

Phone: 904-547-8610 FAX: 904-547-8615

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September 23, 2014
2.fl.us Volume 3, Number 6
Mrs. Nicole Lynch, Assistant Principal

Mrs. Catherine Hutchins, Principal

Important Dates

<u>September</u> - Character Counts! - Fairness 24 - Modified Wednesday, Release at 1:50 PM

25 - Head Start Parent Mtg. - 5 PM

25 - Boy Scout Round Up @ 6:30 PM in Cafeteria

26 - School Spirit Day 29-Oct. 3 - Book Fair

30 - Character Counts! Celebration - 9 AM

30 - 2nd Grade Field Trip - 9:45 AM -Sykes & Cooper Farms

30 - 6 PM - Carnival Parent Meeting- Media Center

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School Office Hours 8:00 - 4:00 PM Morning drop off: 8:05 AM Tardy Bell - 8:25 PM

School Day begins at 8:30 AM \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

#### Attendance Line

Please call in your child's absence by 10 A.M. Call: 904-547-8618 \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

#### Student Check Out Policy

All student checkout need to occur before 2:20 PM. on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday.

Before 1:20 PM on Wednesdays.

# Word of the Week

foot

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# ENROLLING NOW Building Minds Classes

Lego Jr. Robotics Classes September 26, October 3, 10, 17, 31, November 7

3:00 - 4:00 PM Cost: \$60.00

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~SAVE THE DATE~ Fall Festival Thursday, October 23, 2014 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

### "State of the Schools"

Superintendent, Dr. Joseph Joyner, will be giving his "State of the Schools" address on Monday, October 6, beginning at 5:30 PM. This community forum will be held at the School Board Administration Center at 40 Orange Street in St. Augustine. All are invited to attend.



## Congratulations Open House Drawing Winners

Congratulations to the following families who won Door Prizes while attending the Open House last Thursday evening.

Food baskets

Kevin Pile Alexis Ashton Kristie Meyer Samantha Jones

PTO Winners:

Vincent James Gonzalez Brianna Fernandez

#### **Media Matters**

It's that time of year again! The Scholastic Book Fair will be in our Media Center starting this Friday, September 26th, for Preview Day. Sales will begin on Monday, Sept. 29th through Friday, October 3rd. Cash and checks made out to South Woods are accepted. Credit cards also work, with the cardholder's presence and signature. The Book Fair is always so exciting. The theme is the Castle of Sir Readalot! You'll see some members of our TV crew advertising in costume at the parent pickup location in the mornings.

Our Book Fair is also available online at http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/southwoodselementaryschool You can purchase online through October 14th. Items will be delivered here at school and sent home with your child as soon as they arrive. Grandparents, aunts and uncles, and other family members who live in other locations can shop our online fair. A percentage of all sales comes back to the school to use for purchases of books for your children to check out.

Announcing the first members of the 2014-15 Sunshine Club and Sunshine Juniors: Hannah Davis and Evan Price, members of last year's winning Battle of the Books team, are the first to officially become members of the Sunshine Club! Jacob Davis and Kaileah Kelly, both second graders, are the first members of our newly formed Sunshine Juniors! We are so proud of these amazing readers and look forward to welcoming more new members as students read the Sunshine State Young Reader Award books, take AR quizzes and score 80% or better.

Two new book clubs were launched this week: Magic Treehouse and Rainbow Magic Fairies. If your child is interested in either of these, have them pick up permission letters from the Media Center this week. The reading requirement for both is 10 books by the end of the first week in December, so time is of the essence. It's so much fun to be a reader and readers at South Woods have the most fun of all!

#### Label, Label, Label

Please remember to put your child's name on backpacks, lunch boxes, sweaters, jackets, and clothing. This will allow us to return lost items to your child. Let's make it a goal this year that we are able to return all lost items to their owners!

#### Celebrate Freedom Week

This week in September we recognize Celebrate Freedom Week. This initiative, designed to ensure that our children understand and value the freedom we enjoy, has been enacted by the state legislature. The law states that during the week at least 3 hours of appropriate instruction, as determined by the school district, on the intent, meaning, and importance of the Declaration of Independence during Social Studies class and the daily recitation of a portion of the Declaration of Independence.

This week our teachers will be providing appropriate instruction in the class-room about the value of freedom. Each morning, during the morning announcements, we will have an oral recitation by students and teachers of the following words of the Declaration of Independence: "We hold these truths to be self - evident, that all men have been created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed."

The purpose of the weeklong observance is to celebrate the principles of freedom and reaffirm our rights and obligations as citizens of the United States.

Swimming Program Returns

We are pleased to announce that our Swim Program is returning to South Woods this year. It will be held in the Fall instead of in the spring. Thanks to Coach Miller, our students in grades K, 1, 2, and 3 will receive two days of swimming at the YMCA located at the Solomon Calhoun Community Center in St. Augustine. Lessons will be held for two days during the school day. The best part, is there is no cost, thanks to the support from Full Service Schools in our school district.

Today your child is bringing home a flyer with the information and two forms that need to be completed and returned on or before September 30. Any student unable to attend will stay with another teacher and their class.

#### Gentle Reminders

Thank you for being sure your child is sent to school in proper footwear. Sandals, flip flops, dressy shoes with toes or back of student's heels exposed are not allowed. In addition, we are strongly discouraging students from wearing crocs to school. When our students are out to recess, the mulch is getting in their shoes.

In addition, excessive jewelry or large pieces such as dangling earrings are not permitted. We appreciate your efforts in helping us to be sure our students are dressed appropriately for school and their day of learning.

#### **HOMEWORK**

Homework should be viewed as an extension of the classroom. It reinforces the concepts being taught in the classroom and helps to build critical thinking skills. The amount of homework and expectations regarding homework vary at each grade level. However, all students in grades kindergarten through fifth are required to complete all homework assignments and turn it in on time. Please do not make excuses for your child if the homework has not been completed or try to bring in your child's assignment the next day when he/she has forgotten it at home. This is part of the learning process. Thank you for helping to teach your child to be a responsible learner by getting to know what is expected from your child's teacher and reinforcing our homework policies at home. As a school, we take great pride in each of our student's academic accomplishments. This is when school and home work together. Parents play an important part by reinforcing and following up with their child on their daily homework assignments. Students in grades 2-5 have been given a planner to record their assignments. We expect parents to take a few extra minutes each evening to check their child's planner to be sure homework, projects, and studying for upcoming tests has been completed before the following day of school. It is only by our reinforcement and follow-up that our students will develop good homework and study habits. By doing so, we are modeling the importance of responsibility and preparedness for the following school day that leads to a lifetime skill of being prepared for the work force. While we realize many of our students have outside extracurricular activities, please be sure that their academics take first priority! Their good education will lead them to a lifetime of learning and opportunities.

# **PTO NEWS**

Fall Festival
Thursday, October 23, 2014
5:30 PM to 7:30 PM

#### **PTO Harvest Festival Pre-Sale Tickets**

The Fall Festival will be held on Thursday, October 23, from 5:00 to 7:30 PM Avoid the Lines and Save! October 20 is the deadline to pre-order tickets and wristbands. Send in your presale ticket orders in an envelope with the total amount due. Tickets will be held until the night of the carnival when parents can pick them up at the entrance gate. This will allow us to know that you have received the tickets you have ordered.

We need volunteers for class booths. Please donate half an hour of your time to your child's class booth. Dads, grandparents, and older siblings can also volunteer their time. Contact your child's teacher for times. We appreciate your support and help to make our festival a success.

#### **PTO Membership**

Calling all South Woods families! Do you want your family to be eligible for all drawings held at PTO events whether you are in attendance or not? This is just one of the many benefits your PTO membership provides for just \$5.00. Join PTO and your name is in for ALL PTO drawings. Remember, becoming a PTO member doesn't requires you to volunteer at any event. Your membership shows your support for our school.

PTO e-mail - swespto@outlook.com.

# Community News

## Girl Scout Meeting

All Ages K-5th Grade
Where: First Baptist Church of Hastings
109 N. Main St. Hastings
When: Every Thursday starting September 25, 2014
Time: 6:00 - 7:30 PM
Contact: Lisa King, Leader
904-315-1926

#### Child Find

Do you have concerns about your child's speaking, learning and paying attention, seeing or hearing? Child Find provides FREE screenings in the areas of communication, motor development, vision, hearing, and preschool readiness skills. If you have any concerns about your child, please call 386-329-3811 or toll free at 1-800-227-6036. If students qualify for the different programs, they are available at South Woods. Transportation and cost is FREE.

# **Box Top Update**

Happy Tuesday South Woods families!

I cannot even begin to express how excited and impressed I am with the amount of Box Tops you have turned in this year! We will once again have our classroom rewards. The rewards have stayed the same from last year! Last year we did not have a class earn the Pizza Party! Will we this year? I hope so!

Classroom Rewards
Fruit Snacks for 500 Box Tops
Popsicles for 1,000 Box Tops
Cookies for 1,500 Box Tops
Popcorn for 2,000 Box Tops
Ice-cream Sandwiches for 2,500 Box Tops
Pizza Party for 3,000 Box Tops

Remember to keep turning in your Box Tops! You class could win a Pumpkin Pie Party! Remember we are collecting more things this year!

Box Tops for Education



Labels for Education



Tyson Project A+





My Coke Rewards -

The codes can be found on all Coke products, i.e. 12 packs and the caps from 2 liters

Kellogg's Family Rewards for Schools -These codes can be found INSIDE all Kellogg's Products, i.e. cereal, cookies, crackers



Also don't forget to save you pop tabs! This year will be having a grade level competition for our pop tabs! Beginning now until the Christmas Break – send in your tabs! Make sure your name and grade level is on the bag! We will weigh each grade levels tabs in December and the winner grade level will get a special surprise! We will then turn in the pop tabs to the Ronald McDonalhouse to help the patients there.

And don't forget about a new app called Shoparoo! We have raised over \$50.00 with our Shoparoo app! This is easy money! The possibilities are endless!

This year we can see through the app which grade level is leading! This is a great new feature for this app! As of 9/21/14, 3rd grade is leading the way with 3,215 points. Kindergarten follows with 3,070 points and 4th grade with 1,570 points. You can download for your phone or tablet. Follow this link to sign up and will earn 150 bonus points: http://app.shoparoo.com/share/nlit8tbr

When you download the app you will be asked to select a school, select South Woods Elementary. After the signup all you have to take a picture of your receipts from your everyday purchases from store such as Wal-Mart, K-Mart, Publix, Walgreens, Dollar General, etc... You will earn points that will convert into cash for our school! This year you can also enter in receipts from restaurants as well. So save you McDonalds, Burger King and Chicken Koop receipts. They don't earn points but entries into a draw for large amounts of points for South Woods! It has been brought to my attention that some people do not have access to a phone or tablet to download this app too but would still like to help out! This is wonderful! If you no longer in need of your receipts, you can send them in to your child's class just as you do Box Tops. All receipts must be from within the last 14 days; please place them in a bag labeled Shoparoo. It is essential that your child's name, first and last is on all items turned in, in order for me to keep track of everything. This year I am also keeping track of what each student turns in. This will allow for use to know which student is the top per grade level. Each item that a student turns in is worth one point. I will issue certificates for major mile stones for individual students, 50, 100, 200, etc... At the end of the year I will crown a king and queen of each grade level for turning in most – having the most points.

I look forward to a great year and if you need anything at all please don't hesitate to contact me at banksbes@gmail. com.

Happy Clipping!

Mrs. Ashley Banks