

Cougar Growl Family Newsletter

August 11 – August 15, 2025

August Character Counts Trait – 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 3: Issue 1

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, August 11

First Day of School
K Staggered Start A-M

Tuesday, August 12

K Staggered Start N-Z
Tie Tuesday

Wednesday, August 13

Early Release 1:45 pm

Thursday, August 14

Friday, August 16

Absence Reporting:

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

Early Checkout/Dismissal Changes:

cestransportation@stjohns.k12.fl.us

Cougar Café Lunch Menu:

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

Growth Mindset: "You're braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think". **AA Milne**

The Future Begins Here!

HOT TOPICS

PK and Kindergarten Walk In

Just a reminder to our Kinder parents that Monday, August 11, or Tuesday, August 12 you are able to walk your student to the classroom door. Kindergarten parents will be able to escort their student to class Wednesday, August 13. Our PK students may be escorted with a parent on Monday, August 11.

Kindergarten Staggered Starts

Monday, August 11 – Students Last Name, A-M
Tuesday, August 12 – Students Last Name, N-Z

Car Rider – Parent Pick Up Cards

If your student is a returning car rider, please make sure to get a new 25-26 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. When requesting a new tag, please make sure to have your identification.

CES Social Media

PTO

General Email – crookshankPTO@gmail.com

Business Partners – CrookshankPTOpartners@gmail.com

Webpage- sites.google.com/view/crookshankpto

Facebook – www.facebook.com/crookshankcougarspto

Principal

X- @cespawsup

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Upcoming Events

8/19	PTO Spirit Night Zaxbys 120 Harvest Lane	5:00 pm – 8:00 pm
8/20	Student Active Response Assembly PK- 2	
8/21	Student Active Response Assembly 3-5	
8/25	Coin Wars Begins	
8/26	Coin Wars	
8/27	Coin Wars	
8/28	K,1,3 Health Screenings	8:30 am- 12:00 pm
	Coin Wars- PBIS Rewards	
8/29	Coin Wars	
9/1	Labor Day – No School	

Running Reminders

Sign in Procedure: In line with a district wide sign in policy, all visitors requesting to enter the building will need to provide an identification card and sign into our Raptor Visitors System. Thank you for following this safety measure. QR Code below to register.

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:CEStransportation@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 25-26 Car Tag. This applies to all returning Cougars as well. Our staff will be looking for car tags 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.

CES Student and Parent Handbook: Please see the link for the CES 25-26 Student and Parent Handbook: [CES Parent and Student Handbook 25-26 wout PAWS.pdf](#)

District Student Code of Conduct: Please see the link for the SJCS D 25-26 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.

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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.

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/>

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. Whilden and Mrs. Jeffers

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

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.

Parent Square

Parent Square is a rapid phone, email, and/or text notification system provided by our school district to communicate important or emergency information efficiently. This system will be used for providing accurate information to parents/guardians about daily attendance and safety as well as communication from the principal. For you to receive these messages, **please make sure that your contact information is up to date.** QR Code below to register.

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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!

Fundraiser

Monday August 25 until Friday, August 29, 2025

In the MAIN HALLWAY until 8:25 am.

Each grade will have a jar to fill each morning. EVERY COIN OR DOLLAR will count as a point for their grade.

Every day, the grade level with the most points in the jar for the day will get extra recess!

The grade level with the most points at the end of the week will win a snack cart for their whole grade!

All proceeds will fund PBIS for the school year!

Online Store

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

August Spirit Night

Tuesday, August 19, 2025, at the Zaxbys's located at 120 Harvest Lane off of State Rd 16 from 5:00-8:00 pm. 10% of all proceeds will be donated to Crookshank Elementary School. Make sure you mention Crookshank when ordering!

September Spirit Night

Monday, September 8, 2025, from 5-9pm at the Carmelo's Pizza. A percentage of all proceeds will be donated to Crookshank Elementary School! Make sure you mention Crookshank when ordering!

Sincerely,

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!

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 Business partners can also sign up and make a donation directly at our online store <http://crookshank-ptto.cheddarup.com>. With your support, we can achieve great things!

Warmest Regards,

Community Engagement Coordinators



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**DID
YOU
KNOW?**

These are CES PTO's official
social media platforms,
email contacts, and our
website! Check them out!

General Email: crookshankpto@gmail.com

Business Partner: CrookshankPTOpartners@gmail.com

Webpage: sites.google.com/view/crookshankpto

Facebook: www.facebook.com/crookshankcougarspto

Instagram: [@crookshankpto](https://www.instagram.com/crookshankpto)

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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.

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



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Parent Square Communication Platform



ParentSquare

Download the App



Android



iOS

www.parentsquare.com

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Raptor Visitor and Volunteer System



Procedure for School Access

As required by Florida state law, everyone **MUST** have a cleared background check to go past the front office at John A. Crookshank. Your driver's license is required to enter the building at all times. A photo of your ID will not work as you will need to scan your Driver's License. You **MUST** have school access approval to volunteer at the school, attend any conferences, awards events or chaperone field trips.

Now is the time to go ahead and apply for school access if you have not already done so! Please make sure all spouses, grandparents, siblings over the age of 18, etc. who may visit the school are also approved to enter the building.

Enter all required information (including first, middle and last name). You will receive an email when your application is received and when it is approved. The Raptor system will send you an email when your school access is expiring and will prompt you to update your application.

The front doors will remain locked during school hours. Front Office personnel will request visitors state the nature of the visit before the doors will be unlocked. If there are multiple visitors, all visitors will need to respond before being able to enter. We appreciate your patience and understanding as the safety of our students is paramount. If you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact the front office at 904-547-7840 or 904-547-3945

Use Your Smartphone

Scan the QR code below to complete the School Access Volunteer Application on your smartphone.

