many weeks learning lines, songs, and staging of the show. Thanks to Mr. Bryan and his crew of volunteers who worked on the sets and moved them on and off stage. This week it is the middle school students' turn with *Footloose* being presented at the Players Theatre on Friday. I've been able to be more involved in the spring musical before this year as I have stage-managed the production all four years. This year I will miss it because my grandson is graduating from high school Friday night. I know the students will do an outstanding job and I will miss being a part of it.

Every year the kindergarten through fifth grade students participate in the "Under Six" Write a Play program at Florida Studio Theatres by going to the theater, having the FST performers here, and by writing plays for the FST competition. In addition, the second graders decided to write their own versions of *Cinderella* to perform for the elementary student body here at school. They first spent several weeks studying versions of *Cinderella* and identifying the common elements of the story. Then they divided into groups and wrote their own plays, being sure to include the major elements of the plays in their own. It was a treat to see their interpretations on stage. There was the traditional *Cinderella* (sort of), the pirate *Cinderella*, and the "instagramming" *Cinderella*. Congratulations to the second graders and Mr. Kolowith on a job well done.

We try very hard to live out our mission and vision statements regarding the inclusion of the arts as a means of learning and displaying what has been learned. I think we saw it more this year with the special projects by many of the classes. They ranged from the second graders Chinese New Year parade and *Cinderella* stories to the third grade "History Wax Museum" to the fourth and fifth grade book presentations and the sixth grade plays about exploration and ancient cultures. Other teachers incorporated the arts through projects on a smaller scale in the classroom. Thank you to all the teachers and students who did the work and the families who supported them.

This week we finish up the testing with the 8th grade Civics test on Monday and Tuesday and the high school Geometry Honors tests on Tuesday and Wednesday. Wednesday the second and third graders will be in Tampa for their end-of-year field trips. Kindergarten graduation will be Wednesday night. Then Friday the kindergarten and first graders will be on their end-of-year trip. Finally, the middle school chorus students will be at the Players Theatre of Thursday and Friday for rehearsals for *Footloose*. Fifth graders and non-chorus middle schoolers will go to the theater Friday morning for the dress rehearsal. Another busy week! Don't forget eighth grade graduation is next Monday, 5/21, at the Knights of Columbus Hall. Fourth through eighth grade trips will be 5/22 and 5/23.



Upcoming Dates:

Be sure to check the SAA Calendar on the school website frequently as that has the most current information!

Monday, 5/14/18

- 8th Grade Civics EOC
- 2:15pm *Footloose* Reh.
- 5:30pm Kindergarten Meet & Greet

Tuesday, 5/15/18

- Civics EOC
- Geometry EOC
- 2:15pm *Footloose* Reh.
- 5:00pm PTO Mtg. & Elections

Wednesday, 5/16/18

- Geometry EOC
- 8:00am 2/3rd to MOSI
- 8:15am 1st Grade Awards
- 2:15pm *Footloose* Reh.
- 6:30pm Kindergarten Graduation

Thursday, 5/17/18

- *Footloose* All Day Rehearsal

Friday, 5/18/18

- 10:15am K/1 Trip to Bounce U
- 7:00pm *Footloose*.



If you have SAA shirts your children have out-grown and would like to donate them, please send them to the office. We use them for students who forget their shirts on field trip days. We are especially in need of larger sizes but will take any.

Notes for the Music Department

Dear Parents of Advanced Chorus and Girl's Chorus,

The final spring musical, "Footloose", will be presented by the middle school music classes this Friday at 7 pm at the Players Theatre. It will be a very busy week for our students. Please remember the following:

1. Return permission slip tomorrow if you have not already done so.

2. Please send in any costume pieces you may have at home like tux outfit, dress shoes, character shoes, sneakers, dress socks, etc.

3. Remember the schedule for this week:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday all advanced chorus and girl's chorus stay at school until 5:30 pm for final rehearsals.

Thursday all leading cast leaves for Players Theatre at 7:30 am from SAA by charter bus. The second bus for all other advanced and girl's chorus leaves at 8:15 from SAA. Students pack a lunch and either get picked up at 5:15 at the Players Theatre or at SAA at 6 pm.

Friday all leading cast leaves for Players Theatre at 7:30 am from SAA by charter bus. The second bus for all other advanced and girl's chorus leaves at 8:15 from SAA. Students pack a lunch and will stay at the theater through the show. Dinner will be provided for them at the theater.

4. Please be sure to purchase tickets this week and publicize the show by contacting family, friends, coworkers, and neighbors and inviting them to the show.

Have a great week and enjoy this great production Friday evening

Cecilia Blankenship, Principal

Yearbooks To Be Distributed 5/21/18

Yearbooks have arrived and they will be distributed on Monday morning, [May 21st](#) to students who pre-purchased their yearbook. A table will be set up from 7:30am - 8:00am and again from 3:00pm - 4:00pm.

We will be requiring each student to pick up and sign for their yearbook. We will also be asking each student to write their names in the inside of the book as soon as they pick it up, this way we can hopefully eliminate last year's issues of lost yearbooks. :-)

If you are unsure if you ordered one or not, please contact Kelly Marsh directly by sending an email and she will be happy to check on it for you.

PTO Meeting & Elections

Dinner will be served and we will be talking about last day celebration and elections for next year. The nomination forms can be found on the SAA website (PTO) for the PTO Board Member job descriptions. On page 2 of that document, you will also find the nomination form so please fill it out and turn it in on Tuesday for consideration. Thank you so much for your time and your support! Looking forward to seeing you next Tuesday!