

Cougar Growl Family Newsletter

December 18– December 21, 2023

December Character Counts Traits – All Pillars

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.

Volume 1: Issue 19

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

Monday, December 18

Tuesday, December 19

Wednesday, December 20

Early Release

Thursday, December 21

Early Release - 1:45 pm

End of Quarter Two and First Semester

Friday, December 22

Winter Break begins

Monday, January 8

Cougars Return – School Resumes

Cougar Café Lunch Menu:

<https://schools.mealviewer.com/school/JohnCrookshankElementary>

Absence Reporting:

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

Dismissal Changes:

cestransportation@stjohns.k12.fl.us

The Future Begins Here!

HOT TOPICS

CES Holiday Tree

Vote! Vote! Vote! Voting is open **12/12-12/18**. Votes will be accepted until Monday evening, December 18th. The link for voting is: voteholidaytrees.com

Holiday Wishes

Dear Families,

The winter break brings a time for reflection and a time for new beginnings. We would like to take this opportunity to thank students, staff, and parents for contributing to the John A. Crookshank community that we are all so proud to be part of. Thank you to all of the families, our amazing PTO and our business partners who have made tremendous efforts help support of our mission and vision to prepare and meet the needs of all students. When we start back to school in January, after a much-needed break, we will do so refreshed and with a continued focus on developing lifelong learners, nurturing collaborative critical thinkers. As you celebrate the holiday season, please do so safely, having a cheerful and relaxing winter break.

Donation Box

There will be a wrapped donation box located in the main hallway. If you can find it in your heart to donate, please drop in clothing items and blankets. All items will be donated to the Betty Griffin Center.

PM2 Testing Window

The FAST Cambium & STAR Progress Monitoring 2 Assessment Window Opens Monday, December 4 and runs through January 26.

Growth Mindset: “Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated.” — R Collier

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Upcoming Events

| | |
|------|---|
| 1/8 | Cougars return |
| 1/8 | SAC/PTO Meeting 5:30 pm |
| 1/9 | Tie Tuesday |
| 1/12 | Second Quarter PAW Party |
| 1/15 | No School - Recognition of MLK Birthday |
| 1/19 | Cougars with Character Assembly K-5 |
| | National Popcorn Day |
| | Report Cards |

Running Reminders

Dismissal and Checkouts

Dismissal changes & Early Checkouts must be completed by 2:00 PM (M, T, TH, F) and by 1:00 PM (W). All changes should be in writing. Please send changes to CES_transportation@stjohns.k12.fl.us

Walker Drop Off

Parents and families, instead of walking up or riding a bike up the bus loop entrance, please use the sidewalks along the playground to arrive at the walker gate. It's a very unsafe mix of walking/biking and buses.

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

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/>

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.

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Instructional Materials Adoption (Social Studies)

St. Johns County School District's review of Social Studies resources has concluded. Resources that were selected by adoption committees for submission to the School Board for adoption consideration may be accessed on our website at <https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/media/instructional-materials/adoption/> You may utilize the following link to review the materials: [View Selected Titles](#) All selected resources appear on the Florida Department of Education adoption list. Updates will be posted when appropriate.

Wellness Navigator

Our new Wellness Navigator, Hilena Coleman has joined the CES Family. As some of you know, this position serves as a facilitator between our school community and local medical, dental and resource services. Mrs. Coleman is excited about working with our Cougar Families.

Child Safety Matters

K-5 students will participate in two Child Safety Matters Lessons during their media resource time in the upcoming months. This program is state approved and meets Florida's requirements for health education. Child Safety Matters (CSM) is a comprehensive, evidence-based curriculum for elementary school students in grades K-5. The program educates and empowers children and all relevant adults with information and strategies to prevent, recognize, and respond appropriately to bullying, cyberbullying, all types of abuse, and digital abuse dangers. The lessons will be facilitated by our school counselor, Bailey Benoit. Please reach out to bailey.benoit@stjohns.k12.fl.us with any questions.

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

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.

CES Student and Parent Handbook: Please see the link for the CES 23-24 Student and Parent PBIS Handbook https://sjschools-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/g/personal/e016892_stjohns_k12_fl_us/Ec-RRFxqvNBNmxELeQ6SrQkBULB7vmYDXR98HjnAY3-Q_w?e=lrHlDe

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

Cougar Growl Family Newsletter

December 18– December 21, 2023

December Character Counts Traits – All Pillars

PTO Updates

Hello, Cougar Families! Join us for the events that we are excited to bring to Crookshank! Our main goal is to keep building the wonderful sense of community that we are so lucky to have at our school. Whether it be the excitement of planning and volunteering, to attending activities with your family, know that your participation is so appreciated and valuable. Stay tuned for all of these opportunities. Thank you for your support, and please let us know if you need anything!

Bingo for Books

On January 23rd from 5:30pm-7:00pm , come play Bingo and win brand new books! This event will be FREE to attend, and we have limited seats available! Stay tuned for RSVP information, as well as how to pre-order pizza for that night! We are looking for donations of brand new books- drop any donations off in the front office. Thank you!

Spirit Night

Mark your calendar! Our January Spirit Night will take place Tuesday, January 30th from 5-8 at Applebee's on SR 312.

Volunteer With Us

We have several PTO Board Positions available for next school year! If you are interested in becoming more involved and joining a well-organized group that brings so much to our school, please let us know- we are a no drama group and have a lot of fun! Contact CrookshankPTO@gmail.com

Spirit Wear Day

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

Jacksonville Icemen Game

Wednesday, January 31st will be Crookshank Night at the 7:00 game! Our Carolin' Cougars will perform the National Anthem, and we will receive \$5 from every ticket sold! Tickets to an Icemen game makes the perfect holiday gift! Purchase your tickets using this link to sit with your Crookshank friends and to benefit our school: <https://fevo-enterprise.com/event/Crookshankelementary> See the flyer below for additional

Thank you!

On behalf of our PTO Board, we would like to THANK our Crookshank families for all of the support you have given this semester. We are growing each year, and our goal always remains to help our school however we can and provide opportunities for our kiddos to have fun! We wish you and your family a happy, healthy holiday season, a restful break, and look forward to more fun in 2024! details!

Your CES PTO Board

One Team!
One Goal!
Success for All!

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December 18– December 21, 2023

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Join the Crookshank Elementary Chorus for their God Bless America performance with the Icemen on Wednesday, January 31st!

Wednesday, January 31st
Doors Open: 6:00pm
Puck Drop: 7:00pm
Vystar Veterans Memorial Arena

\$5 of each ticket purchased through the link below or the QR code above will be donated back to Crookshank Elementary!

TO PURCHASE TICKETS, PLEASE VISIT:

<https://fevo-enterprise.com/Crookshankelementary>



Gerry Brown | gerry@jacksonvilleicemen.com | (407)-758-8713

Cougar Growl Family Newsletter

December 18– December 21, 2023
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PM2 Testing Update: Grades K – 2nd

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 PM2 are for informational purposes only. Upon request, 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 20 minutes to complete. The Star Reading assessment is usually completed in less than 30 minutes, and the Star Math assessment typically takes less than 30 minutes to complete.

1/9 – 1st Reading: - J. Ahr, Richardson, Rodriguez, Simcoe, White
1/10 – 1st Math: - J. Ahr, Richardson, Rodriguez, Simcoe, White
1/9 – 2nd Reading: - Baker, Kamm, Frazer, Watts, Zytowski
1/10 – 2nd Math: - Baker, Kamm, Frazer, Watts, Zytowski
1/16 – KG Reading: - T.Ahr, Dingler, McQuaig, Ramirez, Taylor
1/17 – KG Math: - T.Ahr, Dingler, McQuaig, Ramirez, Taylor

Make Up Dates: 1/11, 1/12, 1/16, 1/17, 1/18, 1/19

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

Joelle Johnson – Joelle.Johnson@stjohns.k12.fl.us
Adriana Orta – Adriana.Orta@stjohns.k12.fl.us
Bailey Benoit – Bailey.Benoit@stjohns.k12.fl.us

For more information about the Florida Statewide Assessments program, please visit the portal at 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!

Ashley Torrente
Assistant Principal

Ashley.Torrente@stjohns.k12.fl.us

Patrick Roach
Principal

Patrick.Roach@stjohns.k12.fl.us

Christi Thomas
Assistant Principal

Christi.Thomas@stjohns.k12.fl.us



St. Johns County
School District

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PM2 Testing Update: Grades 3rd – 5th

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 (PM2) of the **Grade [3/4/5/Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) ELA Reading [and Mathematics] assessment[s]**. Your student's results from PM2 are for informational purposes only. Upon request, 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>.

| | |
|---|---|
| 12/4 – 3 rd Reading: McVay, Keating, Matthiesen, Simpson | 12/11 – 4 th Reading: Allen, Zaletel, Skanes, Smolek |
| 12/5 – 3 rd Math: McVay, Keating, Matthiesen, Simpson | 12/12 – 4 th Math: Allen, Zaletel, Skanes, Smolek |
| 12/7 – 3 rd Reading: Corriell, Bikowski | 12/14 – 5 th Reading: Miller, Acs, Brown, Sarracino |
| 12/7 – 4 th Reading: Kennelly | 12/15 – 5 th Math: Miller, Acs, Brown, Sarracino |
| 12/8 – 4 th Math: Kennelly | 12/18 – 5 th Reading: Fernandez |
| 12/8 – 3 rd Math: Corriell, Bikowski | 12/19 – 5 th Math: Fernandez |

Make Up Dates: 12/6, 12/13, 12/20, 1/10, 1/11, 1/12, 1/16, 1/17, 1/18, 1/19, 1/22, 1/23, 1/24, 1/25, 1/26

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.

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December 18– December 21, 2023
December Character Counts Traits – All Pillars

PM2 Testing Update: Grades 3rd – 5th

- **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.

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

Joelle.Johnson@stjohns.k12.fl.us

Adriana Orta – Adriana.Orta@stjohns.k12.fl.us **Bailey Benoit** – Bailey.Benoit@stjohns.k12.fl.us

For more information about the FAST program, please visit the portal at 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!

Ashley Torrente

Assistant Principal

Ashley.Torrente@stjohns.k12.fl.us

Patrick Roach

Principal

Patrick.Roach@stjohns.k12.fl.us

Christi Thomas

Assistant Principal

Christi.Thomas@stjohns.k12.fl.us



St. Johns County
School District

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5th Grade is now selling
WORLD'S FINEST®
CHOCOLATE



All proceeds will go to our end of year Universal trip!

Each bar is \$1.00

Each box is \$60.00

Buy as many as you'd like. You can pay by check (made out to: CES) or cash.



11TH ANNUAL

CHARACTER COUNTS!

In St. Johns County

6K 3K

RUN • WALK

Saturday, February 3, 2024
9 A.M.

Palencia Elementary School



Register by January 5, 2024, to receive a race t-shirt and other goodies from sponsoring businesses and community organizations!



PRESENTING
SPONSOR

REGISTER AT
[RACEMITH.COM](https://www.racemith.com)



Cougar Growl Family Newsletter

December 18– December 21, 2023

December Character Counts Traits – All Pillars



ST JOHN'S COUNTY
CENTER FOR THE ARTS
AT RJ MURRAY MIDDLE SCHOOL



SJCCA AUDITIONS:

JANUARY 27TH, 2024

RJ MURRAY MIDDLE SCHOOL

OPEN TO ANY 5TH GRADER IN SJCS D

BAND. CHORUS. DANCE. THEATRE.

GRAPHIC DESIGN. VISUAL ART.

WWW-MMS.STJOHNS.K12.FL.US/SJCCA

Cougar Growl Family Newsletter

December 18– December 21, 2023

December Character Counts Traits – All Pillars

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 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



PTO Business Partners

Principal Partners

BOZARD



LINCOLN

DRIVEN TO *inspire.*TM

Cougar Growl Family Newsletter
December 18- December 21, 2023
December Character Counts Traits - All Pillars

Principal Partners



Cougar Growl Family Newsletter
December 18- December 21, 2023
December Character Counts Traits - All Pillars

Cougar Partners



**Big Brothers
Big Sisters®**
OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY



Cougar Growl Family Newsletter

December 18- December 21, 2023

December Character Counts Traits - All Pillars

Cougar Partners



J. LEE CONSTRUCTION LLC
ROOFING
904 - 669 - 3914



LittleSmiles



**Children's Dentistry
and Orthodontics**



PREMIER
**MARTIAL
ARTS**

Cougar Growl Family Newsletter
December 18- December 21, 2023
December Character Counts Traits - All Pillars

Cougar Partners



Cougar Growl Family Newsletter

December 18- December 21, 2023

December Character Counts Traits - All Pillars

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



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 615-318-5241 (5239)

Cougar Growl Family Newsletter

December 18– December 21, 2023

December Character Counts Traits – All Pillars



CHALLENGE ISLAND

Enrichment Classes

Parents' Picks AWARDS 2022

Parents' Picks AWARDS BEST STEAM PROGRAM IN THE WORLD 2022

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



Questions?

Inquire at firstcoast@challenge-island.com

Call us at: 904-447-9547

Cougar Growl Family Newsletter

December 18- December 21, 2023

December Character Counts Traits - All Pillars

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



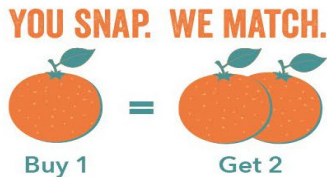
Step 2: SWIPE

Step 3: SAVOR



Save on fresh Florida grown produce and enjoy!

¡Ahorre en productos frescos cultivados en Florida y disfrute!



Double Your SNAP Dollars Here:



Every Saturday 8:30-12:30

1340C A1A South, St Augustine, FL

Cougar Growl Family Newsletter
December 18– December 21, 2023
December Character Counts Traits – All Pillars

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.

