



Eagle View Newsletter

A message from Principal Kelley

Overwhelming evidence indicates that student success is directly related to regular student attendance. Poor attendance refers to students who are absent as well as to students who are tardy or leave school prior to the end of the school day. High performing students have an average of less than three days absent or tardy in a school year.

At South Woods, we continue to strive for excellence with our students and staff. Currently our school has among the highest absenteeism rate in the school district. Because student attendance has such an impact on student performance, we will continue to take action to support good attendance.

This year, beginning on Wednesday, September 6, 2017, any tardy student who has more than one unexcused tardy a quarter, will be required to serve lunch detention by sitting apart from his or her class in the lunch room the day following the tardy. If a parent feels it is his or her fault a student is tardy, the parent is welcome to serve the detention in place of his or her child. A tardy is considered excused with a note from a doctor's office on the morning of the appointment. Remember, students who ride the bus will never be considered tardy.

Tardiness not only has a negative impact on the late student, but it also has a negative impact on all students in the classroom. Each time a student comes in tardy, the teacher stops instruction to address the student, updates the student record, updates the class lunch count and provides direction to the student regarding the current lesson. Even if each student in a class was tardy only once a quarter, there would be a minimum of 72 interruptions to student learning in each class during the most valuable learning time of the day.

Student absenteeism will be addressed through daily automated calls, five and ten day notification letters, and scheduled parent meetings. Parents of students who have excessive absenteeism will be referred to the proper authorities for action as directed by St. Johns County School District policy.

To support positive attendance, students who have perfect attendance (no absences, no tardies and no early check outs) will be recognized each quarter during our grade level honors ceremony.

For questions regarding attendance policies, please contact Mr. Kelley in our school office at (904) 547-8610. Thank you for your support and understanding as we make every effort to create the best learning environment for each student.

Upcoming Events

September 5th, 6th

iReady Testing Math 3rd grade

September 5th, 6th, 7th

iReady testing Math 2nd grade

September 7th

Pastries for Parents (Grades 3-5)
7:00am-8:00am in the cafeteria
Sponsored by our PTO

September 7th, 8th, 11th

iReady testing Math Kindergarten, 1st grade

September 11th

Representatives from Boy Scouts visit students

September 11th

PTO Board meeting 6pm – All are welcome

September 12th

interim reports go home
SAC meeting 4:30-5:30pm
Boy Scouts sign up – 6:00-7:30pm

September 14th

Health screenings for K, 1st, 3rd grades

Additional Dates:

August 21st-opt out form home

September 1st- opt out forms due back to school

i-Ready assessment

Our school has implemented a program called *i-Ready® Diagnostic*, an innovative adaptive assessment program for Reading and Math. *i-Ready* will help teachers assess the needs of each and every student in their class while monitoring progress throughout the school year.

i-Ready Diagnostic will be given three times during the school year: at the beginning of the school year, middle of the year, and end of the year. The results of the adaptive assessment provide teachers with an instructional course of action personalized for each student.

An adaptive assessment is:

- Designed for students to get about 50% correct and 50% incorrect and will find a “just right” placement level for reading and/or mathematics for each student in the quickest, most efficient way possible.
- Helpful in showing what your child “can do” and what “the next steps” should be, individualizing for each student.

I would like to enlist your assistance in preparing your child for this assessment. **Please encourage your child to:**

- Eat a good breakfast and be rested for the day of the assessment
- Try their best on each question and try not to rush
- Try not to worry about questions they do not know—remind them that it is expected they will get about half of the questions correct
- Take “breaks” and have fun with the short “game breaks” that are integrated into the assessment
- Have paper and pencil handy for math questions
- Be respectful of other students who take longer to finish

If you have any questions about *i-Ready Diagnostic & Instruction*, please do not hesitate to contact Lisa Bielefeldt, Curriculum Resource Teacher at (904) 547-8610 or your child's teacher directly. You can also learn more about *i-Ready* by visiting www.i-ready.com/tour.

SWES Community Partnership School Update

Upcoming key dates and events:

- The Pastries for Parents event will take place on Thursday, September 7th for 3rd-5th grade and Wednesday September 27th for PreK-2nd grade from 7-8 a.m.
- On September 27th after Pastries for Parents we will be holding our Dad's Take Your Child To School Day event with a special meeting in the media center to discuss starting an All Pro Dads chapter here at South Woods.
- Carefest Saturday, September 30th 8am – 11am. Somebody Cares St. Augustine has selected South Woods as an official project and will have over 30 volunteers on campus.
- Talent Show at the Harris Center hosted by COA on Friday, September 29th.
- Good News Club – Prek – 5th The GNC will start on October 11th and run until 3:30pm every Wednesday with our early release. Students participating will need have parent pick up transportation. This club is free and if you need any further information please Christopher Stone. (Permission forms are located at the front desk)
- Health Department Dental Screenings will be take place on September 5th in the Kindergarten commons area.

- 5th Grade Jaguars Honor Rows attendance program. Those meeting attendance goals set by the 5th grade team will be provided admission to attend the Jaguars vs Rams game on October 15th

Counselors Corner

I am happy to be able to provide 1on1 counseling support for your child. If your child is struggling with any issues at home such as divorce, grief, adjusting to a new home, or self-esteem, please let me know. I also can support students who may be having a hard time at school with issues such as, making friends, dealing with stress, and peer pressure. Although I do not provide long-term counseling, we do have Mental Health Therapists with Children's Home Society and Youth Crisis Center who can provide therapy at our school, for no charge. Please feel free to give me a call and we can discuss this support our school provides.

Diana Ambrose
School Counselor
547-8603

College and Career Night

The St. Johns County School District (SJCSD) will hold its annual College and Career Night Wednesday, September 6 from 5 - 7:30 p.m. in the gymnasium at St. Augustine High School located at 3205 Varella Avenue, St. Augustine.

College and Career Night provides an excellent opportunity for St. Johns County high school students from both public and private schools to receive firsthand information on post-secondary educational opportunities. Representatives from over 75 colleges, universities, armed services, career institutes and trade schools will be available from 6 – 7:30 p.m. Families will find an increased presence of representatives with a focus on meeting their student's diverse needs and expectations.

The latest information on topics such as the college admissions process, college transition, scholarship and financial aid will also be available during information sessions from 5 – 7 p.m.

While this event traditionally focuses on juniors and seniors, underclassmen are also encouraged to attend. Many colleges have very selective admissions criteria and students should start planning early.

The event is presented by the SJCSD Department of Guidance and Programs of Choice. For more information, please contact your school's guidance department, visit the website at www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/gpc/college/ or call Dana Chapman, Dept. of Guidance and Programs of Choice, at (904) 547-7754.

PTO News

PTO Board Members

President- Allie Coleman
Vice President- Patti Greene
Treasurer- Michelle Losco
Co- Treasurer- Kelly Brown
Secretary- Bree Myers
Volunteer Coordinators- Jenny Butler and Jennie Koch

PTO meetings will be held on the 2nd Monday of every month at 6:00pm. Please plan on joining us!

Contact PTO at: southwoodspto@gmail.com and like our Facebook page "South Woods Elementary PTO" to stay up to date with Events and Info for our school!

Pastries for Parents for Grades 3rd - 5th

Thursday, September 7th
7:00 - 8:00 am in the cafeteria
RSVP forms are in your Tuesday Folder and were due back
on Wednesday, August 30th.

Pastries for Parents for grades PreK-2nd

Wednesday, September 27th
7:00 - 8:00 am in the cafeteria
RSVP forms will be sent out in the September 5th Tuesday Folder.

Remember an **APPROVED** school access form must be on file for all adults attending. If you have not done so please complete one at <http://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/volunteer/> It can take up to 3 weeks for approval so **ACT NOW**.



Box Tops are Back and Soda Can Tabs too!

Don't forget to collect your Box Tops and Can Tabs for money for our school. Please send them in in separate bags labeled with your child's name, grade and teacher. The class with the most collected every month gets to hold onto the Box Top Eagle Trophy for their classroom and gets a room party.

Many Thanks!

South Woods PTO would like to send out a big thank you to the business sponsors that have partnered up with us for the current school year!

Prim Parker Farms Subway

We appreciate everything from all of sponsors! It's because of you that we are able to help our school do great things!

Important Reminders

Extended Day

There is still room in our Extended Day Program. Pick up an application in the Front Office. We have availability in the morning from 6:30am to 8:00am for \$10.00 a week and in the afternoon from 2:45pm to 6:00pm for \$52.50 a week. There are part-time options and a \$25 registration fee.

Student Planners

Please sign your student's planner each night.

Visiting South Woods

In order to be in our school while students are present you must have a completed School Access form on file.

You may use this link to fill out the School Access form: <https://stjohns.keepntrack.com/apply>

Attendance

Please make every effort to have your student to school on time every day. This is one way to support your child's success at school.

Transportation Changes (Extended day and Parent Pick-up)

Transportation changes must be received in the front office by 2:15pm (1:15pm on Wednesday). This will ensure a safe and timely dismissal for all students. Thank you for your cooperation!