

hello
spring

THE
COUGAR
PRESS



APRIL
2018

From the Principal's Desk **Greeting Parents and Guardians,**

We hope you and your family are doing well. Our students are diligently working, learning and growing as we wrap up the last quarter of the school year. As we complete the last couple of months of school, many of our students will be taking the FSA for Math and ELA. Please make sure your child gets plenty of rest and has good breakfast. Breakfast is served, at no cost to students, every morning until 8:25 am.

Here are the dates for The Third Nine Weeks Awards Ceremony. All of the Awards Ceremonies begin at 9 am in the Cafeteria.

April 6-3rd Grade

April 9-4th Grade

April 12-5th Grade

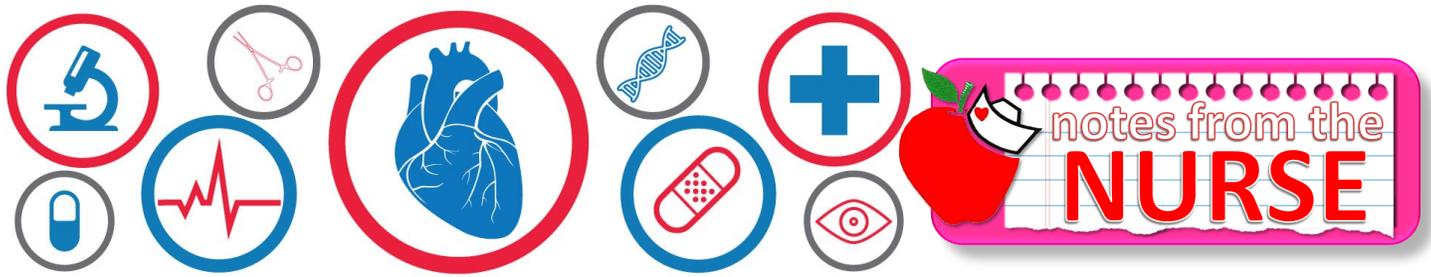
Remember, parents and guardians, you must be cleared by the district to attend the honor roll assemblies. The School Access Form is located on our school's website at <https://stjohns.keepntrack.com/apply/>.

The next SAC Meeting will be on Thursday, April 19 at 4 pm in the Media Center.

Parents and Guardians, thank you for your support. Please continue to ensure your child is in class by 8:30 each morning. Our students begin their day in their classrooms with their lessons at 8:30 and we would not want your child to miss instruction. Thank you for your assistance.

On Wednesday, April 11 we sent home a Parent Input Form to better aid us in placing your child in the most appropriate learning environment for the 2018-2019 school year. Please complete the forms (also found on our school's website) by the end of April so we can work on class lists for next year.

We look forward to a great finish to this school year!



As we near the end of the school year, I would like to remind you that your child's medication should be picked up from the clinic by

THURSDAY, MAY 24, 2018

School policy does not allow for medication to remain in the school over the summer. It will be important for you to make arrangements to pick up your child's medication since medications may not go home with the student. Any medication left in the clinic after **THURSDAY, MAY 24, 2018** will be discarded according to policy.

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Please contact me at 904/547-7832 if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you and have a safe summer.

Roxane Smith, RN, BSN
School Health Nurse

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

www.GuysRead.com

www.ReadKiddoRead.com

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.

Big Universe

www.biguniverse.com

Engage Students. Empower Teachers.



Parents! Make Sure Your Student Participates in the John A. Crookshank Summer Reading Olympics!

Check the folder your student brings home from the end of the year Awards Day Ceremony. Inside you will find all the details of the Summer Reading Olympics, a summer reading log, and a suggested list of books which your student can read over the summer. ***And a free book for your student so he/she can start reading right away!!!!*** We will have **3 categories of WINNERS** based on how much reading your student does over the summer.

Grades K-2: Bronze Medal Winner-read 15 to 29 books - win a medal and an ice cream sundae

party with the principal!

Silver Medal Winner-read 30 to 44 books - win a medal, one coupon book good for

lots of fun things at Crookshank and an ice cream sundae party with the principal!

Gold Medal Winner- read 45 or more books-win a medal, two coupon books good for fun stuff at Crookshank and an ice cream sundae party with the principal!

(It is ok for preK and kindergarteners to count books that parents read to them over the summer.)

Grades 3-4: Bronze Medal Winner-read 1,000 to 1,499 pages-win a medal and an ice cream

sundae party with the principal!

Silver Medal Winner-read 1,500 to 1,999 pages-win a medal, one coupon book good for fun stuff at Crookshank, and an ice cream sundae party with the principal!

Bronze Medal Winner-read 2,000 or more pages-win a medal, two coupon books

good for fun stuff at Crookshank, and an ice cream sundae party with the principal!

Parents, you will need to sign the student's reading log each time the student reads for him to get credit in the contest. **And the BEST part:** The public library's **Bookmobile** will be at Crookshank **every Tuesday in June**. Your student will be able to borrow books to read right here at Crookshank! The Bookmobile schedule will also be in the folder your student brings home from the Awards Day Ceremony.

What's a coupon book??? The coupon book contains reward coupons. There is a "no homework" pass, a coupon good for wearing a hat for a day, a coupon to attend PTO movie night free, a coupon for an extra 10 minutes of recess, a coupon for 15 minutes of free choice computer time, a coupon to be a helper in a lower grade for 1 hour, and many more!!!!

Box Tops

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 next collection for Box Tops will be Friday May 18th.

FOOD THAT'S IN WHEN SCHOOL IS OUT!



Any Student who is 18 years of age or younger may receive free, nutritious meals at Crookshank Elementary School (June 11th-July 13th), or ST. AUGUSTINE HIGH SCHOOL (June 4th-July 24th). THE Emergency Services Homeless Coalition and the Solomon Calhoun Center will be serving meals June 4th - July 20th. Please dial 211 to inquire about the serving times or any additional locations serving meals.



In the library recently, students have discovered some amazing nonfiction books that have captured their attention. By going on "scavenger hunts" in the nonfiction stacks, students are practicing their library research skills and finding treasures along the way. Those students who perhaps have always focused on fiction, have found amazing books on creatures of all sorts, countries across the earth, robots and technology, and outer space. I am pleased to see their interest, as this increases their knowledge of the world around them.

Dr. Seuss night was a great success. I invited a public library official, Mr. Harold George, to set up a table with me and offer public library card sign up. He lives in our neighborhood, and loved being here. He was able to sign up 25 families! The public library has a rich selection of digital content and everything is free! The public library is a great resource for summer reading and all branches offer activities for children.

Crookshank's Battle of the Books team has been practicing their skills since February. This team of 7 students is studying 15 Sunshine State books and preparing to recall specific quotations from the books. They meet with me in the media center at 8a on a daily basis and 3 times per week they bring their lunch to the library and practice with sample quotes. They will face southern St. Johns County teams on May 10th at Gamble Rogers.

Thank you to our SAC for approving purchase and installation of an interactive whiteboard in the media center. This wonderful tool will give students in lower grades an opportunity to engage with touch screen technology. Grades 3-5 in the new building have interactive boards in each classroom. This model will accommodate multiple simultaneous touch, so more than one child can be at the board at a time.

Enjoy this wonderful season with your children!

Mary Linekin

Media Specialist

Your Local St. Johns County Health Department Provides Free Pediatric Immunizations

For Immunization Clinic Hours
Please call 904-209-3250

**New to the State of Florida and need a DH-680 form?
*We offer a FREE drop-off service with no waiting!***



- **Bring your child's current immunization history and your valid state-issued photo ID.**
- **A nurse will import your immunization history.**
- **We will call you within 48 hours to pick up your completed form.**
- **In the event your child's immunizations are incomplete, we will notify you so that you may return with your child to receive the required immunizations.**

**The Florida Department of Health in St. Johns County is located at the
St. Johns County Health and Human Services Building
200 San Sebastian View
St. Augustine FL, 32084
904-209-3250**

For More Information, please visit our website at StJohns.FloridaHealth.gov

SJMSAA

St. Johns Middle School Athletic Association

FOOTBALL:

Gamble Rogers
Liberty Pines
Landrum
Pacetti Bay
Sebastian

Swiss Point
Fruit Cove
Murray
Patriot Oaks
Valley Ridge

E-mail Sebastian Head Coach, Austin Lee
AUSTINJLEE96@GMAIL.COM

www.sjmsaa.com

Follow us on:  

ONLINE REGISTRATION OPEN NOW

YOU MUST REGISTER AT: (www.sjmsaa.com) TO TRYOUT!

Mar 1, 2018:	ONLINE REGISTRATION OPEN
Apr 2-6, 2018:	TRYOUTS FOR EACH SCHOOL
Apr 16-20, 2018:	TEAM CONDITIONING
Apr 23-May 18, 2018:	PRACTICE – FULL PADS
May 19, 2018:	SPRING SEASON GAME DAY

