



Message from the King

Home of the Eagles

Firstly, I wanted to thank all of the parents who were able to attend the Communication Cornerstone last Thursday. This is an excellent forum to discuss ideas and provide to you a direction for our school. We will continue to run these sessions on the final Thursday of every month and they will commence at 8:30am. If you can break away for thirty minutes I think you'd feel connected thereafter.

Secondly, I think it important to again highlight the Curriculum Chats in September. This is designed for you to walk your student's schedule and partner with the teachers in whatever way possible. The connection between school and home is so important so please plan on attending on the appropriate night.

Finally, both our Football and Volleyball teams are now in season. If you have an opportunity to come support our students I'd appreciate it. They along, with our Cheerleaders, having been working hard in preparation.

As always thank you for your support. Please follow us on @SMSEagles16.

Mr. King
Principal/Sebastian Middle School
904-547-3844



Like all expertise, the essential literacy skills of reading, writing, speaking, and listening must be continually developed and practiced as we connect to our world and contribute as productive and engaged citizens. It is the vision of SMS that all students become literate learners able to read and understand texts on grade level or above, remember and organize information, and communicate effectively in a variety of media. This is why teachers at Sebastian Middle School incorporate balanced literacy activities as part of every learning unit in every class!

This year we have enhanced our literacy plan by incorporating weekly use of Reading Plus in ELA classes across the school. This web-based program personalizes instruction by providing high interest articles at each student's instructional reading level. Not only will students engage with this program in class every Wednesday, but they can access the program at home via any internet connected computer or tablet. Since it takes about 15 minutes to complete one activity, we recommend you have your child work in the program as part of a nightly homework routine. Visit <https://login.readingplus.com/> to access the student login, enter rpsebas1 as the site code, and then use your child's student number for the login and password. Students should be able to show you how to do this, so ask them to log in tonight and show you their progress toward earning "Combos" (back-to-back scores of 80% or higher). If you have additional questions about Reading Plus, please connect with Jay Barbour, SMS Instructional Literacy Coach, at 904-547-3852 or jay.barbour@stjohns.k12.fl.us. Mr. Barbour will be sharing more about our literacy efforts at SMS – including our new school wide incentive program for reading – as part of our next Communication Cornerstone on September 29th at 8:30 AM.

Picture Day

Tuesday, August 30, 2016

Additional forms are available in the office or you may order on line—www.leon



SWAT:

Students Working Against Tobacco

Congratulations to our SWAT members who won the State Video Contest! We also want to thank Mrs. Hagy's Art

students for making the props for the video. SWAT is Florida's statewide youth organization working to mobilize, educate and equip Florida youth to revolt against and de-glamorize Big Tobacco. SWAT is a united movement of empowered youth working towards a tobacco free future. We are looking forward to another active year of SWAT!

Leanne Fortune
Sebastian Middle School Counselor
Phone: 904-547-3847



Please go to the site below to see our 1st Place video!

<http://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/media/production/>

Sebastian Cross Country Team & Running Club

Sebastian Middle School will begin our Cross Country Team/Running Club training on Tuesday, August 30th, 2016. The team/club is designed for all levels of runners. Our program is designed to introduce students to distance running, goal setting, and competition as well as to promote physical fitness. We will train every Tuesday and Friday after school until 3:45pm. A schedule of meets will be out shortly. Our season runs through November. Students need to supply their own running shoes and practice clothes. Student will also need to provide their own transportation home after training and to and own meets. Students may be picked up in the main bus loop located in the back of the school after each training session.

If you have any questions, please feel to contact Coach Hays at kevin.c.hayes@stjohns.k12.fl.us.



Students must have a current physical on file dated within one year to participate.

Many thanks.....

A **BIG** thank you to St Mary's by the Sea National Catholic Church for providing Sebastian Middle School with an outstanding selection of back-to-school supplies! From colored pencils to notebooks to note cards, Sebastian students will benefit by their generosity.

Thank you for your support!



Parents & Guardians-

Please **do not** drop off your students before 7:20am! We do not have adequate supervision available to oversee early risers.



**I scream, you scream, we all
scream for.....**

ICE CREAM!

PTO will host an Ice Cream Social for the homeroom that has the most PTO participation! Parents, please sign up, additional forms are available in the office.

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Parents, do you use Amazon? Please select Sebastian Middle School PTO as your designated charity and Amazon will donate directly to our School. You can help our school by simply shopping on line! Remember-select Amazon Smile and choose Sebastian Middle School. Our students thank you!