



# Savanna Ridge Elementary

## Parent Newsletter

December 2016



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Media .....2
- Volunteer.....3
- Music .....3
- Center Field....4
- Technology.....5
- PBIS News.....5
- Kindergarten..6
- First Grade ....6
- Second Grade ...7
- Third Grade ...7
- Fourth Grade..8
- Fifth Grade.....9
- Speech
- Corner .....10
- Calendar...11-13

### Happy Holidays Crane Family!

We are so thankful to be a part of all of our children’s lives. After having celebrated Thanksgiving with friends and family, we are moving quickly into the Winter Holiday Season. As kids unwrap presents and spend time with family and friends, we invite you to celebrate the present and plan to have children set goals for future academic success.

January not only marks the beginning of the New Year, it also is a time that we remember the teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Please help us celebrate the Week of Kindness by having children have a “renewed spirit of empowerment, engagement and non-violence.” Our school will participate in the annual parade held in Fort Pierce on January 16th. Please look for information after the holidays regarding activities and events that we will take place in.

As we enter into 2017, we are charging with renewed energy into our assessment season. Students in grades 3-5 are well prepared for the FSA assessment which will take place in the beginning of February with Writing in late February. We are offering tutorials for identified students after school. These tutorials are on a great way to reinforce skills that were not mastered by students and are taught by experienced teachers. If your child was selected to participate in the SRE After-School Tutorial, please turn in the permission slip as soon as possible. Tutorials begin after the Winter Break.

Our mission at Savanna Ridge and St. Lucie County is to recognize that all children will learn in a safe and caring environment. Please take a few moments to complete our “Vision Survey” on our website to give your input into making our school a great place. We welcome ideas on how to make this dream of the mission and vision a reality. As always Crane Family, we thank you for your continued support. Wishing You a Joyous Season!

Yours in Education,

*Mrs. D. Fion Jackson-Harris, Principal*

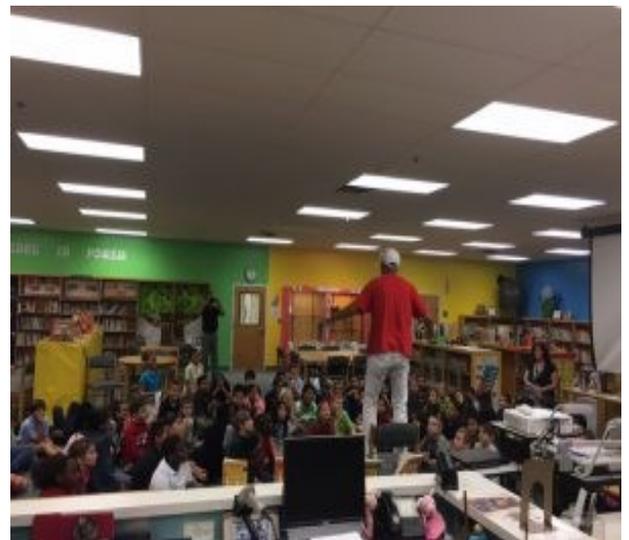
# Media Center News - Ms. Lecce

We have been busy in the media center this year. We have been reading Sunshine State Author Books as well as books which teach us lessons about spreading kindness, instilling a growth mindset, and how to speak up to stand up against bullying. We are exceptionally proud of our new initiative, Maker Space, which is a movement where libraries expand the learning hub to inspire, create, and explore using 21st Century Skills. We have built circuits, tested lights and horns for cars, and found innovative ways to use Littlebits. We also incorporated engineering tasks with Lego exploration as well as designed a variety of ramps. Students used collaboration and inquiry to test the effects of



gravity, friction, and changes in energy and motion. Kindergarten even designed and constructed bear traps as a STEAM activity to support literacy using the story, *We're Going On a Bear Hunt*.

We are so proud to share our amazing author visit from David M. Lopez. He has written a series of historical fiction novels from the Maddie's Magic Marker Series. Our students are inspired and were so eager to collect their personally autographed signed copies! David even joined our morning show to speak to all of our students! We had an amazing time learning about being an author.



# PTO Winter Wonderland/Breakfast with Santa

(December 10, 2016):

Our PTO in connection with the Faculty and Staff of Savanna Ridge invite you to our “Winter Wonderland~ Breakfast with Santa.”

This event will be held on Saturday, December 10, 2016 from 9:00-11:00 p.m. During this Winter Wonderland, we will have a yummy breakfast of pancakes, breakfast meats, eggs and fruit along with OJ or coffee.



Bring your family to make crafts, shop in the Holiday Store, sing carols, eat breakfast and take pictures with Santa (who will be available from 9:30-10:30).

**Please complete the RSVP to help us determine how many pancakes to flip and crafts to order. As always, thanks for your continued support.**

## MUSIC ROOM NEWS



Greetings from the SRE Music Room!

I am pleased to announce that interested students from the Fifth Grade Classes of Savanna Ridge Elementary will be performing for a special holiday event - "Hope for the Holidays" - our annual Holiday Performance - on

Thursday, December 8th at 6pm in the Savanna Ridge Elementary School cafeteria.

Please make plans to attend and join in this opportunity to have some holiday fun! In fact, you just never know who might make an appearance to check up on our special Savanna Ridge boys and girls!

May I take this opportunity to share a few special thoughts ...

This holiday season may you speak your love. Mend a quarrel. Seek out a forgotten friend. Hum a familiar melody. Write a love letter. Dismiss suspicion: replace it with trust. Give a soft answer. Forgive an enemy. Apologize if you were wrong. Think first of someone else. Listen. Find the time. Encourage youth. Share some treasure. Welcome a stranger. Keep a promise. Be kind and gentle. Laugh a little. Laugh a little more. Express your gratitude. Gladden the heart of a child. Take pleasure in the beauty and wonder of the earth. Feel the power of forgiveness. Speak your love. Speak it again. Speak it still once again.

Happy Holidays ... Melanie Justice



# Center Field News

## Back on the field for more action!

By

Coach Eshleman



We have a great population of students, even though they are a bit too talkative at times. A great enjoyment in my subject area is that I get the opportunity to see the children develop skills from kindergarten through their fifth grade year. Like all academic areas, I stress developing a sound work ethic and emphasize it will help in any area of your life you apply it.

Kindergarten and first grade will be continuing with eye-hand coordination skills (dribbling a ball with control with the hand). Students in the second through fifth grades will be given a chance to determine their level of speed along with participating in group and cooperative games up to winter break. A second evaluation of abdominal endurance for all K- 5<sup>th</sup> will also be occurring.

Students in 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> recently completed their cardiovascular evaluation (mile run) while the K-1<sup>st</sup> graders were evaluated on their jogging/walking a half-mile. There were many, many extraordinary efforts put forth. I say that not just referring to the times completed. The top times were scored by a fourth grader, **Elijah Pierre (7 min. 43 sec.)** followed closely by three boys (**Brandon Benzer (7:51)**, **Jeremiah Michel (7:52)**, and **Zachariah Estinoble (7:56)**) in the same third grade resource class. Fourth grader **Nyeisha LeBlanc at 8 min. 43 sec.** and fifth grader **Luz Herrera at 8 min. 47 sec.** were the girls with the top times. Understanding how to pace one-self was the concept stressed as we talked about the heart/blood vessel/muscle connection and its importance to supplying energy to working muscles. We also stress becoming “mentally tough” so that a student will continue to push when they believe their body is trying to convince them to stop jogging. I try to stress the importance of “persevering” no matter the task in front of us. Congratulations to all that gave their best and made their family name “proud.”



# Technology News



Technology Crane Chronicle Article for

2<sup>nd</sup> 9 Weeks 2016-2017

We are collecting used cell phones and ink jet cartridges as our technology fund raiser. As you receive new ones please donate your old ones to Savanna Ridge Elementary School.

During their Instructional Technology resource class, students in grades K-2 are participating in a coloring contest during the Martin Luther King Jr. celebration activities. Third, fourth and fifth grade students are writing essays and competing in an art contest. The winners in all three areas will be recognized on the school wide morning announcement TV Program and will receive a certificate of recognition.

Their artwork and essays will be displayed on the bulletin board for everyone to see how proud we are of these very talented students.

Students will also research information and select images of Dr. King using Word Processing Skills. A standing invitation is extended to all students, staff, parents and friends to march with us during the parade this year so please mark January 16, 2017 on your calendars!!!



## PBIS NEWS

### Parents/Guardians and PBIS

To be successful, our behavior program needs to be a partnership between home and school. Throughout the school year the PBIS team will send updates and information about PBIS. We invite your comments, concerns and ideas to make PBIS work at our school.

#### **Please support PBIS at SRE by:**

- Reviewing behavior expectations with your child
- Using the four expectations at home
- Providing positive reinforcement (rewarding good choices with compliments or quality time) at home
- Sharing comments with or asking questions of PBIS team members
- Joining our home/school group to learn more about FLS

#### Upcoming PBIS Events:

*Saturday, December 10 - Breakfast with Santa*

*Thursday, December 15 - PBIS Pajama and Movie Day*

# Kindergarten News

**Happy Fall! We have enjoyed a wonderful beginning to our kindergarten year! It's such a pleasure to see your children come into the classroom with smiles, energy, and curiosity. Already, they have become a community of learners as well as friends!**

**Our Kindergarteners are learning the letters of the alphabet and we are exploring their sounds. We are also working on learning our sight words and reading them in our books and writing. Sight words are one of the essential skills that you can help with at home. Practicing with your child will make a big difference, but it should be an enjoyable experience.**

**\*\*Sight word Tip: Play "I SPY" - Lay sight word cards cards on table, face up. Ask your child to find a given word. If they find it, they keep it. Keep going until all cards are picked up.**

**Students completed their first reading log for the school year. Congratulations to all the students that met the reading goal! Way to go! Keep up the good work.**

**\*\*Literacy Tip: While reading books with your child make sure you point out who the author, illustrator and what are major events in the story.**

**Thank you parents for all you do to help us make this year a successful one for your child. If we can help you in any way, please contact us!**

# First Grade News

First has been very busy in the month of November. We started out the month with our visit from the Ox-bow Center. The students loved learning about snakes, tortoises, turtles, lizards, and alligators. Students were so engaged in this visit and had a fun time. They were able to see all of these reptiles up close and were even able to touch a live alligator's tail if they chose to. We have also been working on writing to explain/inform, adding and subtracting within 20 and will be finishing this up and moving into place value through 99.

We have also been learning about maps and globes and identifying key elements of a map. Another important event that we learned about was Veterans Day. The students learned about what the day truly meant, why we celebrate it, and even how it is celebrated. We will be finishing the month of November with learning about people and events of now and long ago. For this topic, we will be learning about the pilgrims and the Indians and how they lived, how the holiday of Thanksgiving came about, and how it was celebrated. We will be comparing that to how we live and celebrate Thanksgiving now.

For the month of December, we will be continuing our work in math on place value through 99. We will also be continuing our work on learning about people and events of now and long ago. For this, we will be learning about the different holidays celebrated during the month of December. In writing, we will be working on writing opinion pieces which will include some information from a text to support the opinion. The first grade teachers are working hard on trying to get a special field trip set up for the students to visit the Sunrise Theatre to see the Nutcracker ballet. Winter break will be December 19th - January 3rd. When students return in January, we will start working on Earth in space and time, finishing up place value through 99 and moving into adding and subtracting within 100.

# Second Grade News

**Our second graders have been working hard as we move quickly through the school year!**

**Here is just a sampling of what they've learned:**

- \*Narrative Writing - a story about finding a treasure map
- \*Social Studies - native Americans, early settlers, and immigration
- \*Reading - both informational text and literature
- \*Math - adding and subtracting two-digit numbers

## **100 Book Challenge News:**

- \*So many of our students have reached the first goal of 50 steps and some have jumped the next hurdle to 100 steps or more!
- \*Keep reading at home each day and remember to record one title every time you read for 15 minutes.

## **Keep your eyes open for the following:**

- \*T-shirt order forms will be sent home soon! Each class will have its own color and shirts will be worn for special occasions such as field trips.

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

-The Second Grade Fantastic Four

*Ms. Compton, Ms. Marciano, Mrs. Petrie, and Mrs. Struble*

## *Third Grade News*

The month of November we are wrapped up Two-Dimensional Figures and Area unit in Math. In Science will be finishing up the basic forms of energy (heat, sound, electrical, light, and mechanical). And determining the main idea of a text; recount key details. Also, compare and contrast the most important points presented on the same topic.

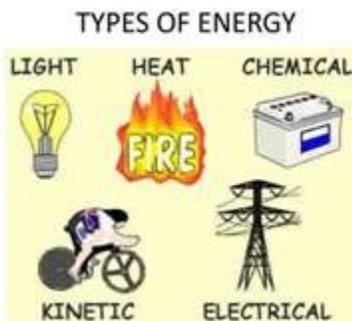
Starting in December, we will begin working on finding the perimeter. We will then move into fractions and continue in January. We will not have a science unit at all during the months of December or January. We will only work on two social studies units, Maps/Globes and U.S. & Neighbors. Within our social studies units we will continue to focus on determining the main idea, and recounting key details. We will also revisit point of view from that of the narrator, describing characters, plus historical, scientific, and technical text.

# Fourth Grade News

(Here is a picture of fourth grade students beginning to build their "Crazy Coolers" with the job of building the best cooler to insulate an ice cube and keep it from melting.)



Fourth grade has covered a lot of ground in Science in recent weeks. Students were given the task of discovering the best insulators for keeping an ice cube from melting the longest. We conducted our experiment during an early release Wednesday for project-based learning with a S.T.E.M. focus. S.T.E.M. projects focus on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. Early release days provide a change in structure for students to solve complex problems while using teamwork. Fourth graders look forward to being in attendance to work on these hands-on experiments.



Students have also been studying forms of energy, energy transformation and force and motion as we continue to provide engaging learning activities and relevant assignments.

The Fourth Grade Team

# Fifth Grade News

*Busy, busy, busy!!! Fifth grade has been working on a variety of activities during the month of November.*

*Thank you for your support with the Native American Projects. The students did an outstanding job. The projects are displayed in the front showcase and in the Media Center. We encourage you to stop by and see some amazing projects.*

*We have been studying force and motion in Science. Several of the classes have worked on projects that reinforce the force and motion unit of study.*

*We will be going on our first field trip to the Planetarium at Indian River State College on November 16 and 18*

*to kick-off the Earth in Space and Time Unit.*

*Keep your eyes open for more information about the other field trips that are planned for this year.*



*In Reading, we are working with informational texts. A great idea for home is to have your student read an article out of the newspaper or out of a magazine. Then ask the students questions about what they have read.*

*We are working with fractions in Math. We will be beginning our division of fractions unit in Math. Please continue to work with your student on the multiplication facts. This will insure success, not frustration with fractions.*

*The month of December looks just as busy!! Fifth grade will be performing the Annual Savanna Ridge Holiday Show with Ms. Justice on December 8, 2016.*

***Remember to sign your student's planner each evening.***

*This is a great way to communicate with your child's teacher.*

***Fifth grade wishes you and yours a healthy and happy holiday season.***



# The Speech Corner

The Speech Corner “December and January”

This month I would like to provide information on sound acquisition. Below you will see a list of sounds that most children should be producing by the end of the year noted. This is a typical developmental profile of the phonemes that children between the ages of 4.0 to 8 years articulate with minimal difficulty.

## Articulation

By 4.0 years—p,b,m,n,w,h,f

By 4.6 years—k,g,t,d

By 5.6 years—y

By 6.0 years—v, consonant blends

By 7.0 years—l,sh,ch,j,th (voiced:that)

By 8.0 years—r,s,z,zh,ing,th (voiceless:thumb)

Please remember that acquisition of sounds is variable from child to child. Pre-K children should be 90% intelligible to unfamiliar listeners and kindergarten children should be 90-95% intelligible to unfamiliar listeners. Some children may acquire their sounds a bit later than other age appropriate peers. If your child’s speech does not adversely impact intelligibility, their educational performance or their social interactive skills, allow him or her time to produce the sounds accordingly.

Always feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding your child’s communication skills. I will be happy to address your concerns to the best of my professional abilities.

Mrs. Lorraine MA-SLP/CCC



## STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

We need your help! Our School Advisory Council is in need of volunteers for membership. The School Advisory Council (SAC) is a school-based group intended to represent the school, the community, and those persons closest to the students. The group shares responsibility for guiding the school toward continuous improvement.

**The meeting dates are as follows:** 12/6/16, 1/10/17, 2/13/17, 3/7/17, 4/11/17, 5/9/17 (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays of each month, unless agreed to by School Advisory Council Membership. 7:30-8:30 a.m., PD Room). Please come out and support our school to reach our vision and mission. Please come out to our school to help. Parents who attend meets will get a free dress code pass for their child to be used on the designated days.

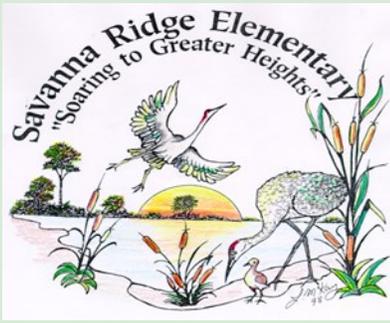
## December 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Breakfast with Santa 9-11a.m.
11	12 Holiday Shop Opens	13 Citizen of the Month 2:30	14	15 Class Parties	16 Early release 1:15 p.m.	17
18	19 Student holiday	20 Student holiday	21 Student holiday	22 Student holiday	23 Student holiday	24
25	26 Student holiday	27 Student holiday	28 Student holiday	29 Student holiday	30 Student holiday	31

### Savanna Ridge Winter Wonderland Holiday Gift Shop Schedule

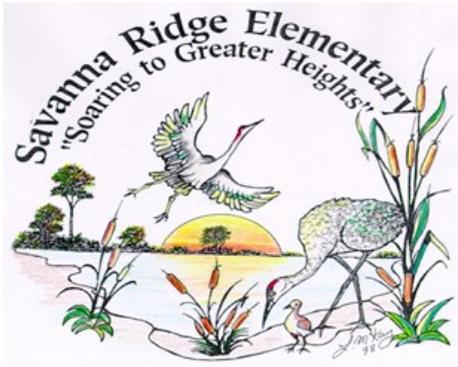
Parents you are more than welcome to come and shop with your child during their designated day and time. Items available in the shop range from \$1.00-\$10.00.

	Monday 12/12/16	Tuesday 12/13/16	Wednesday 12/14/16	Thursday 12/15/16
9:00-9:30	Fuller	Soledad	Bornsen (A.M. Class)	
9:30-10:00	Albers	Moulton	Lezynski	Pizzarello
10:15-10:45	Porter	Wagner	Young	Thomas
11:00-11:30	Petrie	Marciano	Compton	Struble
12:15-12:45	Marino	Johnson	Goodwin	Clark
1:00-1:30	Faniel	Bousquet	Basile	Bower
1:45-2:15	Balogh		Bornsen (P.M. Class)	
2:30-3:00	LaCorte	Rice	Lamora	Bartley



# January 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednes-	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Student Holiday Teacher Work Day	3 Students return Semester 2 begins Quarter 3	4	5	6 Soaring Crane Luncheon 11 a.m.-1 p.m.	7
8	9	10	11	12	13 Report cards sent home	14
15	16 Dr. Martin Luther King Parade for Students and Families	17	18	19 Honor Roll Gr. 3-5 9:30 a.m.	20	21
22	23	24 Citizen of the Month 2:30 p.m.	25 Early Release 1:15 p.m. PBIS Jersey Day Super Bowl Sundaes 1:15p.m.	26	27	28
29	30	31				



# February 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednes-	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Star Gazing Night 6 p.m.—8	3	4
5	6	7 PTO	8	9	10	11
12	13 Student Advisory Council Meeting 3:30	14	15 PBIS Mix and Match Day \$1	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 Saturdays with a Scientist
26	27 FSA Writ- ing Assess- ment	28				