

St. Johns County School District

Greenhouse Sales in St. Augustine High School's Career Experiences Class



The 9th/10th grade InD/Self-Contained class has been growing herbs in our greenhouse this year for our Career Experiences Class. The students planted seeds in the fall and have taken care of the plants throughout the year. They have planted and transplanted plants, kept them watered, and prepared them to sell to the staff at SAHS. We have just completed our Greenhouse Sales and raised \$200.00! We sold basil, mint, sage, parsley, and a few cucumber plants.

Many, many thanks go out to A-Z Construction, BN Plumbing, Hagan Ace Hardware, and Lowes Home Improvement for their support and donations to our greenhouse project this year. Without their generosity, our greenhouse would not have been so successful.

*Contributed By: Ms. Lynne Tiner, ESE Teacher,
St. Augustine High School*



Important Dates:

4/11, 6:00-7:30 p.m. – Parent Advisory Committee Meeting, Pedro Menendez High School

4/25, 6:30-7:30 p.m. – Gifted Parent Advisory Committee Meeting, Landrum Middle School

Spring Class Events at Pedro Menendez High School



Pedro Menendez Best Buddies pose before going to the Best Buddies Friendship Ball on March 10th. The ball, themed “Be Our Guest”, was attended by students from the greater Jacksonville area.

Contributed by: Ms. Debbra Bonvallet, ESE Teacher, Pedro Menendez High School



Atticus Shaffer, born June 19 1998, stars as Brick Heck on ABC’s comedy, “**The Middle**,” lives in Acton, California, with his mother, Debbie, and father, Ron, as well as a host of rescue animals including two dogs, four cats, several chickens, fish and one rabbit. He also has a brother, twenty years his senior! Atticus suffers from Osteogenesis Imperfecta (OI) a genetic bone disorder resulting in fragile bones. About his disability Schaffer says, “It’s a small portion of me and nothing more. I take extra precautions where I step to make sure it’s safe. And I shouldn’t do anything with heavy lifting or anything that could make me slip and fall.”



<http://ddc.ohio.gov/dd-awareness-month>



Class Events at Pedro Menendez High School cont...



Above photo: Students from PMHS show off their ribbons after Special Olympics track and field events for St. Johns County, held at PMHS on March 4th. Students will advance to area games in Jacksonville in April, followed by state games in Orlando in May.

Below: Students from PMHS display their Spread the Word to End the Word banner. This campaign, sponsored by Best Buddies and Special Olympics, asks people to pledge to stop saying the R-word as a starting point toward creating more acceptable attitudes and communities for all people. Language affects attitudes and attitudes affect actions.

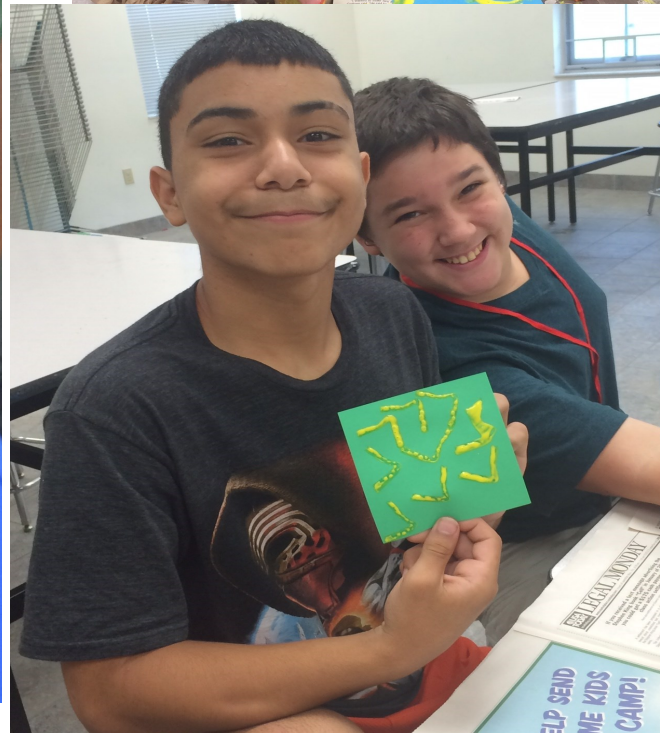
Contributed by: Ms. Debbra Bonvallet, ESE Teacher, Pedro Menendez High School



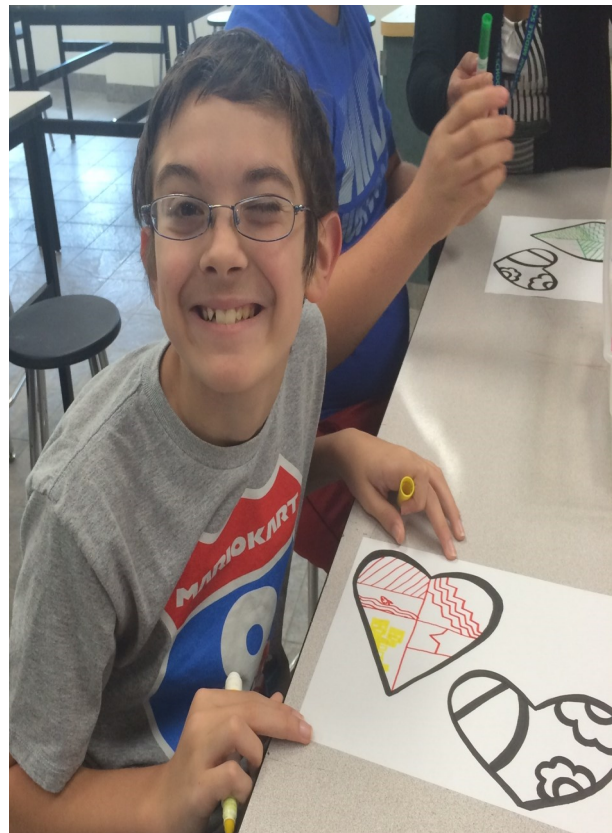
Pacetti Bay Middle School's Disability History and Awareness Week

Students in the Intellectual Disabilities Classroom at Pacetti Bay Middle School worked together to create a collage for Disability History and Awareness week. Each student created his or her own square using markers and paint. Once completed, the squares were grouped together, framed and sent to the St. Johns County School Board for display. Working on projects like this gives our students an opportunity to be creative in a setting other than our classroom. As you can see from the pictures, we have a lot of fun creating our works of art.

Contributed by: Mr. Allen Devos, ESE Teacher, Pacetti Bay Middle School



Pacetti Bay Middle School's Disability History and Awareness Week pictures cont...



Reading Plus Adventure Landing Reward for Murray Middle School

On March 10th, 17 of our students in sixth, seventh, and eighth grade went on a field trip to Adventure Landing on Blanding Boulevard in Jacksonville. The trip was a reward for students who completed the most combos in Reading Plus at each grade level. The top readers on the seventh and eighth grade Cambridge team also attended. Students enjoyed playing in the arcade, racing go-karts, and playing laser tag. Great reading Bulldogs!

Contributed By: Ms. Melissa Lime, Assistant Principal, Murray Middle School



Ponte Vedra High School's Green House

Mr. Rolison's class at Ponte Vedra High School worked hard growing herbs and vegetables in their greenhouse. The class grew spring lettuce, kale, cilantro, and basil, all made possible by the environmental club of Ponte Vedra. They packed all their hard work into bags and delivered them to the Beam Thrift Store and Food Bank.

Contributed By: Mr. John Rolison, ESE Teacher, Ponte Vedra High School



Madden Video Game Tournament at Murray Middle School

On March 8th, Murray Middle School held their first school-wide Madden Video game tournament for their students. Over 40 players purchased entrance tickets by using positive behavior points. Students earned their points for following class rules, working hard and showing overall good character in their classrooms. The event was led by Dean Anthony Robinson who obtained community support from **Rent to Own** furniture. The business provided four large HD television screens and four PlayStation game systems for the day. In addition, **Press Play Media**, a local video game store, offered gift card prizes to the first and second place winners. The event was a huge success with students and staff coming together to play video games and enjoy free pizza and drinks after school. Murray is looking to design future incentive events to include an exclusive cooking event and a 3-on-3 basketball tournament.

*Contributed by: Ms. Melissa Lime, Assistant Principal, Murray Middle School
and Mr. Darren Tagliarini, District Behavior Specialist*



Upcoming Events

First Coast Autism Support-Supporting Your Child's Working Memory– April 4, 6:00-7:00 p.m., Oak Hill Academy, 6910 Daughtry Blvd S., Jax, 32210. Presenter Tracy Alloway. First Coast Autism Support offers a free monthly parent support group for families raising a child with an Autism Spectrum Disorder. Childcare is provided. A simultaneous Sibshop is also provided. Request additional information by emailing angela.mann@unf.edu.

University of Florida Spring Fling for Children with Disabilities– April 6, 5:30-8:00 p.m., You and your family are invited to the UF Developmental Pediatric Center For an evening of fun and games at our annual Spring Fling event. Hunt for eggs. Play in the Game Rooms and win prizes. Shake your stuff in our Dance Theater. Enjoy crafts and other activities. Bring a camera and have your picture taken with The Easter Bunny. Or pick a design and get your face painted. All of this is available at not cost to the individual. Located at: 6271 St. Augustine Road, Suite 1, Jacksonville, FL. For more information email autumn.mauch@jax.ufl.edu.

ESE Parent Advisory Committee– April 11, 6:00-7:30 p.m., Pedro Mendez High School, 600 FL-206, St. Augustine, 32086. The St. Johns County School District is bringing together the Florida Diagnostic Learning Resources Services (FDLRS) and Florida Inclusion Network (FIN) to present *An Overview of programs & services for students with Autism and Related Disabilities*. Come learn about resources that are available to support you and your child.

Connecting the Dots Conference– April 13, Family Care Council area 4, UF-Jax CARD, UF-Jax FDLRS-MDC, APDCares, and Rising Tide Car Wash have joined together in sponsoring this event for individuals, their families, and professionals. Disability Employment, guardianship, mental health in the IDD population, managing the iBudget waiver, Self-directed IEPs, and more will be on tap. Location: The Schultz Center, Jacksonville. Featured speakers: Boaz Nelson Santiago and Minerva Santiago. For more information visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/connecting-the-dots-conference-2017-tickets-31940041524>.

CARD/FDLRS Satellite Clinic– St. Johns County– May 8, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Fullerwood Training Center Auditorium, 10 Hildreth Drive, St. Augustine, 32084. The UF-Jacksonville Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD) and the UF-Jacksonville Florida Diagnostic & Learning Resources System Multi-Disciplinary Center (FDLRS-MDC) offer clinics to outlying counties in order to more effectively serve their constituents. Sign up for a consultative appointment with clinicians who specialize in child psychology, behavior therapy, academic interventions, Autism Screeners, Transition, and more. Appointments are at no cost to the family. To schedule an appointment please contact chanel.baldwin@jax.ufl.edu, 904-633-0816.

CARD Constituency Board Meeting– May 18, 9:30-10:30 a.m., The public and individuals served by CARD are welcome to attend these meetings and provide input to the board and CARD staff. The meeting will be held in the UF Developmental Pediatric Conference Center, Jacksonville.

Camp Ability Special Day Camp– June 12– August 4, 8:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. , Developmental delays, physical limitations, sensory sensitivities, intellectual delays. Active and fun for ages 4-11. Professional instructors. Monday through Friday . Extended Day available. Camp registration forms and more information can be found online https://www.dropbox.com/sh/kuu6dbhamftyfl/AAC5BiDwQmlWZPdbU7D_mqKla?dl=0





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CHARACTER COUNTS!



Sarah Coffin, Confidential Staff Secretary
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Mission Statement: To identify and meet the unique educational needs of exceptional students and to provide support and resources to enhance educational opportunities so they become productive citizens.

ESE programs and services address the unique needs of students who are gifted in kindergarten through 12th grade and those with mild, moderate and severe disabilities from age three until they graduate with a regular diploma or until their 22nd birthday. ESE programs and services are designed to assist students in reaching their educational goals through the use of instructional and behavioral approaches which are research-based and exemplify best practices. Technology is used in many creative ways to meet student needs as well.

ESE services are available at all district schools for gifted students and students who have mild to moderate disabilities. PreK students with disabilities and students with more significant disabilities are served in cluster programs at selected sites. Program support is provided to students, parents and school personnel by program specialists based at the district office. Students with disabilities who are not eligible for services through the ESE program may be eligible for an accommodations plan under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER ELECTRONICALLY?

We hope that you find this newsletter informative and useful. The next issue of the Parents As Partners Newsletter will be posted to the St. Johns County School District web site at www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/dept/academicservices/ese.

