

Vol. 4
10.1.18

The Eagle Eye

Sebastian Middle School

Build your Mind, Explore your World, Create your Future

Message from the King.....

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Firstly, I want to thank and welcome our new School Advisory Committee (SAC). It is one of the most important groups on campus as we continue to frame the vision for Sebastian whilst looking at ways to address some of the concerns we face. We also look at campus improvement projects to include safety and appearance. We welcome any ideas or input as we strongly feel that these "middle years" are the most important from a developmental viewpoint.

We are now mid-way through our first Inquiry/Eagle Hour session and thus far we've been impressed with the student engagement and creativity. We feel that introducing students to a deeper level of vocabulary through these groups will have long term implications. As many of the topics have community impact, the concept of service learning is also incorporated.

I'm excited to announce that we have partnered with Flagler College to be a laboratory school for their education interns and practicum students. This is an exciting opportunity as these students bring a level of creativity and connectedness that is important for middle school students. Our teachers will also have an opportunity to visit Flagler College and frame some of their own professional development.

Finally, I want to invite you to our first Communication Cornerstone, this Thursday at 8am in our Multi-Purpose Room. Our topic will be grading and personalized learning. Please plan on spending an hour with us if at all possible.

As always, thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Wayne King, Principal

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Wayne King, Principal
Angela Hensley, Asst. Principal

Pam Cooper, Instructional Literacy Coach
Kelvin Pruitt, Dean of Students

Leanne Fortune, Guidance Grade 8 / 7 A-L
Darren Tagliarini, Guidance Grade 6 / 7 M-Z

Important Dates:

October 4

Parent Communication Cornerstone, 8:00-9:00am

October 11

Panera Bread Spirit Night, 4:00—8:00pm

Home Volleyball, 5:30pm Girls, 6:30pm Boys

October 12

First Quarter Ends

October 13

6th Grade Super Saturday, 8:30—11:30am

October 15

Teacher Planning Day/Student Holiday

October 17

Home Football, 5:00pm at Pomar Park

October 18

Growth Mindset Parent Workshop, 6:00—7:00pm

October 19

Zombie Run, 5:30pm @ SMS



Friendly Reminders from the SMS Front Office!

Students who are absent from school should take excuse notes (including their full name) to Guidance Clerk Ms. Conrad upon their return.

Parents dropping off items for after school sports should also let their student know to pick those items up from the front office after school. The front office is not staffed to make deliveries.

Finally, with apologies, please do not send in cupcakes for a particular class to celebrate your student's birthday. Unfortunately, time does not permit such celebrations during instructional classes. Many thanks for your understanding!

The SMS Eagle Store Needs YOU!

The PTO invites parent volunteers to help staff the Eagle Store and King's Trolley this month on the following Wednesdays—**10/10** (9:30am-12:00pm) and **10/24** (7:45-10:30am or 10:30-1:00pm). Click [here](#) to sign up through Sign Up Genius or email PTOSebastian@gmail.com. Donations are also welcomed in lieu of time! We always need: backpacks, earbuds, locks, mechanical pencils, individually-wrapped candies, small packages of chips, SSYRA or other age appropriate books. Thanks!!

Congrats to our September Character Counts Winners for Fairness!

Teacher: Kristi Pardo
6th Grade: Huien Kalanik
7th Grade: Megan Lay
8th Grade: Emma Stamm

PHONE HOME!



PARENTS: Please tell your student to be sure and leave a MESSAGE when calling home. If your student calls you from school, know that they could be calling from ANY phone in our building. When you try to call back, it reaches our switchboard and not necessarily the phone in which your student called from.

New Faculty Spotlight!

Kelly King, Art Teacher (pictured left)



I was born and raised in Brick, NJ by the shore. It wasn't until I was a Junior in high school that I found my passion for visual art. I graduated from Monmouth University with a Bachelor's degree in Art. After college, I attended Georgian Court University to earn my graduate teaching certificate. I taught at Liberty Pines Academy for 5 years before I came to Sebastian. When I am not teaching, I am creating art or at the beach!

Communication Cornerstone: A Voice for Parents!

Hosted by Principal Wayne King and other members of the SMS Leadership Team, this monthly meeting will address a timely topic relevant to your student's education. Plan to attend, ask questions, and provide feedback! This month's topic is:

"Learning Tools and Assessments: Measuring Success with a Growth Mindset at SMS"

Thursday, October 4, 8:00-9:00am
SMS Multipurpose Room
Coffee and Light Breakfast will be served!

Growth Mindset Parent Workshop & Book Study

Sponsored by the PTO, join Mindset Works trainer Janna Peskett to learn how to help your student embrace challenges and develop resilience in the face of setbacks!

Thursday, October 18, 6:00—7:00pm, SMS Multipurpose Room

Book Study to follow on "The Parents We Mean to Be" by Richard Weissbourd: November 8, 15, 29, 5:30—6:30pm
Growers Alliance Café, 322 Anastasia Boulevard.



Fall Sports & Activities Calendar

- ♦ Oct 2—Volleyball vs. Switzerland Point @ SPMS
- ♦ Oct 3—Football vs. Valley Ridge, 7:00pm @ Plantation Grass, 210 Davis Park Rd, Ponte Vedra
- ♦ Oct 4—Communication Cornerstone with SMS Parents, 8:00—9:00am
- ♦ Oct 9—Volleyball vs. Landrum @ Landrum
- ♦ Oct 10—Football vs. Patriot Oaks @ Plantation Grass
- ♦ Oct 11—Volleyball vs. Liberty Pines @ SMS
- ♦ Oct 11—Panera Bread Spirit Night, 4:00-8:00pm
- ♦ Oct 12—First Quarter Ends
- ♦ Oct 13—6th Grade Super Saturday, 8:30-11:30am
- ♦ Oct 15—Teacher Planning Day/Student Holiday
- ♦ Oct 16—Volleyball vs. Murray @ MMS
- ♦ Oct 17—Cross Country @ Gamble Rogers, 4:00pm
- ♦ Oct 17—Football vs. Swiss Point @ Pomar Park
- ♦ Oct 18—Growth Mindset Parent Workshop, 6:00—7:00pm @ SMS

Note: Football Games begin at 5:00pm unless otherwise noted; Volleyball Games begin at 5:30pm Girls; 6:30pm Boys

- ♦ Oct 19—Zombie Run, 5:30pm @ SMS
- ♦ Oct 23—PTO Meeting, 5:45pm @ Growers Alliance Café, 322 Anastasia Blvd.
- ♦ Oct 24—First Quarter Report Cards Issued
- ♦ Oct 27—6th Grade Super Saturday, 8:30-11:30am
- ♦ Nov 5—Sonny's BBQ Spirit Night, 5:00-8:00pm
- ♦ Nov 12—Veterans Day: Teacher/Student Holiday
- ♦ Nov 14—Cross Country @ Fruit Cove, 4:00pm
- ♦ Nov 16—2nd Quarter Interims Issued in HAC
- ♦ Nov 21-23—Thanksgiving Break
- ♦ Nov 28—Cross Country @ Bartram Trail High, 4:00pm
- ♦ Dec 5—8th Grade Career Day
- ♦ Dec 6-19—Final Exams (Single Semester Course)
- ♦ Dec 11—Band Holiday Concert, 6:00pm
- ♦ Dec 13—SMS Exhibition Night, 5:30—7:00pm
- ♦ Dec 17-21—Mid-Term Exams (Full Semester Courses)
- ♦ Dec 18—Guitar Holiday Concert, 6:00pm
- ♦ Dec 20—String Orchestra Holiday Concert, 6:00pm
- ♦ Dec 21—Second Quarter Ends
- ♦ Dec 24-Jan 3—Winter Break

Run for Your Lives in the SMS Zombie Run!

Join the SMS PTO for an evening of Halloween fun!

Friday, October 19—5:30pm

2-Mile Fun Run on school grounds for all ages

\$10 registration fee (\$40 max per family)

Concessions available from a variety of Food Trucks

DJ Darkside (Mike Hardee) spinning tunes

Don't miss out on the fun!

SMS Super Saturdays Start in October!

Throughout this year, SMS will host "Super Saturdays" by grade level to give students additional opportunities for both learning and fun! This month, sixth grade students are invited to join us on:

October 13 (math focus) & October 28 (ELA focus)
8:30—11:30am

Both sessions will include a cooking lesson in the SMS kitchen with Cafeteria Manager Mike Hardee! More information and permission slips will be sent home this week. Seventh and eighth grade students stay tuned for your Super Saturday dates later this year!



NEW Club at SMS!

Come one, come all, to Dungeons and Dragons!

Dungeons and Dragons is a

tabletop role playing game in which students come together to solve problems, overcome obstacles, and have a ton of fun. Play as an elf, a half-orc, a goblin, or just a plain old human. Ms. Ludwick will be the acting DM (Dungeon Master) for this club. There will be two sessions, one on Tuesdays, and one on Thursdays, 2:00—3:30 each day. Each session can have a maximum of five players, because the table can get very crowded very fast! *Students will be chosen to participate via lottery if more than ten students ask to join. Students may only join if they have a C (70) or above in all their classes.*

Character Counts at the Jags Game!



Dean Pruitt and Ms. Allen took a group of SMS students selected for their excellent character to a Jaguars game in Jacksonville on Sunday, September 23. The Jags lost 9-6 to the Tennessee Titans but a wonderful time was had by our students and teachers!

Learning = FUN in Eagle/Inquiry Hour

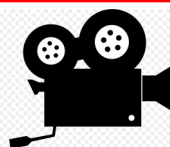


Mr. McCoy and Mrs. Lavallee's Inquiry Hour is working to find ways to filter water, in order to make water clean and accessible for all. This week, they created their filters and practiced with their class filter. Next week, each group will get to test their own filter and measure the particles per million.



Calling All S.M.Art Students!

October's Art Club will be Screen Printing! We will meet on Tuesdays, beginning October 2, and will begin immediately after school and will end at 3:30. Please contact Heather Hagy Heather.Hagy@stjohns.k12.fl.us or Kelly King Kelly.King@stjohns.k12.fl.us to secure your spot.



WSMS On the Air!

Sponsored by Mr. Tagliarini, a student-led school TV show will be on the air in the coming weeks. Students are meeting during Eagle Hour as a club and after school on various days. WSMS student reporters will be filming and editing stories to post online on the SMS website for viewing anytime by other students, teachers and parents!

Free Adult and Child Flu Shots!

Friday October 26, 3:00—7:00pm

St. Johns County Department of Health
200 San Sebastian View, St. Augustine, FL

Presenters Needed for SMS Career Days

At SMS, we want our students to focus on their future by looking at how you found your future! What academic path did you take? What is fulfilling about your career? What challenges did you face in pursuing your career? What is the earning potential students could expect? If you are interested in sharing your career with our students, we invite you to become a Career Day presenter. Our 8th Grade Career Day will be held **Wednesday, December 5 from 7:30am—12:30pm** and a 6th/7th Grade event will be held in the spring (date TBD). If you are interested in participating in one or both events, please email Susan Connor at susan.connor@stjohns.k12.fl.us for more information. Thank you in advance for helping to spark interest in our students' futures!