



COUGAR NEWS

Marquez Jackson, Principal
Yvette Cubero-Gonzalez, Assistant Principal
Christi Thomas, Assistant Principal

Dear Cougar Family,

On behalf of our faculty, staff, and admin team, we hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable Winter Break. We are extremely excited that we were able to provide each student with a free book through the generosity of various organizations and the leadership of our Reading Interventionist, Mrs. Joanne Marziani. Our children were delighted to be able to read about a new adventure or discover about a fascinating topic!

This is a reminder that our 12:55 PM Early Release Wednesdays will be in effective through Wednesday, January 20th.

Please continue to encourage your child to read day and continue to build their reading fluency. We look forward to a strong finish to the 2nd quarter!

Sincerely,

Marquez Jackson, Principal-Learning Leader

OUR VISION:

Working together, we all succeed.

OUR MISSION:

Our professional learning community at John A. Crookshank Elementary School is dedicated to the development of students' academic, social, and emotional well-being. We will plan purposeful lessons and instruct standards using best practices, so all students are equipped with a growth mind-set and the skills necessary to address and overcome challenges they may face in their future.

Important Dates

- 1/4 Classes Resume
- 1/18 NO SCHOOL: MLK Day
- 1/25 Second Quarter/First Semester Ends
- 1/28 Virtual SAC Meeting 4PM
- 1/29 Teacher Planning Day



*Please note, earlier Wednesday release at 12:55PM ends on Wednesday, January 20th. **Beginning Wednesday, January 27th students will be released at 1:50PM every Wednesday until the end of the school year.**

REPORT CARDS

On Friday, February 12 report cards will be available on the HOME ACCESS CENTER (HAC) for grades K-5. A paper copy will not be sent home. The HAC portal provides parents and students with a daily summary page of student information including schedule and attendance, discipline information, class work, test scores, grades, and course requests.

Parents/Guardians must have a valid email address on file with a St. John's County School in order to create a HAC account.

Parents/Guardians can register online:

<https://homeaccess.stjohns.k12.fl.us>

- At the Home Access Center Login screen, click the link "Click Here to Register for HAC". On the Home Access Center User Registration fill out all the required fields.
- You should receive an email with a link to complete your registration

For additional information on the HAC portal, access the webpage at <http://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/hac/>



Our Cougar staff wishes all our families a very Happy New Year!

2021 will be the best year yet...

Masks and Temperature Checks

Masks are to be worn by all students until a temperature check is completed and they are able to socially distance themselves from others. **Please make sure your child has a mask and it is labeled with his/her name.**

Temperature checks will occur upon arrival. Any student with a temperature at or above 100.4 degrees will be referred to the nurse and a parent/guardian will be responsible for picking up his/her student.



While on school property and in a vehicle, you **MUST** put your cell phone down. We ask this for the safety of our students and our staff members.



BIRTHDAY BOOK CLUB!

The Crookshank Media Center is excited to announce the Birthday Book Club! This is a wonderful way to commemorate your child's birthday. Your participation not only enriches the library collection but allows you and your child to be personally involved in its growth.

With the book fair just around the corner, this may be the perfect time for your child to select their book.

More information can be found at our website:
<https://www.ces.stjohns.k12.fl.us/media/>



School Advisory Council

Thank you to the parents who have signed up to serve on our SAC (School Advisory Council) team this year. Being part of the SAC team is a great way to get involved with our school and to help make school wide decisions. Please contact [Mr. Marquez Jackson](#) (Principal) or [Ms. Alexandria Robinson](#) (SAC Chair) if you are interested in becoming a member. Our next SAC Meeting is Thursday, January 28th @ 4PM. Here is the link to attend virtually <https://tinyurl.com/y6tvckyy>.

What is a School Advisory Council (SAC)?

A SAC is a diverse group of stakeholders of a school, established through Florida Law, with shared goal of increasing student achievement in a safe learning environment. A SAC is comprised of the Principal, teachers, education support staff, parents, business partners and community members. The majority of the members must be non-school employees and members must be representative of the community.

What is the role of SAC?

The SAC assists in the preparation and evaluation of the School Improvement Plan (SIP) and acts as a resource to the school principal. The term advisory is intended to mean inquiring, informing, suggesting, recommending, and evaluating.

What is the School Improvement Plan?

“The whole point of school improvement is data-driven decision making. The process is SUPPOSED to be fairly simple and straight forward: The SAC reviews relevant data (which is much more than test scores), identifies problem areas, develops improvement strategies, monitors their implementation, and then starts the whole process over when the next round of data is available.”

Safer, Smarter Kids

Students will participate in a *Safer, Smarter Kids* lesson with the school counselor during their PE class over the next few weeks. This program covers state-mandated safety lessons for students in Kindergarten through Grade 5 covering topics including:

- Safety awareness
- Respecting yourself and others
- Developing self esteem
- Peer pressure
- Bullying, cyberbullying
- Assessing safe vs. unsafe situations
- Understanding rules and responsibilities
- Identifying and protecting body boundaries
- Listening to a guiding voice
- Accessing help and identifying trusted adults
- Determining safe vs. unsafe touches
- Safe vs. unsafe secrets
- Staying safe online and on digital devices
- Establishing personal power and influence



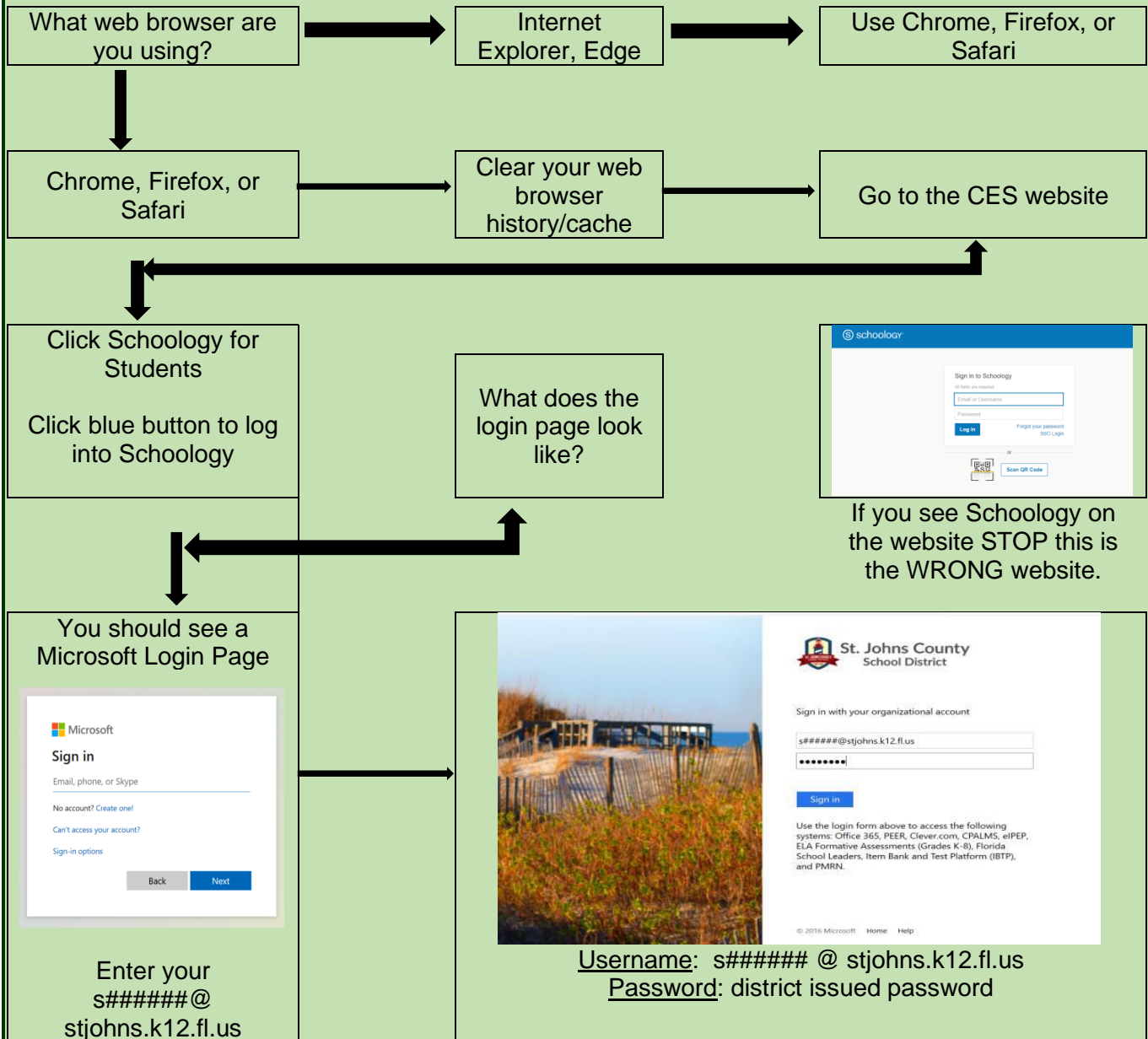
You may find more information at <https://laurenkids.org/resources/safer-smarter-schools/>

You may also contact Bailey Benoit, School Counselor at 904-547-7852 or Bailey.Benoit@stjohns.k12.fl.us with any questions.

Distance Learner Technology Issues

If your child is a distance learner and experiences technology issues during the day, please inform your child's teacher via email and/or Class Dojo. Incoming calls during instructional times will not be directed to the classroom. Incoming calls will be directed to the teacher's voicemail. While your student waits for support have them read a book, complete a reading and/or math iREADY lesson, explore the CES Student Links page, or complete outstanding classwork.

Additional ways to support your distance learner with technology issues:



- Complete a request for help at [https://www.stjohs.k12.fl.us/contact/schoology/](https://www.stjohs.k12.fl.us/contact/schoolology/) .
- Contact the front desk at Crookshank and they will direct you to our IT Keishia McLendon.

Distance Learning Expectations – Quarter 2

Our teachers are teaching students in a classroom while also simultaneously delivering instruction to students at home. We are committed to keeping all children on pace and focused on the same high standards, the way in which learning occurs will vary from the classroom to the distance learning setting.

We ask that parents use the same methods of communication that you used prior to the pandemic. Teachers cannot respond to parent communication during the school day while teaching. Please communicate with our teachers in one of the following ways: Class Dojo, email, voicemail. Teachers will respond during non-instructional times.

We also ask that students follow the provided distance learning schedule; this will vary based on class and students' needs. Teachers will ask students to log on at certain times for whole group live sessions. During non-live sessions, students will be asked to complete independent work, assignments, and assessments. It is the expectation that students be on time to their sessions, a teacher cannot stop instruction to catch a student up. Teachers will offer specific times to remediate instruction for distance learners if needed. It is the expectation that students log on to their intervention groups. **ALL ASSIGNMENTS AND ASSESSMENTS ARE DUE WITHIN TWO WEEKS OF THE ASSIGNED DATE.** After two weeks, students will earn a zero if the assignment and/or assessment has not been submitted.

Attendance is being recorded daily; your student will be marked absent if they do not log on. In addition, students that log on for attendance only then log off will be marked absent beginning next week.

If your student is not able to regularly attend Schoology sessions, engage with their teacher, and/or complete assignments, in the best interest of your child please reconsider this learning model. Currently, we are encouraging families to remain in the selected learning model until the end of the second quarter.

DISMISSAL

Students needing to go home prior to dismissal will be escorted to their guardian's vehicle. *ONLY guardians are able to check students out prior to the end of the school day.* NO EARLY DISMISSAL AFTER 2PM (after 12PM on Wednesdays). Please follow these steps:

- Park in one of three designated parking spots in the second row. Spots will be marked with a sign.
- Please call (904)547-7840 in order to reach the receptionist in the front office.
- Tell the reception area the first and last name of the student(s).
- Have a photo ID ready to show the staff member that will approach your vehicle.
- Your child will be delivered to your car after ID check. **STAY IN YOUR VEHICLE THROUGHOUT THIS PROCESS.**

Please give yourself enough time for this process. It may take a few minutes for your child to be dismissed.

If you are changing the way your child normally goes home, please contact the school in one of three ways: **via the Dismissal Change link on our school's homepage**, a note in the planner, or a written note from home.

Dismissal changes **will not** be accepted over the phone OR after 2:00PM/12:00PM on Weds. unless there is an emergency.