February 2017



From Principal Kelley:

As testing session approaches, I wanted to take some time to give you information that would be helpful. State mandated testing begins at the end of this month with the FSA Writing Assessment for 4th and 5th grade. Testing will continue later in March and throughout April and May. You can access our testing schedule to see specific dates and times by going to the South Woods website and clicking on the calendar icon in the upper right hand corner.

Students will have an opportunity to participate in a practice sessions to become familiar with the item types and response formats that are used on the FSA assessments. You and your student can get more information about the FSA assessments by visiting the FSA Portal at <u>www.FSAassessments.org</u> and using the Students & Families tab on the left side of the page as well as Practice Tests tab on the right. I encourage you to explore the FSA website.

The most important way you can help your student be prepared for testing is to have them in school every day. Teachers are working diligently to teach and prepare their students so they can be successful, not only on the assessments, but also in the classroom and beyond. Daily attendance is extremely important to your student's academic success!

Another way you can support your student is to encourage him or her to read every night and read different genres or types of literature, including non-fiction, mysteries, poetry, classics, realistic fiction, and novels. This will expose your child to various types of writing and new vocabulary. Students can find many different kinds of books and literature in our Media Center. Encourage your student to take advantage of this resource!

Finally, support your student by encouraging them to try different ways to solve a problem before asking for help, work through challenges and praise their effort and willingness to keep trying. Keep in regular contact with your child's teacher ask questions, and support the home-school connection.

See the attached flyers for information about community events.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO SERVE AS PROCTORS

We need proctors to assist teachers with upcoming FSA and DE assessments. Here is general information:

- Proctors must be approved volunteers (School Access form completed and cleared)
- Proctors will receive training before testing begins
- Proctors may not proctor for their child or any relative (niece, nephew grandchild, etc.)
- Testing will generally take place in the mornings

If you think you'd like to help, please contact Cindy Willey at 904-547-8596 or email <u>cindy.willey@stjohns.k12.fl.us</u>. She can give you specific dates and times that we need you.

Thank you for your consideration and assistance!

Upcoming Events

February 7th Family Bingo Night 6:00-7:30pm

February 8th Interims go home

February 9th

Class photos Deadline for Smencil orders

February 13th-24th Krispy Kreme Fundraiser

February 15 Early Kindergarten registration

February 17th

No School - Teacher In-service Day

February 18th Hastings Car Show

February 20th No School - Presidents Day

February 28th

FSA Writing – 4th and 5th grade 9:00am -11:30am



Basketball Team Practice Mondays 3:00-4:30 pm

<u>Games</u> Friday, February 10 SWES vs. Webster 5:30pm Hastings Rec Center

Thursday, February 16 SWES vs. CES 5:30pm Hastings Rec Center



Testing season is quickly approaching. You can view the South Woods testing schedule by clicking on the calendar icon in the upper right hand corner of our school's website.

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PTO News 2016 – 2017 PTO Officers

President- Allie Coleman Vice President- Patti Greene Treasurer- Michelle Losco Co- Treasurer- Kelly Brown Volunteer Coordinators- Jenny Butler & Katie Masters We are in need of a secretary! If you are interested, please let one of the officers know.

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

Upcoming PTO Events

Bingo Night February 7th from 6:00 - 7:30pm

Don't miss out on fun for the entire family!! There will be multiple rounds of Bingo played and the winner from each round will have the chance to win one of many great prizes! We have gift certificates and prizes from local businesses! Last year 2 winners went home with their own Kindle Tablet!!! We will also have free pizza and drink for the first 80 in attendance, so come join in on the fun!!!

Valentine's Day "Smencil" Grams

Smencil Grams are a way that your child can send a special valentine gift to their friends!

Valentine's Day "Smencil Gram" order forms will be sent home in your child's Tuesday Folder on 1/31/17. Smencil Grams are \$1.00 each and will be handed out on Valentine's Day. Students need to list their friend's name, teacher name, and include \$1.00 for each Smencil they are sending. Order forms **MUST** be turned in no later than Thursday, February 9, 2017, to your child's teacher.

Krispy Kreme Donut Fundraiser February 13th -24th

South Woods PTO is going to run a brand new fundraiser! This spring your child is going to be selling **FRESH Krispy Kreme Donuts**! The order form will come home with your child on February 13, 2017 and must be turned in by February 24, 2017. During the week of February 27th we will have a pickup time that you can pick up your child's order from the school. The PTO will use the money earned from this fundraiser to improve our school.

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 schoolyear!

Barnes Farms- Golden Eagle Sponsor Tater Farms- Golden Eagle Sponsor Seaside Children's Dentistry- Silver Eagle Sponsor

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

A special thanks to Subway for teaming up with PTO by putting a coupon for a free cookie on the back of the PTO membership cards. The coupon can be used with each visit and is good for the entire current school year!

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PTO membership is \$5 and helps us put on events and help teachers make purchased for great things for our students! If you would like to support PTO with your \$5 donation and receive a membership card, please contact your child's teacher or go to the school website to access the PTO Membership application.



Congratulations to **Mrs. Newton's Kindergarten Class** for turning in the most Box Tops for December/January. This class collected the most Box Tops for these 2 months combined and the class will get to celebrate with a class party!

Please remember to clip save and turn in your Box Tops each month so that your child can have a chance to celebrate a win with a class party! Don't forget to ask all of your family, neighbors, churches or other organizations to save Box Tops for you. Maybe your class will win the next party! Make sure the student's name and the teacher's name is on the sheet or envelope or your class will not get credit for your Box Tops!

Thanks for all of your hard work!

A special thanks to Amanda Newman and Ginny Phelps for providing the party for the winning class each month.

John and Paula Baggett SWES PTO Box Top Coordinators



Please help keep the spread of illness at a minimum by following the bottom St. John's County Illness Guidelines:

- Fever greater than 100. Student must be fever free for 24 hours WITHOUT any medication to help reduce fever including Tylenol or Motrin.
- Vomiting and diarrhea more than once. Must be vomit and diarrhea free for 24 hours to return to school.
- Many children may wake up with an upset stomach, which may not always lead to illness, but if they are lethargic and do not have an appetite, keep them home for observation. If they feel better, you can bring them in with an excused tardy.
- Rash accompanied by fever or rash that is oozy or weeping. Please seek medical advice from your physician. Many rashes can be viral or bacterial in source of may be an allergic reaction. Your physician can diagnose which and help you seek the best treatment.
- Many sore throats are from seasonal reactions to pollen. However sore throats may be from other contagious sources. If a sore throat is accompanied by fever or rash, please seek medical attention and do not bring to school.
- Coughing is common as cold season approaches. If you child has a cough that is not eased by over the counter or home remedies and is preventing your child from having a productive school day, please keep them home for observation. If the cough is preventing from sleeping, please keep home.
- Discuss hand hygiene with your child. Many children do not know how to properly wash hands. Have your child sing a short song lasting about 20 seconds while rubbing soap between fingers and all of hand surface and palm. Then rinse after.

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: <u>https://stjohns.keepntrack.com/apply</u>