



# THE SHOOTING STAR



Sarasota Academy of the Arts

August 21, 2017

2017 - 2018, Volume 5, Issue 2

## Principal's Corner

Good afternoon! Thank you to everyone who helped ensure SAA had a smooth opening with full classes. There are 230 students now at our school. The kindergarten through fifth grade classes are absolutely full of wonderful students who looked engaged and ready to learn. In the middle school, there a couple of openings in sixth and seventh grade. Eighth grade is bursting at the seams with a short waiting list. Quite a few of our eighth graders are enrolled in high school credit courses in Spanish, Physical Science, Algebra I and Geometry as well as the performing chorus, *High Voltage*. This should be a busy year!

As everyone knows, Monday is the Solar Eclipse. Students in all classes have been learning the science facts and myths associated with it. Mr. Koci and his sixth grade Earth/Space Science students have developed an impressive program for all of the students, building pin-hole devices so the younger students can see what is happening without looking at the sun at all. Any student with a signed permission slip will be able to go outside to view the eclipse at various stages. The weather forecast as far as cloud cover looks a little iffy for our area, but we will hope for the best. A baseball hat is advisable as another layer of protection when using the glasses. Students without permission will stay inside and watch the live stream from NASA and, hopefully, Mr. Kolowith who is in Columbia. Mr. Koci is there as well and will be filming the event to share with students upon his return. We have been emphasizing the safety issues and will do everything in our power to ensure the students are behaving as they should. Please re-emphasize this at home as this is no time for horseplay or silliness. Thank you to the parents who have volunteered to help out tomorrow.

Don't forget the Marauders game on September 2. The deadline to buy tickets is this week. On August 30 we will have our first School Advisory Council meeting. If you would like to serve on the SAC, please contact Kathy Bechtel in the office. We meet monthly on a Wednesday at 4:15 - 5:15 PM in the administration building to discuss various ways to improve our school community in the area of academics. Any parent or community member interested in SAA is welcome.

Please return any paperwork distributed during the Meet the Teachers night if you took them home. We need those as soon as possible. There are three notaries in the office if you have anything that needs a stamp. Most of you are all set for the year and we certainly appreciate your taking the time to attend those events and complete the paperwork.

As ever, please feel free to contact me with questions, concerns, or problems. We all want to be of service to ensure your child has the best year of learning this year at SAA.

Sincerely,  
Cecilia R. Blankenship, Principal

## Upcoming Dates:

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

### Tuesday - 8/22/17

- Volleyball Practice @ 4:15pm

### Wednesday - 8/23/17

- Volleyball Practice @ 4:30pm

### Thursday - 8/24/17

- Volleyball team leaves @ 3:45pm

- Volleyball Jamboree @ 5:00pm (701 Center Rd, Venice, FL 34285)

### Monday - 8/28/17

- Volleyball Practice @ 4:15pm  
- Student Council Meeting @ 4:15pm

### Tuesday - 8/29/17

- Volleyball Practice @ 4:15pm

### Wednesday - 8/30/17

- Volleyball Practice @ 4:15pm  
- SAC Meeting @ 4:15pm

### Thursday - 8/31/17

- Volleyball team leaves @ 2:45pm  
- 4:00pm Volleyball Game: SAA @ SKY Englewood

### Saturday - 9/2/17

- 8:00am Applebees Fundraiser  
- SAA night at Marauders



## Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

We have a continuous need for help at SAA and post opportunities on an ongoing basis. Please check Remind, and text messages from Kelly Marsh, as well as our Group Page on the Signup.com website: <http://signup.com/go/8rZMTY>

In fact we need some help with lunch duty this Thursday and Friday, and car line help during dismissal every afternoon on school days.

Check it out and please sign up to help. This is a great way to meet your volunteer hours!

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## Student Council

Do you want to make a difference? Do you want your voice to be heard? Then come to the interest meeting, Monday, August 28<sup>th</sup> in Mrs. Howard's room from 4:15-4:30pm.

Student Council is open to 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students.

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## Marauders vs. Stone Crabs

Come join other SAA families kicking off the Labor Day weekend by attending the Marauders vs. Stone Crabs—September 2, 2017

**Baseball and Fireworks! \$10 - You can't beat that!**

**RSVP BY AUGUST 23rd!!**

The link to purchase tickets:

<https://groupmatics.events/event/Sarasotaacademy>

## Need Information?

Do you have questions about where to go to get information? Most of the important information is available on the school website, but if you need more information, please contact Donna Scofield, SAA's Parent Liaison. She is more than happy to direct you to the right place/person.

She can be reached in the main office at 941-377-2278.

## SAA Facebook Page

If you are on Facebook and you want to stay up to date with what's happening at school, then please check out Sarasota Academy of the Arts Facebook Page and "Like" us on Facebook!

Also, we have a Facebook group for all things related to volunteering. It's called SAA Volunteers so be sure to join that group.