

Cougar Growl Family Newsletter

February 9 – February 13, 2026

February Character Counts Trait – Caring

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 24

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, February 9

SAC meeting 5:30 pm
 Valentines' Grams on sale

Tuesday, February 10

Valentines' Grams on sale
 Interims
 Tie Tuesday

Wednesday, February 11

Early Release 1:45 pm
 Valentines' Grams Distributed

Thursday, February 12

Friday, February 13

Teacher In Service – No School for Students

Monday, February 16

Presidents' Day – No School

Early Checkout/Dismissal Changes:

cestransportation@stjohns.k12.fl.us

Cougar Café Lunch Menu:

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

Reporting Absences

[Request to Excuse a Student Absence Form](#)

Growth Mindset: “Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better.” - Maya Angelou

HOT TOPICS

Kids Heart Challenge

Top class for dollars raised		Top class for registered students		Top grade for dollars raised		Top grade for registered students	
#1	Keating 2nd \$365 Amount Raised	#1	Watts 2nd 7 # Total Students	#1	1st \$709 Amount Raised	#1	2nd 22 # Total Students
#2	Rodriguez 1st \$303 Amount Raised	#2	Rodriguez 1st 6 # Total Students	#2	2nd \$671 Amount Raised	#2	1st 22 # Total Students
#3	Watts 2nd \$257 Amount Raised	#3	McVay 2nd 5 # Total Students	#3	3rd \$406 Amount Raised	#3	Kindergarten 14 # Total Students
#4	Lindsey 1st \$161 Amount Raised	#4	Dingler Kindergarten 5 # Total Students	#4	Kindergarten \$195 Amount Raised	#4	Pre-K/TK/Pre-school 13 # Total Students
#5	Dingler Kindergarten \$143 Amount Raised	#5	Keating 3rd 5 # Total Students	#5	Pre-K/TK/Pre-school \$133 Amount Raised	#5	3rd 10 # Total Students

Yearbook Ads

Check out the ad flyer on how to place an order. ADS ARE DONE ONLINE ONLY, but the ordering and designing website is very user-friendly, so don't be intimidated! An ad is a great way to celebrate your 5th grade kiddo in their final year, but it's also open to all grade levels. Space is limited, so get your orders in ASAP! The deadline to order ads is February 14th!

We'd Like to Hear From You

Our 2025-2026 SAC survey will be available February 2nd at 5:00 am. To help us improve our delivery systems and provide your student with the best possible experience, we would love to hear from you. QR and link below.



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Running Reminders

Sign in Procedure: In line with the district wide sign in policy, 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, you will need to be an approved and registered volunteer. You must complete the district's Volunteer Application <https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/volunteer/> QR Code to register is below as well.

Transportation Changes & Early Checkout

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 & Cc: your student's teacher.

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,
4. Make sure to have your pick up tag clearly visible.

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.

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. Please reach out to bailey.benoit@stjohns.k12.fl.us with any questions.

New Worlds Reading Registration Link

The New Worlds Reading program provides free books to Florida students in grades K-5. Use this QR Code to see if your student qualifies for this wonderful opportunity.



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PAWS list QR code

If you can, please consider purchasing any items from our PBIS Store wish list for the students to purchase with their points.



SCAN ME

<https://bit.ly/CESPBIWishlist>

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.

Yearbook: Sale & Advertisements

It's time for the "Early Bird Special" on a yearbook for the 2025-2026 school year! Head over to www.BuytheYearbook.com to purchase a yearbook full of smiles and fun memories! You can also purchase a student ad using the directions on the attached flyer to highlight your amazing kiddo(s)! This is especially great if you have a 5th grader you want to celebrate! Yearbook pricing will increase in the spring, so grab yours today!

Varsity Tutoring

Every student can take advantage of this free resource. K-12 Parent. Our district has partnered with Varsity Tutoring for schools to provide students a suite of effective online learning resources that cover grades K-12. Students can get extra homework help or prepare for the next big test whenever they need it. For more information, see attachment in the Parent Square message.

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/>

Medication Policy

The nurse's office has seen an uptick of medications, Epi-Pens, Inhalers, Over the Counter medications, etc. being sent with students in their backpack. A reminder that **All medications must be brought to the school by a parent or guardian.** Please do not send medications to school with your child. For any questions or concerns, please reach out to Roxane Smith, RN, BSN/School Health Nurse at 904/547-7832.

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Upcoming Events

February

- 16 Presidents' Day – No School
- 20 Jeremiah's Italian Ice at 124 Capulet Drive, Unit 105 in St Augustine
- 26 Volunteer Breakfast 9:00 am

March

- 9 Sebastian Middle School Orientation (5th Grade)
PTO/SAC Meeting 5:30 pm
- 12 Field Day – More Information to Come
- 13 Teacher Planning Day – No school for students
- 16-20 Spring Break

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JOIN CROOKSHANK ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL'S

Art Club

WITH MS. LAVAGLIO

Open to 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders
Meetings are...

THURSDAYS | 3:00-4:00PM

In the art room 57
Dates are...

SESSIONS	START	END	FEE
1	09/18	10/23	\$105
2	11/06	12/18	\$80
3	01/29	03/05	\$80
4	04/02	05/07	\$80

Please see Ms. LaVaglio for more information
or if you would like a sign-up form

Phone: (904)547-7840 Ext 22833 Email: E022924@stjohns.k12.fl.us

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Art Club Sign-Up Form

Crookshank Elementary School
Ms. LaVaglio

Please fill out this form with your parent or guardian. Hand in this form + payment to Ms. LaVaglio before our first meeting on September 18th.

Student Information

Student Name:

Teacher:

Grade:

School Email:

Parent Information

Parent Name:

Parent Email:

How will your child be picked up?

PLEASE make sure you are on time and waiting to pick your child up at the front of the school by 4:00pm.

Payment School Fee: \$25 Art Club Fee: \$80 **Total: \$105**

To enroll in an after-school program, you must pay the general admission fee plus the club-specific fee for a 6 week period. You may pay with cash or by check. A receipt will be provided once the payment has been received.

I, _____, promise to arrive at 3:00pm every Thursday in the art
(Student Please Sign Here)

classroom ready to start art club, I will follow the same art room expectations as always. I will be on my best behavior and treat all art supplies with care. Any messes that I made will be completely cleaned up before art club ends at 4:00pm.

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PTO Updates

Hello, Cougar Families!

Join us for the events that we are excited to bring to John A. 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.

PTO Involvement: We're looking for enthusiastic parents to join the PTO Board for the 2026–2027 school year! Help plan fun events, support our teachers, and make a real difference—all while meeting great people and having fun doing it. No experience needed, just a positive attitude and a love for our school! Please reach out if you have any questions or interested in a position, crookshankpto@gmail.com

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities: Valentines' Grams will be sold from Wednesday, February 4th - Wednesday, February 11th from 7:45 am to 8:30 am in the main hallway. Volunteers are needed to collect orders from students. Also, we need volunteers on Wednesday, February 11th at 9:00 am to help organize and distribute Valentine Grams. Click the link below to volunteer: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4AA5A62AAAF5C61-57932937-volunteer>

Fundraisers: Need to get your car 🚗 washed? Want to get a \$30 car wash but only want to spend \$10? The PTO is selling \$10 car wash vouchers (a \$30 value) for Tidal Wave Car Wash. Go onto the PTO's website to order today! We will be selling them all school year! Please give us approximately 2 weeks from the time of purchase to send the vouchers home. <https://my.cheddarup.com/c/crookshank-pto>

Events: Valentines' Grams will be sold Wednesday, February 4th until Wednesday, February 11th from 8:00 am until 8:25 am in the Main Hallway. They will be distributed on Wednesday, February 11th to the teachers. Valentine Grams will be \$1 each and that includes the gram and a Valentine pencil. Valentine Grams can be purchased for the whole class as well and the cost would depend on the size of the class. Valentine Grams can also be purchased online via Cheddar Up just click the link, <https://my.cheddarup.com/c/crookshank-pto/items> . Any questions please contact us at crookshankpto@gmail.com

Our last big event/fundraiser will be our annual **Fun Run** and this will take place on Friday, April 10th during your child's related arts class. More information will be coming soon so please be on the lookout! This fundraiser helps fund a lot of the school programs that the students use on a daily basis such as PBIS, IXL, and AR (Accelerated Reading)!

Spirit Night: February's Spirit Night will be Friday, February 20th at Jeremiah's Italian Ice located at 124 Capulet Drive, Unit 105 in St Augustine 32092 from 6:00 pm -10:00 pm. 15% of your order will be donated back to Crookshank! Flyers will be sent home in February.

Spirit Wear/Online Store: Have you visited our online store? It has EVERYTHING from shirts, swag, birthday sign info, and Business Partners registration. Please give us approximately 2 weeks to send the items home from the time of purchase. It is so easy click the link below <https://my.cheddarup.com/c/crookshank-pto>

Thank you,



Crookshank PTO
904.547.7840
sites.google.com/view/crookshankpto

PAWS UP!

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The Crookshank Elementary School PTO IS

LOOKING

FOR LEADERS

EAGER TO CREATE A BETTER FUTURE FOR OUR SCHOOL?

The following positions need to be filled. Voting will be May 11th.

INTERESTED? FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

CROOKSHANK PTO AT: CROOKSTANKPTO@GMAIL.COM



President
The big-picture thinker!
Leads meetings, works with school staff, and helps guide all the PTO fun.



Vice President
The ultimate helper!
Supports the President and jumps in wherever help is needed.



Secretary
The organization hero!
Takes notes, helps with communication, and keeps us on track.



Treasurer
The number ninja!
Keeps track of funds so we can support events, activities, and teacher wishes.



Event Chair & Fundraising Chair
The FUN MAKERS! Help plan book fairs, family nights, fundraisers, teacher appreciation, and school celebrations.

Committee Members Include:
Hospitality, Spirit Night, Spirit Wear, Holiday Shop & Events!



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VALENTINE'S GRAMS



✉ Send a Valentine's Gram! ✉

- Just snip, fill out your card, and send it back to school with \$1 per Gram (Cash or Cheddar Up).

📍 Drop-Off Details

- Bring your money and completed cards to the Valentine's Gram Table in the front hallway
- February 4–11 • 8:00–8:25 AM

📁 Delivery Day!

- Your sweet messages—complete with a fun pencil and eraser—will be delivered to classrooms on February 13!

💕 Want to Send Even More Love?

- Need extra cards? Email crookshankpto@gmail.com
- Want to treat the whole class? Visit Cheddar Up to sponsor your classroom!

Spread the love to classmates, friends, and teachers—
give a Gram and make someone's day! 💕 ✨



CHEDDAR UP

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**MENTION
YOUR
SCHOOL!**

of Murabella

FEB 20th - FEB 20th

ICE NIGHT FOR

Crookshank Elementary PTO
Crookshank Elementary PTO

15% OF YOUR ORDER WILL BE DONATED



**COME SUPPORT FOR A CHANCE
TO WIN AN ICE PARTY
FOR YOUR SCHOOL!**

JEREMIAH'S ICE OF MURABELLA

124 Capulet Drive, Unit 105 | St. Augustine, FL | 32092

📞 904-907-8800

✉️ J11044@jeremiahsice.com

**CONNECT
WITH US!**



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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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Crookshank PTO

 **JOIN OUR PTO – IT'S FREE!** 

Parents • Teachers • Staff • Community

 We Want **YOU** to Join the **PTO!**

Be part of a team that:

- Supports our students and staff
- Plans fun school events
- Enhances learning experiences
- Builds school spirit and community

 **Membership Cost: \$0 – It's FREE!**

That's right – there's **no cost to join!** **Your voice and your energy are all we need.**

Why Join?

-  Have a say in school decisions
-  Meet other involved parents & staff
-  Help make a difference in our school community
-  Sign Up Today!

Fill out a membership form below and return to school:

CES PTO Membership: Please write legibly and return to the Front Office:

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Student Name/Grade/Teacher: _____

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Purchase a \$10 Car Wash Coupon to support the Crookshank PTO

Each coupon is valid for one Graph-X4 wash, which is a \$30 value. You will also have access to vacuums, cleaning cloths and interior cleaning spray.

Coupons are valid for 12 months.

To purchase online scan the QR Code.
Coupons will be sent home with your
student within 2 weeks of purchase.



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PTO Business Partners

Dear Crookshank Families,

Do you own or work at a local business? Know someone who does? Every year we partner with local businesses to raise funds for the school, and in return we help advertise our business partners to more than 600 families! If you are interested or have a suggestion for a business that might be interested, please email crookshankPTOpartners@gmail.com. Business partners can also sign up online at <http://crookshank-pto.cheddarup.com>

Become a CES Business Partner!

Principal's Partner

\$1,000

- Sponsor name & logo promoted via school newsletters and PTO website
- Social media posts to promote business partner
- Business banner displayed on CES fence for the school year (banner provided by business)
- Opportunity to distribute promotional materials or have a table/display at school events
- Business name featured on electronic marquee/school sign
- Full page ad included in the school newsletter once a month (ad provided by business)

Cougar Partner

\$500

- Sponsor name & logo promoted via school newsletters and PTO website
- Social media posts to promote business partner
- Business banner displayed on CES fence for the school year (banner provided by business)
- Opportunity to distribute promotional material or have a table/display at school events

Cub Partner

\$250

- Sponsor name & logo promoted via school newsletters and PTO website
- PLUS social media posts to promote business partner

Paw Partner

\$100

- Sponsor name & logo promoted via school newsletters and PTO website

***Business partners who commit to a specific level of donations for the 2025-2026 school year will receive the corresponding partnership level and benefits. For example, you can pay \$500 and commit to \$500 in donated goods to receive the \$1000 Principal Partner level.



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Principal Partners



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Cougar Partners



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Cougar Partners

THE
Sports Corner
CUSTOM APPAREL



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Paw Partners



Dr. Rebecca A. Faunce DMD

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

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

CALL today for a
Complimentary Consultation!

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

invisalign® DAMON CLEAR

iTMJBotoxA



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Parent Square Communication Platform



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.



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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

