

Principal's Newsletter

December 9, 2023

Message from the Principal

Our students had a busy week completing FAST PM2 testing. Once all makeup tests have been completed, we will share overall results. Next week our Pre-Algebra, Algebra, and Geometry students will be testing.

The Girls and Boys Basketball teams continued their winning streaks this week by beating Laurel Nokomis School. I was so impressed by our students who came to support our players as well. I love to see the school spirit!

This coming week and the following we look forward to our music department showcasing their students' talents! Please try to join us for one of their concerts - you won't be disappointed.

As we move towards our Holiday break, please help us end the year on a positive note by reminding your children of our dress code and cell phone expectations. As the weather cools, we tend to see a rise in bedroom slippers as shoes and pajama pants. Students are also pulling out cell phones and using air pods which are not allowed during the school day. We appreciate your help in this area.

Best,
Mrs. Nzeza

Important Dates

Please Mark your Calendars

12/11 - Basketball @ Woodland
12/12 - Modern Band Concert

12/13 - Basketball @ Brookside
12/14 - Winter Choral Concert
12/19 - Orchestra Concert
12/22 - Professional Day (No School for students)
12/25 - 1/5 – Winter Break (School Closed)
1/8 – Classes Resume
1/12 - SAC Meeting
1/23 - SPIN Night and Book Fair

What's Happening Around Campus

All Pro Dads - SMS Dad's Group Starting

Sarasota Middle PTSO member and dad, Kirk McFee, is spearheading our All Pro Dads Chapter at SMS! The first meeting is Wednesday, December 13th from 6-7:30 at Calusa Brewing.

We hope that some of you SMS dads can join Mr. McFee to learn more about All Pro Dad Chapters which seeks to "provide opportunities for dads to spend quality time with their children before school to strengthen their relationship. One day a month, other dads and their kids meet together and walk through different topics that invoke meaningful conversations."

We hope to create a positive culture at the school with our students and their role model dads!! Please consider joining us at Calusa Brewing!

December 13th
6-7:30 PM
Calusa Brewing
5377 McIntosh Road
Sarasota, Florida 34233



Media Center Updates

Sarasota County Schools has implemented new Media Center systems to enhance transparency and keep you informed about your student's reading habits.

Automated Book Checkout Notifications: This automatically generates email notifications each time your student checks out a book from the Media Center. It provides you with real-time information about the materials your child is exploring and foster a deeper connection between home and school in support of your child's literacy journey.

How it Works: When your student checks out a book, you will receive an email notification containing details such as the book title, author, and due date. This automated process ensures you stay informed without any additional effort on your part. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the notification emails, feel free to reach out to our **Media Aide, Ms. Rivera**.

Benefits of the New System:

1. **Transparency:** Instantly know which books your child is borrowing from the Media Center.
2. **Encouragement:** Use the information to engage in conversations about the books your child is interested in and support their reading journey.
3. **Timely Returns:** Stay on top of due dates and help your child return books on time to make room for new reading adventures.



SMS Holiday Party

We were so pleased to be able to celebrate the holiday with our staff at Laurel Oaks this past weekend. They work extremely hard every day to support our students and school. It was nice to give them a fun break and see them outside of school!



**Mrs. Lainer and Mrs.
Ferreira**



**Mr. Simmons and Mrs.
Turgeon**



**Mrs. Murphy, Mrs.
Jacobs, Mrs. Dorr, and
Mrs. Sawa**



**Mrs. Jacobs , Mrs.
Hermsdorfer, and Mr.
Mruczek**



**Mrs. Farrel and Mrs.
West**



**Mr. Riggs, with Mr. & Mrs.
Alexis and Mr. and Mrs.
Quick**



Have a Wonderful Weekend!



Smore

Beautiful class updates in a snap



