

# Cougar Growl Family Newsletter

Aug 28 – September 1, 2023  
August Character Counts: All Pillars

## Volume 1: Issue 3

<b>Early Car Rider Drop off</b>	<b>7:55 am</b>
<b>School Opens for all students:</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>
<b>School Start Time:</b>	<b>8:25 am</b>
<b>School Dismissal Time:</b>	<b>2:45 pm*</b>
<b>* Wednesday 1:45 pm</b>	

### Monday, August 28

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Zytowski, Frazer, Watts, Skanes  
1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Richardson, White, Harmon, Simcoe

### Tuesday, August 29

2<sup>nd</sup> Math: Zytowski, Frazer, Watts, Skanes  
1<sup>st</sup> Math: Richardson, White, Harmon, Simcoe

### Wednesday, August 30

Early Release 1:45 pm

### Thursday, August 31

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Baker, Kamm  
1<sup>st</sup> Reading: J. Ahr, Rodriguez  
5<sup>th</sup> Reading: Fernandez  
4<sup>th</sup> Reading: Kennelly

### Friday, September 1

2<sup>nd</sup> Math: Baker, Kamm  
1<sup>st</sup> Math: J. Ahr, Rodriguez  
5<sup>th</sup> Math: Fernandez  
4<sup>th</sup> Math: Kennelly  
National College Colors Day

**Mission:** The professional learning community at John A. Crookshank Elementary School is dedicated to collaboration in developing purposeful instructional delivery models. We work together to create intentional learning opportunities that develop the whole child and provide our students with the foundational skills and growth mindset to be both academically and socially emotionally successful. We celebrate individual accomplishments, value diversity, respect exceptionalities, and partner with our families to meet the unique needs of each student.

**Vision:** To develop lifelong learners, nurturing collaborative critical thinkers.

**Quote:** "Life is a succession of lessons which must be lived to be understood." – Helen Keller

## The Future Begins Here!

### HOT TOPICS

#### **Parent Drop Off and Pick:**

Some friendly reminders:

1. Please remain in your vehicle when dropping off and picking up. A CES staff member will assist with your student exiting and entering the vehicle.
2. Remember, the PPU line is a hands-free zone, so help us keep kids safe AND keep the line moving by saving phone calls and texts for later."
3. Please pull up as much as you can to keep the line moving. Try to avoid large gaps in the line so we can make dismissal run smoothly for our students and staff!"

**Student Car Tags:** If your student is a returning car rider, please make sure to get a new 23-24 Car Tag. This applies to all new Cougars as well. Our staff will be looking for the new tags when calling students in the afternoon and releasing students to vehicles. If you need a new car rider tag, they can be picked up in the front office. Make sure to have your identification.

**Walkers:** Just a friendly reminder that the walker gate is for students and parents/guardians who arrive on campus as walkers. The walker gate opens up at 8:00 am in the morning and 3:00pm in the afternoon.

#### **Absence Reporting:**

<https://forms.office.com/r/12VxCbyJv9/#submit-absences>

**Dismissal Changes:** [cestransportation@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:cestransportation@stjohns.k12.fl.us)



#### **Upcoming Dates:**

9/1	National College Colors Day	
9/4	Labor Day – No School	
9/11	PTO/SAC Meeting	5:30 pm
9/12	Interims Issued	
9/15	Buddy a Thon Kick Off	
9/15	International Dot Day	
9/18	Open House	5:00 pm – 6:00 pm
9/29	Last Day of Buddy a Thon Fundraiser	

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## Running Reminders

**Clinic News:** If you have any clinic questions, please call or email Nurse Roxane Smith at 904-547-7832

<https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/health/>

**CES Student and Parent Handbook:** Please see the link for the CES 23-24 Student and Parent PBIS Handbook [CES Student and Parent Handbook 23-24.pdf](#)

### **District Student Code of Conduct:**

Please see the link for the SJCS D 23-24 Student Code of Conduct <https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/schoolservices/conduct/>

**Free Breakfast and Lunch:** John A. Crookshank Elementary is a site for free breakfast and lunch. Breakfast starts at 7:45 am for our Extended Day students and stops at 8:25 am. We encourage all of your students to have breakfast each morning and lunch in our café.

**You've Been Caught ROARing!** We are starting a new PBIS positive recognition program this year called *You've Been Caught ROARing!* Students will be recognized for going above and beyond to meet the CES Guidelines for Success – **Personal Best, Act Responsible, Work Together, Show Respect**. Students who are recognized will receive a recognition slip and then become eligible to win a t-shirt and lunch with Mr. Roach and Mrs. Thomas.

**Tie Tuesday:** This year we are encouraging students to wear a tie on the second Tuesday of each month: 9/12, 10/10, 11/14, 12/12, 1/9, 2/13, 3/19\*, 4/9, 5/14\* \*(Please note these dates are not the second Tuesday)

**Classroom Libraries:** New Florida Law and State Board of Education Rule state that starting July 1, 2023, all books available to students must be reviewed by a certified media specialist. As a result, SJCS D staff is investing time and resources to support the robust classroom libraries that our teachers have built. Our first step in the process is to sort the classroom libraries into two groups, those that are listed in Destiny and those that are not. Destiny is the program we use to inventory and track circulation of library materials. Titles listed in Destiny have already been reviewed and approved by a certified media specialist. Therefore, the books in Destiny will remain in the classroom. Books that are not in Destiny must be stored until they are approved. Approving titles for a school collection is a process guided by SJCS D School Board Rule 4.131 School Library Media Services linked here: <https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/board/wp-content/uploads/sites/11/2022/09/4-131.pdf> The effort to add titles will be ongoing. We believe that access to books by elementary students is critical to growing into successful and informed readers. Our elementary students have time in the media center on a regular basis to select books for checkout. Please ask them about their library books and read together often.

John A. Crookshank Elementary  
1455 N. Whitney St.  
St. Augustine, FL 30284  
(904) – 547 – 7840  
Visit our website  
<https://www-ces.stjohns.k12.fl.us/>

*One Team!  
One Goal!  
Success for All!*

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## State Testing: K – 2 Letter

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) is a progress monitoring system that is administered three times per year to track your student's progress in learning the Benchmarks of Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) Standards throughout this school year. The purpose of this letter is to inform you that your student will take the **Kindergarten/Grade 1/Grade 2 Renaissance Star Early Literacy, Star Reading, and/or Star Math assessment(s)**. Your student's results from PM1 are for informational purposes only, and you will be provided with information about how to access the results after testing is completed.

FAST assessments are computer-adaptive tests taken on a computer or tablet. The questions get easier or more difficult depending on how the student responds, and each student will see different questions. If you or your student would like to review [Star Early Literacy, Star Reading, and/or Star Math] sample items at home, sample test items are available at <https://flfast.org/resources/renaissance-star/renaissance-star>.

The Star Early Literacy assessment typically takes less than 15 minutes to complete. The Star Reading assessment is usually completed in less than 20 minutes, and the Star Math assessment typically takes less than 30 minutes to complete.

8/28- 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Zytowski, Frazer, Watts, Skanes

8/29- 2<sup>nd</sup> Math: Zytowski, Frazer, Watts, Skanes

8/31- 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Baker, Kamm

9/1- 2<sup>nd</sup> Math: Baker, Kamm

8/28- 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Richardson, White, Harmon, Simcoe

8/29- 1<sup>st</sup> Math: Richardson, White, Harmon, Simcoe

8/31- 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: J. Ahr, Rodriguez

9/1- 1<sup>st</sup> Math: J. Ahr, Rodriguez

9/5- K Reading: Dingler, M. Moore

9/6- K Math: Dingler, M. Moore

9/7- K Reading: McQuaig, Taylor, Ramirez, T. Ahr

9/8- K Math: McQuaig, Taylor, Ramirez, T. Ahr

**Make Up Dates:** 8/30, 9/5, 9/6, 9/13, 9/20, 9/21, 9/22, 9/25, 9/26, 9/27, 9/28, 9/29

If you have any questions related to this test administration, you may contact:

Joelle Johnson – [Joelle.Johnson@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:Joelle.Johnson@stjohns.k12.fl.us)

Adriana Orta – [Adriana.Orta@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:Adriana.Orta@stjohns.k12.fl.us)

Bailey Benoit – [Bailey.Benoit@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:Bailey.Benoit@stjohns.k12.fl.us)

For more information about the Florida Statewide Assessments program, please visit the portal at [FLFAST.org](https://FLFAST.org).

Thank you for supporting your student and encouraging him or her to do his or her best during this test administration.

Sincerely,

Patrick Roach

PAWS UP!

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## State Testing: 3-5 Letter

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) is a progress monitoring system that is administered three times per year to track your student's progress in learning the **Benchmarks of Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) Standards** throughout this school year. The purpose of this letter is to inform you that your student will participate in the first administration (**PM1**) of the **Grade [3/4/5/Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) ELA Reading [and Mathematics] assessment[s]**. Your student's results from PM1 are for informational purposes only, and you will be provided with information about how to access the results after testing is completed.

FAST assessments are computer-adaptive tests taken on a computer or tablet. The questions get easier or more difficult depending on how the student responds, and each student will see different questions from a common item bank. Each test attempt (PM1, PM2, and PM3) will present 35–40 items that will cover the entire test "blueprint," meaning students will encounter items representative of the standards within the subject or grade level. For more information on the test design, please visit

<https://www.fldoe.org/accountability/assessments/k-12-student-assessment/best/> . If you or your student would like to interact with the online testing platform or review **FAST ELA Reading [and Mathematics]** sample items at home, sample test materials are available at <https://flfast.org/families.html> .

8/31 – 5<sup>th</sup> Reading: Fernandez

9/1 – 5<sup>th</sup> Math: Fernandez

9/7 – 5<sup>th</sup> Reading: Miller, Acs, Brown, Sarracino

9/8 – 5<sup>th</sup> Math: Miller, Acs, Brown, Sarracino

8/31 – 4<sup>th</sup> Reading: Kennelly

9/1 – 4<sup>th</sup> Math: Kennelly

9/11 – 4<sup>th</sup> Reading: Allen, Zaletel, Lindsey, Smolek

9/12 – 4<sup>th</sup> Math: Allen, Zaletel, Lindsey, Smolek

9/14 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading: McVay, Keating, Matthiesen, Simpson

9/15 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Math: McVay, Keating, Matthiesen, Simpson

9/18 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading: Coriell, Bikowski

9/19 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Math: Coriell, Bikowski

**Make Up Dates:** 9/5, 9/6, 9/13, 9/20, 9/21, 9/22, 9/25, 9/26, 9/27, 9/28, 9/29

**Please review the following policies with your student before testing:**

- **Electronic Devices**—Students are not permitted to access any electronic devices, including, but not limited to, cell phones, smartphones, and smartwatches, at any time during testing or during breaks (e.g., restroom). If your student is found with an electronic device or is found using Bluetooth/wireless headphones/earbuds during testing, his or her test may be invalidated.
- **Testing Rules Acknowledgment**— All tests include a Testing Rules Acknowledgment that reads: "I understand the testing rules that were just read to me. If I do not follow these rules, my test score may be invalidated." Prior to testing, test administrators read the rules to students, and students acknowledge that they understand the testing rules by clicking the box in the secure browser indicating they understand the testing rules.
- **Discussing Test Content after Testing**— The last portion of the testing rules read to students before they click the box to accept the Testing Rules Acknowledgment states that because the content of all statewide assessments is secure, students may not discuss or reveal details about the test content (including test items and passages) after the test. This includes any type of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, or posting to social media sites.

Please make sure your student understands this policy prior to testing and remind them that "discussing" test content includes any kind of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, posting to social media, or sharing online. While students may not share information about secure test content after testing, this policy is not intended to prevent students from discussing their testing experiences with their parents/families.

- **Working Independently**—Students are responsible for doing their own work during the test and for protecting their answers from being seen by others. If students are caught cheating during testing, their tests will be invalidated.
- **Testing Accommodations**—If your student has an Individual Education Plan (IEP), a Section 504 Plan, or is an English Language Learner (ELL) or a recently exited ELL, please contact the school to discuss any testing accommodations that will be provided for your student.

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## PTO Updates

Hello, Cougar Families!

We are your PTO, and our mission is to bring some fun to this school year by planning activities for our children and families, fundraising, and providing our staff with what they need to make the classroom experience the best for our precious children. See the attached flyer for some fun events and important dates coming up this semester!

### Mark your calendars!

Monday, September 11th, 5:30 in the cafeteria: PTO/SAC Meeting

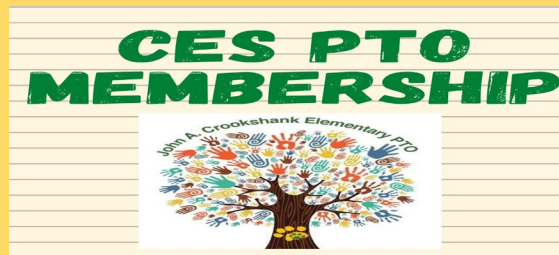
Friday, September 15th: Buddy A Thon kickoff (more info to come later!)

Tuesday, September 19th, 5:00-9:00: Chipotle Spirit Night, see flyer below. ONLINE OR APP ORDERS ONLY, use code **MQBKW3N**

**THANK YOU** to all who attended and helped at our Applebee's Pancake Breakfast- we had a great time and raised over \$500 for our school! Time together, with food, AND helping our school? Win Win! Spirit Events are the best!

**Spirit Day is every Friday**- need some swag to wear? Place an order, and we'll deliver it to your kiddo's class! Purchase a field trip shirt here as well! <https://crookshank-pto.cheddarup.com>

Our **PTO membership** drive is happening now! The class with the most memberships by **September 29th** will win a **POPSICLE PARTY!!!!** Send in the attached form or sign up online here: <https://crookshank-pto.cheddarup.com>.



We're working on our Fall Event- can you help? Email [CrookshankPTO@gmail.com](mailto:CrookshankPTO@gmail.com)

You're doing great, keep it up! GOOOOOOOOO Cougars!

:)

Your CES PTO Board



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## PTO Business Partners

Dear Crookshank Parents and Guardians,

We are looking for local businesses to support activities throughout the year at John A. Crookshank Elementary School and welcome the extended school community of parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and guardians to help us identify local or national businesses that might be interested in partnering with the school. Below are some areas where business partner contributions make a huge difference at Crookshank!

### Fun school events and resources including:

- Holiday and other celebrations to bring our families together
- Learning and positive behavior incentives to encourage our kiddos
- Teacher Appreciation events

### Funding for other critical items, such as:

- Technology and software to enhance curriculum
- Providing classroom aids in the form of supplies or learning resources
- Field Studies and other programs that will impact our students
- Teacher/student supplies to restock classrooms when the supplies run out

### Partnership Levels

#### PRINCIPAL'S PARTNER \$1,000

- Sponsor name & logo promoted via school newsletters, social media, and PTO website
- Featured on Electronic Marquee/ School sign
- Business banner displayed on CES fence for the school year (banner provided by business)
- Opportunity to distribute promotional material at school events
- Featured at Open House Events

#### COUGAR PARTNER \$500

- Sponsor name & logo promoted via school newsletters, social media, and PTO website
- Business banner displayed on CES fence for the school year (banner provided by business)
- Opportunity to distribute promotional material at school events

#### CUB PARTNER \$250

- Sponsor name & logo promoted via school newsletters and social media
- PTO Website

#### PAW PARTNER \$100

- Sponsor name & logo promoted via school newsletters and social media

If you are an individual or business owner interested in participating, or know of a business that might be interested, please email [crookshankPTOpartners@gmail.com](mailto:crookshankPTOpartners@gmail.com) Business partners can also sign up and make a donation directly at our online store <http://crookshank-ptO.cheddarup.com>. With your support, we can achieve great things!

Warmest Regards,

Frani Heilman and Annie Oxarart  
Community Engagement Coordinators



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## PTO Business Partners

### Principal Partners

# BOZARD



LINCOLN

**DRIVEN TO** *inspire.*<sup>TM</sup>

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## Cougar Partners



**Big Brothers  
Big Sisters®**

OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY





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## Cougar Partners



# LittleSmiles



Children's Dentistry  
and Orthodontics



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## Family Technology Workshop



Families will learn how to access Digital Platforms in SJCSD & how these tools help students in all grade Levels.

5:30pm  
**Wednesday  
August 30, 2023**

[bit.ly/SJCSD-FamilyTraining](https://bit.ly/SJCSD-FamilyTraining)

Topics of Discussion:



Schoolology



Clever - Links for Students



Microsoft 365

Presented by St. Johns County Instructional  
Resources & Media Services Department

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K - 6TH GRADE

## Amazing Athletes P.E.

PROGRESSIVE SKILL-BASED SPORTS LESSONS

### PLAY

BASKETBALL  
FOOTBALL  
VOLLEYBALL  
SOCCER  
BASEBALL  
TRACK + FIELD  
CAPTURE THE FLAG  
DODGEBALL

AND MORE!!

### LEARN

NUTRITION  
SELF-CONFIDENCE  
TEAMWORK  
MOTOR SKILLS  
CONDITIONING

### PERFORM

SPEED  
AGILITY  
FLEXIBILITY  
STRENGTH  
COORDINATION

### CLASS OVERVIEW

Warm-Up  
Moving -  
Stretching

Strength - Training



Sport Focus



Sport Relay + Game



Cool Down

Relax + Stretch  
Nutrition  
Motivation



## CLASS DETAILS:

Our weekly classes include a variety of:

- Character Conversations
- Muscle Identification/Work
- Team & Partner Activities
- Fitness Challenges
- Sport-Specific Skills Activities
- Supervised-Sports Game Play

2023/2024 at Crookshank Elementary

Thursdays 3:00-4:00 Oct 5-May 16

**FREE** Registration, \$15.00/class (paid monthly)

**SPOTS STILL OPEN, Don't miss out! Sign up today!!**

**Click HERE or Scan to Enroll**

**Contact us about a staff or sibling discount**

Minimum registrations required to start class



Matt & Julie Kocher [jax@amazingathletes.com](mailto:jax@amazingathletes.com) 615-318-5241 (5239)

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## Enrichment Classes

Check out our Bestselling STEAM Book Series!

Entrepreneur FRANCHISE 500 RANKED 2022

Entrepreneur FRANCHISE 500 RANKED 2021

Entrepreneur FRANCHISE 500 RANKED 2020

Entrepreneur FRANCHISE 500 RANKED 2019

Entrepreneur FRANCHISE 500 RANKED 2018

5 YEARS STRAIGHT!

WWW.CHALLENGE-ISLAND.COM



### Fast Facts About Our Islands

Challenge Island is made up of an archipelago of fun, whimsical, yet fully standard-aligned islands.

Each Island has its own unique cross-curricular theme and features a map and passport.

Every island features its own unique set of thematic destinations. Each destination offers a unique engineering challenge.

During every Challenge Island class or field trip, STEAM Teams visit one of those 100's of destinations and collaboratively tackle the challenge using only a treasure chest of low-tech supplies and their boundless imaginations!

### About Challenge Island

Challenge Island is the World's #1 STEAM Program. With 130 locations across the USA and worldwide, we have partnered with 10,000 schools and served 5 million children through our field trips, after school classes and summer programs. Our bestselling STEAM Adventure book series can be found in stores everywhere.



## 2023-2024 Schedule

### Crookshank Elementary

**TUESDAYS 3:00-4:00pm**  
Fall Session: 9/5 – 12/5  
Spring Session: 1/16 – 4/30

**Cost:**  
**You can attend our program for the 2023-2024 school year at no charge!**

**REGISTER AT:**  
[www.challenge-island.com/firstcoast](http://www.challenge-island.com/firstcoast)



**Questions?**  
Inquire at [firstcoast@challenge-island.com](mailto:firstcoast@challenge-island.com)  
Call us at: 904-447-9547

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## DOUBLE YOUR SNAP BENEFITS WITH



### Step 1: SPOT >



Go to the EBT booth at a participating market before you shop.

Va a la caseta de SNAP al mercado participante antes de comprar.

Swipe Your SNAP card and receive matching dollars to buy Florida-grown fresh fruits & veggies.

\*match limits may apply ask manager for details

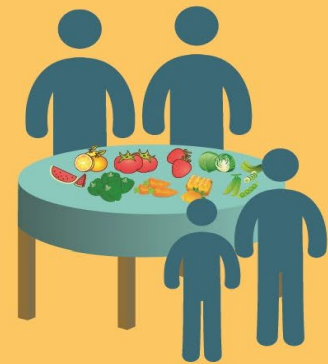
Pase su tarjeta SNAP y reciba dólares equivalentes para comprar frutas y verduras frescas cultivadas en la Florida.

\* Pueden aplicarse límites para la cantidad correspondiente; pregunte al gerente para más detalles



### > Step 2: SWIPE >

### > Step 3: SAVOR

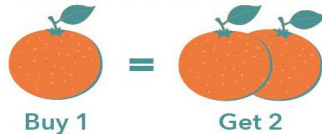


Save on fresh Florida grown produce and enjoy!

¡Ahorre en productos frescos cultivados en Florida y disfrute!



YOU SNAP. WE MATCH.



Buy 1

Get 2



Double Your SNAP Dollars Here:



Every Saturday 8:30-12:30

1340C A1A South, St Augustine, FL

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## Suspicious Activity Reporting App

FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows you to instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials.

Submit A  
Tip Online

Download On The  
App Store

Get It On  
Google Play



### Important Notice

Florida Statute 943.082 states that if, following an investigation, it is determined that a person knowingly submitted a false tip through FortifyFL, the Internet protocol (IP) address of the device on which the tip was submitted will be provided to law enforcement agencies for further investigation, and the reporting party may be subject to criminal penalties under s. 837.05. In all other circumstances, unless the reporting party has chosen to disclose his or her identity, the report will remain anonymous.

