

# Cougar Growl Family Newsletter

January 6 – January 10, 2025

January Character Counts Trait – Respect

**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 2: 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 (No ER Nov 13 – Feb 5)

## **Monday, January 6**

Students Return

## **Tuesday, January 7**

## **Wednesday, January 8**

District Spelling Bee  
Ramirez/Ham Reading Test  
Full School Day - Dismissal 2:45 pm

## **Thursday, January 9**

Law Enforcement Appreciation  
McQuaig/Tredik Reading Test

## **Friday, January 10**

Spirit Night Panda Express 10 am to 9 pm

**Growth Mindset:** "The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." - Dr. Seuss

## **Absence Reporting:**

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

## **Early Checkout/Dismissal Changes:**

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

## **Cougar Café Lunch Menu:**

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

## **The Future Begins Here!**

### **HOT TOPICS**

#### **Family Literacy Night**

PTO Family Literacy Night: Bingo for Books, January 23 at 5:30 pm. It'll be a night of family fun, starting with dinner. Please see flyer below. Register using the QR code

#### **Kid's Heart Challenge**

Mark your calendar! The American Heart Association's Kids Heart Challenge will begin on January 22<sup>nd</sup>. To get started, download the AHA Schools app in your app store or visit <http://www2.heart.org/goto/CrookshankES>. Your student will earn a free KHC wristband just for registering!



#### **Families of Current CES 5th graders**

All rising 6th grade students are eligible to apply for admission to the award-winning "St. Johns County Center for the Arts (SJCCA) at R.J. Murray Middle School". Tryouts coming soon. Please see below.

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## **Running Reminders**

### **Car Rider - Parent Drop Off /Pick Up**

Some friendly reminders:

1. Please remain in your vehicle when dropping off and picking up. A CES staff member or safety patrol 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 arrival and dismissal run smoothly for our students and staff.

### **Access to CES**

All adults must be registered volunteers to enter the school building during school hours. You must complete the district's Volunteer Application if you wish to volunteer in a classroom, participate in any class activities, chaperone/attend a field study, eat lunch with your student, participate in a parent conference, or attend any performance or event during school hours.

Please follow the link on the John A. Crookshank website or St. Johns County School District websites to apply. <https://stjohns.keepntrack.com/apply/> Once registered as a volunteer, all visitors will sign in at the front desk and present a valid state identification to receive a Volunteer Badge that must be worn in while in the building.

### **Sign in Procedure**

In line with a district wide sign in policy, all visitors requesting to enter the building will need to sign and provide an identification card. Thank you for following this safety measure.

### **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](mailto:CES_transportation@stjohns.k12.fl.us)

## **Running Reminders**

### **Receive the Cougar Growl**

If you know someone who does not receive our Cougar Growl, please share this link with them.

<https://forms.office.com/r/3348QsS14Z>

### **Gently Used Clothes Needed In Clinic**

The clinic is in need of gently used clothes, specifically boys shorts and pants. Please stop by the front office. Thank you!

### **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/>

### **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](mailto:bailey.benoit@stjohns.k12.fl.us) with any questions.

### **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.

### **Varsity Tutors**

Free online resource through Clever.

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### **Home Access Center**

The Home Access Center (HAC) is a web-based application that is part of our Student Information System called eSchoolPlus. Please visit the website below to access or sign up for an account at <https://homeaccess.stjohns.k12.fl.us> This system provides parents and students with a daily summary page, schedule and attendance, discipline information, class work, report cards, test scores, and course requests for all students in grades 3-5. If you need assistance with your account, please contact our Computer Operator, Lisa Cogar at 904-547-7846.

### **Resiliency Florida**

In partnership with Resiliency Florida, we will explore CHARACTER COUNTS! pillar characteristic(s) each month. Attached to the School Messenger email are the Parent Resources for Self-Awareness and Self-Management for September. Moving forward, I will send the parent resources to you monthly.

<https://www.buildresiliency.org/>

## Upcoming Events

1/13 PTO/SAC Meeting 5:30 pm

1/16 Report Cards

1/17 Cougars with Character Grade 3-5

Grade 3 8:40 AM

Grade 4 9:00 AM

Grade 5 9:20 AM

1/20 MLK Recognition – No School

1/21 Cougars with Character Grades PreK-2

PreK 8:45 AM

K 9:00 AM

1st 9:20 AM

2nd 9:40 AM

Tie Tuesday

Vision is Priceless

1/23 PTO Bingo for Books

Big Smiles Dental

## Positive Behavior Support

### **PBIS Rewards App**

PBIS Rewards has a Family App that will give you some insight into how your child is doing with respect to our PBIS program. The Family App will run on most smart devices, including smartphones and tablets. You can find it in the iPhone/iPad App Store, Google Play, and the Amazon App Store. Just search for "PBIS Rewards Family."

Once you have installed the app, you will have to confirm your relationship to your student by certifying that you are a parent or guardian. Once you have done this you will be able to see your student's progress with PBIS Rewards.

You can add more than one student to the app, even if they go to different schools, as long as the school is using PBIS Rewards. We encourage you to talk with your student about what they must do to be successful with PBIS Rewards and to encourage them when you see them being successful.

### **PBIS Stores Dates**

<del>11/22</del>	<del>12/20</del>	3/28
1/24	2/13	3/7
4/17	5/9	5/28

### **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, Mrs. Torrente and Mrs. McMahan.

### **CES Student and Parent Handbook**

Please see the link for the CES 24-25 Student and Parent PBIS Handbook: [CES Student and Parent Handbook 24-25.pdf](#)

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

Please see the link for the SJCS 24-25 Student Code of Conduct

<https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/schoolservices/conduct/>

### **Bullying Education**

If the opportunity presents itself to have a conversation with your child, please feel free to use the following link

<https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/sdfs/parent/>

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## John A. Crookshank Elementary

1455 N. Whitney Street  
Saint Augustine, FL 32084  
(904) 547-7840  
<http://www.ces.stjohns.k12.fl.us>



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 for 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) on the dates below. The results from PM3 will show how well your student has mastered the grade level content standards, and you will be provided with information about how to access the results after testing is completed.

Your student's FAST assessments are computer-adaptive tests taken on a computer or tablet. The questions get less or more difficult depending on how a 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://ffast.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.

12/5 – <b>Reading - 1<sup>st</sup></b> : Lindsey, Mukherjee, McNeill, Simcoe	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> : Kamm, Watts, Sarracino, Moore, Baker
12/6 – <b>Math - 1<sup>st</sup></b> : Lindsey, Mukherjee, McNeill, Simcoe	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> : Kamm, Watts, Sarracino, Moore, Baker
12/12 – <b>Reading - 1<sup>st</sup></b> : Rodriguez, White	
12/13 – <b>Math - 1<sup>st</sup></b> : Rodriguez, White	
1/8 – <b>Reading - K</b> : Ramirez/Ham	
1/9 – <b>Reading - K</b> : McQuaig, Tredik	
1/10 – <b>Math - K</b> : McQuaig, Tredik	
1/15 – <b>Math - K</b> : Ramirez/Ham	
1/16 – <b>Reading - K</b> : Dingler, Heffernan, Frazer	
1/17 – <b>Math - K</b> : Dingler, Heffernan, Frazer	
1/20 – 1/24 <b>Make Ups</b>	

If you have any questions related to this test administration, you may contact Adriana Orta at [Adriana.Orta@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:Adriana.Orta@stjohns.k12.fl.us) For more information about the Florida Statewide Assessments program, please visit the portal at [FLFAST.org](http://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!

Patrick Roach  
Principal  
[Patrick.Roach@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:Patrick.Roach@stjohns.k12.fl.us)

Ashley Torrente  
Assistant Principal  
[Ashley.Torrente@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:Ashley.Torrente@stjohns.k12.fl.us)

Tish McMahan  
Assistant Principal  
[Patricia.McMahan@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:Patricia.McMahan@stjohns.k12.fl.us)

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## R.J. Murray Middle School Informational Sessions

### SJCCA JANUARY INFORMATION NIGHTS

Date	Location	Time
December 9 <sup>th</sup>	Virtual Meeting: <a href="#">Join the meeting now</a>	6:00pm
December 18 <sup>th</sup>	Arts Info Night at R.J. Murray Middle School	6:00pm

All rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders can apply for SJCCA using their HAC account.

Auditions for beginner to advanced SJCCA classes are on Saturday, January 18<sup>th</sup> at RJMMS. Audition times vary depending on what your student is auditioning for.

Please click the following link for helpful audition information and highlights: <https://www-mms.stjohns.k12.fl.us/sjcca/>





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**5<sup>th</sup> Grade Students are Eligible to Try Out**



**Come tryout for the JV Murray/Gamble Rogers/Sebastian combined team. Registration opens on 12/10/24. Register at <https://www.sjmsaa.org/baseball>**

**Tryouts are on 1/6/25 and 1/8/25 at 330 pm. The location is Pomar Park. All kids trying out must be registered. Please call the head coach Nicholas Cobb at (904) 907-5540 with any questions.**

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**UF** Lastinger Center for Learning  
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

new  
worlds  
reading



Join New Worlds Reading, Investing in Kids, & Crookshank Elementary for a

## Literacy Parent Workshop

### HAVE FUN WHILE:

- Learning strategies, tips, and tools to support your child's reading development!
- Enjoying a free meal for registered participants.
- Participating in reading activities and games.

Pre-register with the QR code:



Jan  
23

THURSDAY

5:30 pm

Crookshank Elementary School  
1455 N. Whitney Street, St. Augustine



**INK!**  
|| INVESTING IN KIDS ||

#NewWorldsReading

[newworldsreading.com](http://newworldsreading.com)



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## Welcome from your Crookshank PTO!

### Come Have Fun With Us

We are looking for someone to plan a Talent Show for our Cougars! We will help you with resources and volunteers, we just need your creativity and coordination! Email [CrookshankPTO@gmail.com](mailto:CrookshankPTO@gmail.com) if you are ready for this fun opportunity!

### Spirit Night Panda Express

Friday, January 10, 2025 10am to 9pm located at 1934 US-1, St Augustine, FL 32086. 20% of events sales will be donated back to Crookshank Elementary School. Order in person by showing the paper flyer or show it on your smartphone or order via their website or app by entering the code 376896 in the fundraiser code box.

### Volunteer With Us!

New to the signup: Holiday Shop Helpers! <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4AA5A62AAAF5C61-50513085-volunteer> Remember to complete the School Access Form to be approved as a volunteer: <https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/volunteer/>

### PTO Meetings

Our next PTO/SAC meeting is on Monday, January 13 at 5:30pm in the Media Center. Come hear what's going on around school!

### Birthday Sign

Give your kiddo a birthday shoutout on our brand new electronic sign for only \$10! Make sure you order no later than the Wednesday before their birthday week- <https://crookshank-pt0.cheddarup.com/>

### Online Store

Have you visited our online store? It has EVERYTHING from hats, shirts, CES swag, birthday sign info, and business partner registration! It is so easy! <https://crookshank-pt0.cheddarup.com> Free classroom delivery!

### Box Tops

Remember cutting out Box Tops when we were kids? Now it is virtual! Download the app and use code QPU606JL and start snapping those receipts- each one adds up to a donation for Crookshank!

### Need to Reach Us or Keep Up?

Here are the best ways:

- \*Check out our section in the weekly CES newsletter sent by Mr. Roach
- \*Read emails and texts sent home highlighting PTO happenings!
- \*Check out Class Dojo posts
- \*Follow us on Facebook and Instagram
- \*Look at the PTO website: <https://sites.google.com/view/crookshankpto/home>

*Thank you from the 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!

Can you recommend businesses (including your own!) that can donate resources or products or provide a sponsorship to directly support our activities?

- Several partnership levels are available, all of which entitle your business to receive recognition.
- All donated goods and services valued at each partner level will receive the same benefits.
- Crookshank PTO is a 501(c)(3); all donations are tax deductible.

### 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-ptu.cheddarup.com>. With your support, we can achieve great things!

Warmest Regards,

Annie Oxarart and Lynne Sykes, Community Engagement Coordinators



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## PTO Business Partners

# BOZARD



LINCOLN

DRIVEN TO *inspire*.™



## Big Brothers Big Sisters®

OF ST. JOHNS COUNTY



# GEICO®

LOCAL OFFICE

904-506-6500  
St. Augustine

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## PTO Business Partners



Dr. Rebecca A. Faunce DMD

At the office of Dr. Rebecca Faunce  
we encourage you to Smile, *With Confidence!*

CALL today for a  
Complimentary Consultation!

SPARK™ CLEAR ALIGNER SYSTEM DAMON SMILE  
More than straight teeth™



TMJ Botox A

(904) 829-8899 faunceorthodontics.com  
201 Health Park Blvd. Ste 216 - St. Augustine



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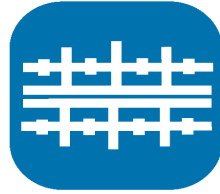


Smiles by

---

DR CRAIG HADGIS

**ORTHODONTIST**



# LittleSmiles

Children's Dentistry  
and Orthodontics



## THE KLINGE GROUP

(SINCE 1989)

*Finding Talent for Opportunity Since 1988*

[www.KlingeExecutiveRecruitingandCoaching.com](http://www.KlingeExecutiveRecruitingandCoaching.com)

[Kris@theklingegroup.com](mailto:Kris@theklingegroup.com)



Tel (904) 461-5521



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Our after-school program teaches fundamentals for Baseball and Softball in a safe, fun, and inclusive atmosphere. Grades K - 5 can register at [BackyardRule.com](http://BackyardRule.com) or email [nate@backyardrule.com](mailto:nate@backyardrule.com)

## ***Mondays***

RB Hunt

## ***Tuesdays***

Crookshank  
Otis A. Mason

## ***Wednesdays***

Osceola  
RB Hunt

## ***Thursdays***

VRA



Clinics ~ Camps ~ Fundraisers ~ Team Building ~ Tournaments ~ Special events

**BackyardRule.com**

Hello Crookshank Elementary!

My name is Coach Nate Fudala and I am so happy to offer to you our Backyard Rule After-School Program, where we teach the fundamental skills for Baseball and Softball in a safe, fun, and inclusive atmosphere! Class will be on Tuesdays from 3:00 pm- 4:30 pm located on school property. Registration is open to boys and girls grades K- 5. We provide all bats and balls, so students do not need to bring any gloves, bats, or other equipment of their own. All of our playing materials are soft and safety is our first priority. This class serves as an excellent introduction to the game and is also challenging and skill sharpening for more experienced players. You can find registration and additional information at the link below, or email me at [nate@backyardrule.com](mailto:nate@backyardrule.com) anytime! PS, if you use the promo code: CSQ2 at checkout it will reduce the 8-week registration fee to half off, which accounts for the 4 remaining weeks of the semester.

<https://backyardrule.com/registernow/after-school-quarter>

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girl scouts  
of gateway council



All fun.  
No filter.  
Be a Girl Scout.

Imagine it—you and your forever friends.  
Dreaming up adventures. Making the whole world  
sparkle with your own personal brand of magic.

Every other Thursday  
3:00-4:00, K-5 Welcome  
Contact Lauren Rowland  
[Lrowland@gsgateway.org](mailto:Lrowland@gsgateway.org)  
if you have any  
questions!

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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.



**FORTIFYFL**

CLICK HERE TO REPORT  
SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY.