

## *From the Principal's Desk*

### **STUDENT PLACEMENT FOR THE 2017-18 SCHOOL YEAR: ALL PARENT REQUESTS DUE BY APRIL 28**

During the month of May, school administrators meet with grade-level teachers to form classes for the following school year. For example, the principal and fourth grade teachers discuss and recommend student placement in fifth grade classes. The goal is

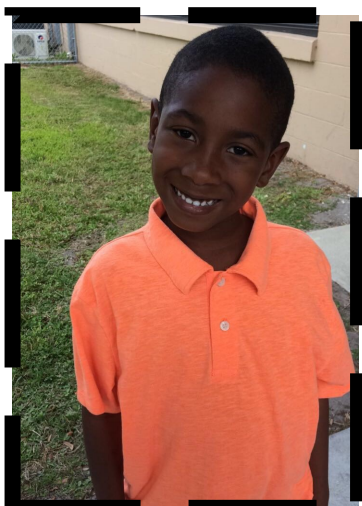


to develop equitable classes that are balanced by race, gender and level of academic achievement, while also considering special services (ESE, RtI), behavior and medical conditions. As professionals who know the children best of all, teachers play an important role in this process. As active participants, teachers gain an awareness of the diversity of the class dynamic and the complexity of the class distribution. The Instructional Literacy Coach, Guidance Counselor and Behavior Specialist also contribute to final placement decisions. After the initial student placements have been made, administrators consider parent requests and finally, assign specific teachers to the classes.

Parents who would like a particular teacher considered for child must place their requests in writing to the principal no later than April 28. Families are encouraged to be specific about what why a request is being made, for example "My child stands at his desk to work and needs a teacher who will be flexible in allowing for this difference." The principal will consider all requests and approve those having the greatest need. Requests for a child's friends to be in his or her class will not be considered.

### **FIFTH GRADER JACK HENRY WINS TROPICANA SPEECH SCHOOL CONTEST**

Congratulations to Jack Henry of Ms. Brower's fifth grade class for winning Crookshank's annual Tropicana Speech Contest with his entry, "Respect for Rap". Jack's humorous speech captured the praise of students and contest judges alike. He will represent Crookshank Elementary School at the upcoming district competition.



Keep clapping for Ava Venzon, who is also one of Ms. Brower's students, for her Second Place entry, "Evil Authors". Ava is one of Crookshank's most vibrant and creative students. Finally, kudos to Ashley Mitnacht for taking Third Place with her speech entry, "Braces are Horrible!". Ashley's hilarious script and entertaining delivery made her speech a crowd favorite.

### **COMING UP!**

Friday, April 14 Good Friday observed, Teacher and Student Holiday. Enjoy a safe and enjoyable weekend with your family!

**BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION!** an easy way to earn cash for your school!

Look for the pink Box Top coupon on hundreds of participating products. Each is worth 10¢ for your school!

- 1** Buy your favorite Box Tops products. 
- 2** Cut out the Box Top from each package. 
- 3** Send your Box Tops to school with your child. 
- 4** Your school gets cash for every Box Top collected to help buy the things it needs most. All those Box Tops really add up! 

The last Boxtop and Campbell Soup labels will be on Friday May 5th. Please send them with your child to give to their teacher. Thank you to all who participate.

**LABELS FOR EDUCATION**


ARTS • ATHLETICS • ACADEMICS

LabelsForEducation.com

CLIP & EARN 1 POINT FOR YOUR SCHOOL

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**ATTENTION!**

**STUDENT LOADING ZONE**

Last Name

First Name

Teacher / Grade

In order to keep our cougars safe and ensure that they are going home with an approved parent in the parent pickup line, If the adult picking up a child does not have a parent pick up card with them, they will have to go inside and check ID, every time.



**PROTECT YOUR CHILD AGAINST SUMMER READING LOSS!!!!!!**

The research is clear that children who don't read during the summer can lose up to three months of reading progress and that loss has a cumulative, long-term effect. The following resources and articles provide information about summer reading and summer learning loss. Plus you'll discover great activities to encourage kids to learn, read, and have fun in the summer sun!

[www.ReadWriteThink.org](http://www.ReadWriteThink.org)

[www.GuysRead.com](http://www.GuysRead.com)

[www.ReadKiddoRead.com](http://www.ReadKiddoRead.com)

[www.DropEverythingandRead.com](http://www.DropEverythingandRead.com)



**You can protect your child against summer reading loss:**

- \*Have your student(s) participate in the Crookshank Summer Reading Olympics!!!
- \* Encourage your student to read a variety of different materials, but let your student choose!
- \* Discuss stories or articles you have both read
- \* Ask your student questions about what was read
- \* Encourage your student to write a response to what was read
- \* Ensure your student reads at least one book every ten days. The amount of time spent reading outside of school is important. For example, a student who reads 21 minutes per day outside of school reads almost 2 million words per year, whereas a student who reads less than a minute per day outside of school reads only 8,000 to 21,000 words per year.

**BEST ways to PREVENT SUMMER LEARNING LOSS**

Have your child read at least **20 MINUTES PER DAY**



Students who read **20 minutes** a day score in the **90th percentile**. Students who read **5 minutes** a day score only in the **50th percentile**.

\*Anne E. Cunningham and Keith E. Stanovich, What Reading Does for the Mind, The American Federation of Teachers, American Educator, Vol. 22, No. 1-2, pp. 8-15.

Visit **the Library.**

Find reasons for your child to **practice** writing skills. **Write...**  
a book, a blog, a zine, a poem

Engage in meaningful conversations with your child. Stimulating conversations boost language skills.

**Quick Conversation Tips:**  
1. Ask questions.  
2. Be positive.  
3. Give your full attention.  
4. Be encouraging.

**Audio Books**

Instead of listening to the radio, listen to audio books during long drives.

**Model Reading Behavior**

If your child sees you reading, they will want to read as well.

**Read to your child** This builds listening skills, imagination, and increases vocabulary

**Learn a new word each week.**

Post the new word with its definition and have a contest for who can use it the most times in one week.

Reciprocity  
Plethora  
Erudition  
Panacea  
Fait Accompli  
Equanimity

**COOK with your child**

Have your child follow a recipe. This enhances both reading and math skills.

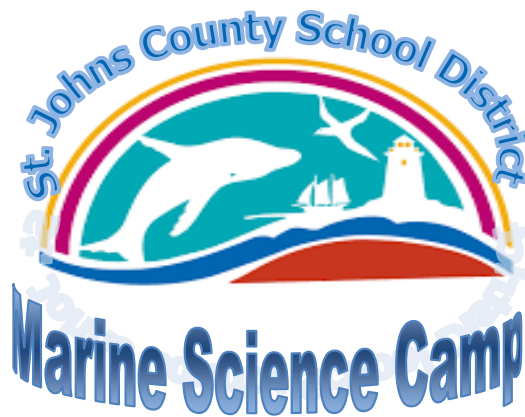




## POEM IN YOUR POCKET DAY IS THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2017 !!!

John A. Crookshank Elementary will celebrate an enormously popular literacy event, **Poem in Your Pocket Day**, on Thursday, April 27th! Poem in Your Pocket Day originated in New York City in 2002 and is now a national event. Each year on a specified day in April, schools, parks, bookstores, workplaces, and other venues burst with open readings of poems from pockets!

The way we celebrate is simple: teachers will have lots of poems available for your students during April, National Poetry Month. Each student selects a favorite poem - or writes an original poem!! Then, on Thursday, April 27, every student and teacher and staff member (and parents, you, too can participate in the fun!) will carry a poem in his/her pocket to share with other students, parents, teachers, and staff - whoever might ask! Poems from pockets will be unfolded and read throughout the day - what fun! And the repeated reading of poems gives all of us extra practice at being fluent readers!!



## SUMMER MARINE SCIENCE PROGRAM

PARENTS,

PRE-APPLICATIONS FOR THE SUMMER MARINE SCIENCE PROGRAM WERE SENT TO ALL ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOLS IN THE DISTRICT TO BE PASSED OUT DURING THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 13<sup>TH</sup>. HOWEVER, IF YOUR CHILD DID NOT RECEIVE A PRE-APPLICATION, THEY MAY STILL APPLY. YOU CAN DOWNLOAD A PRE-APPLICATION, GET ALL PARENT INFORMATION, AND VIEW A VIDEO OF THE PROGRAM BY GOING TO THE GAMBLE ROGERS MIDDLE SCHOOL WEBSITE AND CLICKING ON THE MARINE SCIENCE LINK. ANY QUESTIONS CAN BE ANSWERED BY EMAILING [MARINESCIENCEPROGRAM@STJOHNS.K12.FL.US](mailto:MARINESCIENCEPROGRAM@STJOHNS.K12.FL.US).

THIS SUMMER PROGRAM IS AVAILABLE TO ALL STUDENTS CURRENTLY IN GRADES FIVE THROUGH EIGHT AND HAS BEEN SPONSORED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT SINCE 1982. ALL INSTRUCTORS IN THE PROGRAM ARE ST. JOHNS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT TEACHERS.

THREE 8 DAY SESSIONS ARE HELD AT GAMBLE ROGERS MIDDLE SCHOOL SCHOOL WITH BUS TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED. THE THREE SESSIONS ARE MAY 30<sup>TH</sup> - JUNE 8<sup>TH</sup>, JUNE 12<sup>TH</sup> - JUNE 22<sup>ND</sup>, AND JUNE 26<sup>TH</sup> - JULY 7<sup>TH</sup>. SMALL CLASSES OF 12 - 14 STUDENTS ARE SEPARATED BY GRADE LEVEL.

THE MARINE SCIENCE PROGRAM IS A CAREFULLY DESIGNED EXPERIENCE FOR RESPONSIBLE STUDENTS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN LEARNING ABOUT OUR LOCAL MARINE ENVIRONMENTS. LEARNING IS "HANDS ON" IN THE FIELD. STUDENTS ACCESS VARIOUS MARINE ENVIRONMENTS WHILE KAYAKING, CANOEING, BOATING, HIKING, BIKING, SNORKELING, SURFING, WINDSURFING, SAILING, AND SUP'S (STAND UP PADDLEBOARDS).

IF YOUR CHILD IS SELECTED FOR THE PROGRAM, A FINAL APPLICATION FORM WILL BE MAILED OUT FROM THE DISTRICT OFFICE IN APRIL.