

Shark News

Principal's Corner

December 1, 2018

www.stlucie.k12.fl.us/SLK



Volume 19 Issue 2

Dear Parents,

SLWK-8 Celebrates Reading! Parents, we encourage you to support reading at home by doing the following:

- ✓ Establish a routine at home for reading
- ✓ Play games that are reading related
- ✓ Read aloud an exciting passage in a book or magazine article
- ✓ Take advantage of spur-of-the-moment opportunities for reading during the day

To kick off the season, we have our Winter Band Concert on December 4th at 6:30 pm at Treasure Coast High School. We hope you join us celebrate the spirit of the season.

Have a fantastic month and a wonderful Winter Break!



Eldrique Gardner, Principal

Follow me on Twitter @slwk8_Principal

Student Council Angel Tree

During this holiday season, the SLWK-8 Student Council is hosting its annual Angel Tree.

The program provides toys for families in need during the holidays.

All unwrapped toys will benefit the C.A.S.T.L.E.

From December 3rd to December 17th,

the "Angel Tree" will be located in our school's front office. It will be decorated with ornaments with

specific age, gender and price ranges for toys. We are asking the families here at SLWK-8 to help support our community's less fortunate by choosing an ornament and purchasing a toy to be donated to this worthwhile program.

A letter will be sent home to parents explaining more about this program.

PTO Holiday Shoppe

SLWKS PTO presents our Annual Holiday Shoppe December 10-18

Students will have the opportunity to purchase affordable gifts for loved ones during this season of giving!

Students received their Holiday Shoppe packet, including an envelope for students to keep track of their budget and their gift list. Checks must be made payable to SLWK-8 (must have a phone number). No change will be given for checks.

Your SLWKS PTO is delighted to offer this event to our school! If you would like more information or would like to volunteer your time, please contact us at slwk8pto@gmail.com.

Happy Kwanzaa



Science Fair

Science Fair will be held from 5:00pm to 7:00pm on December 13th. The projects will be set up in the cafeteria for viewing. The winning projects will have their ribbons displayed on their project. Everyone is welcome to come see the displays at that time and then enjoy Family Game Night.



YEARBOOKS!

We are very excited to offer our 2018-19 yearbook for purchase online **ONLY!**

- Hardcover are \$40
- Softcovers are \$30
- E-yearbooks are \$5.00

Yearbooks are available to purchase online only at <http://slwk8.picaboo.com>

Prices goes up after February 1st!

Parent Drop-Off/Pick-Up

The school day for students is from 9:30 am to 4:00 pm. Supervision is provided from 9:10 am to 4:15 pm.

If someone other than the parent/guardian is signing out a child before the end of the school day, they must be at least 18 years old and be listed on the child's emergency card. We will ask to see photo ID (drivers license).

BUS RIDERS

Students may not ride the bus with another student unless it is an emergency. A note must be sent in by both parents with their name and phone number and the reason for the emergency. The notes must be turned into the Dean's Office by 10:00 am that morning.

Positive Behavior Support (PBIS)

"Class Shark Cards" and "Whole Class Shark Cards" promote positive behavior from the students at our school.

Teams will post their Team Event flyer in the hallways and in the classrooms at the beginning of the month to help motivate students to earn Shark cards.



FSA Practice

www.stlucie.k12.fl.us

Click on the "Parents & Students" tab from the menu, look for Resources on the left. "Learning Resources" will then be on the right side. Click on grade level (elementary or middle) Select our school name from the list under "Destiny Library Resources"

There you will find Destination Reading & Math, FCAT Explorer and other good resources Destination Reading & Math:

User name: 10 digit student ID #

Password: 10 digit student ID #

FSAssessments.org has information on new assessments. You can register for email alerts.

There are also EOC study guides under the Middle School Resources tab.

If you have questions, call 785-6630



GAME NIGHT

Student Council is bringing families together for a night of fun and games on December 13th.

See the flyer on our website. All families of SLWK-8 students are invited to come out for a night full of video games, board games, and sports activities. Let's make this event one to remember as we enjoy a little family bonding.



Kindergarten Angel Fish - Happy Holidays to all! Kindergartners are excited and looking forward to beginning our unit on Now and Long Ago. Notices will be sent home with more details on the ways that we will help bring the past alive so that we can compare it to how we live now. We will work on standards including story structure and author's purpose. In **Reading**, please continue to work on **Quarter 2 sight words**. Also work on blending and segmenting CVC words or simple 3 letter words. Help your child listen for beginning, middle and ending sounds of these words. Please review short vowel sounds. In **Math**, students will continue



counting to 100, writing numbers to 20, and working on identifying and describing 3-D shapes. We are excited to watch our kindergartners learn

and grow and bring in the New Year - 2019!

2nd Grade Butterfly Fish - We are so happy to be working with such a great group of 2nd graders! Our current focus has been on informational writing and comprehension strategies to assist us in expanding our reading skills. In **Math**, we have finished our 3 weeks of measurement, and will begin focusing on graphs, word problems with graphs, and line plots. We will be finishing the unit on who we are as Americans and begin learning about energy. **Please remember to read every night with your child!** The Lion Country Safari field trip is on February 22nd. The cost is \$57.00 and we will need the final payment on or before January 16th on Schoolpay.com. We look forward to a great middle of the school year!



4th Grade Lion Fish - Fourth graders have continued to work hard this year! We are gearing up for our big field trip to St. Augustine. It will be a fantastic hands-on learning experience for our kids. In **Social Studies**, we have been studying Native Americans, and will move into European Exploration. We will deepen our reading skills by working on standards that focus on text structure, point of view, and integrating two texts to respond to higher level questions. In **Math**, we will be wrapping up long division and moving into number patterns and fractions. Remember, students must show their work. We are learning about energy and its uses in **Science**. We will continue to work on citing and elaborating in **Writing**. **Our big push this year is EVIDENCE. Students need to be able to show evidence in reading, math, and writing.** In writing, students must cite evidence from the text and explain why it is relevant to the topic. We recently met with the District Literacy Team and our 4th graders from last year had the best scores in the District! We plan on continuing that trend this year. In **Reading**, students must be able to underline where they find their answers. Ask your child "why" questions to force them to support their opinions and thoughts. **Students should be logging in to www.I-Ready.com 2-3 times a week for 15 minutes to work on math and reading skills.**



1st Grade Tangs-

Happy Holidays

(To the tune of 'Twas the night before Christmas)
Down in the hybrids where our first graders dwell,
If you listen quite closely you'll hear quite a yell!
The students are excited to read, write, and spell,
They even add numbers to forty quite well.
They follow their Champs and Shark expectations,
And looked really cute for their Thanksgiving celebrations.
The students love to sing songs and play games,
They even know all the first-grade teachers' last names.
Now there's Ciufo and Howard, Allcroft and Smith
Ramonas and Winterkamp and that should be it!
The first-grade teachers all want to say,
They wish their students and families a Happy Holiday!
Now please wait cause there's more on the way;
The teachers make one request, only one you must heed!
Please take time during the break and have our students read!

Happy Holidays from the Tangs!

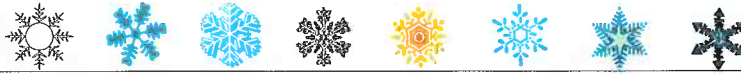


3rd Grade Parrot Fish - The 3rd grade team is looking forward to our upcoming field trip to the IRSC Planetarium in December. This field trip will enhance our learning about the planets and solar system. In **Math**, we will be studying area, perimeter, and fractions, as well as interpreting and representing data. Students will also work on becoming fluent in their multiplication facts. In **Reading**, we are continuing our units of study and infusing Science and Social Studies. Students will take their iReady winter Diagnostic assessment in January. We had our school wide PBis event, Splashport to fun, in November. We will have team events in December and January. December's event is BINGO and January's event is Superbowl Sundaes. **Please encourage your child to keep earning those SHARK cards.**



5th Grade Stingrays - Fifth grade has been rocking and rolling through a wonderful year so far! This winter, in **Science**, students are looking forward to our upcoming units of Earth in space and time along with Earth systems. In **Math**, our 5th graders will solve mathematical and real-world problems involving division of whole numbers and fractions. After dividing fractions, we will begin to classify and evaluate 2-dimensional figures. In **Reading**, students have been working on comparing and contrasting different text structures which aids them in comprehending what they are reading. Students in November enjoyed learning about early exploration in **Social Studies**, researching an explorer and giving an oral presentation. We are really looking forward to our trip to Treasure Coast High School for their annual Prism Concert on December 12th.





6th Grade—Things are picking up in sixth grade this quarter! In **Math** with Mrs. Thomas and Ms. Murray, students will be moving into one-step equations and inequalities. Some upcoming topics will include ratios and rates, integers, and geometry. Sixth graders who have seventh grade advanced math have been working on proportional relationships and will be moving on to geometry: 2-D and 3-D figures. In Miss Cutting and Ms. Warren's **Science** classes, students are just wrapping up learning about erosion. Next, they will be studying energy transfer, where they will learn about the law of conservation of energy and about the differences between kinetic energy and potential energy. In **World History** with Ms. Seng and Mr. Florio, students are beginning to answer document-based questions on Hammurabi's Code that will require them to write an argumentative essay using historical documents. Then, we are heading up the Nile into Egypt! Good thing for the Language Arts teachers Ms. Seng is working on argumentative essays because it will reinforce what students will be doing in Dr. Clement, Miss Scavone, and Miss Cialella's classes. In **Language Arts**, we are beginning to transition into argumentative essays,

asking students to take a position on some widely-debated topics. Please note that the argumentative skills provided in History and Language Arts classes this winter are not meant to be used against parents and we highly recommend that our students do not try them at home!



7th Grade—In **Math**, students are working on proportional relationships. In **Algebra**, Students are working on concepts of linear and nonlinear functions. In **Civics**, students are studying the organization of the U.S. Constitution, specifically focusing on separation of powers and checks and balances. As we continue along, students will be taking an in-depth look at each branch of government. In **ELA**, students are perfecting claims and counterclaims within the broader framework of argumentative writing. They are also working to identify main ideas within texts. In **Science**, students are learning about plate tectonics and changes in the Earth's surface. Labs are planned examining both tectonic movement and volcanic eruptions.

8th Grade—The eighth grade **English Language Arts** Department is continuing to work on a multitude of skills related to vocabulary. Students are using context clues and Greek/Latin roots, prefixes and suffixes as well as central idea while comparing and contrasting both informational texts and literature. Students will be using thinking maps and discussions to further their understanding of the material presented. In addition, we will be focusing on addressing strengths and weaknesses in both argumentative as well as expository text while writing essays. **Students should continue to work on meeting the I-Ready goal of 45 minutes per week.** Additionally, students should be reading for 20-30 minutes on a daily basis. In **Pre-Algebra**, students will be working on Geometry by learning about transformations on a coordinate plane. Then, students will be working with angles and transversals to find measurements of lines. In **Algebra**, students will be introduced to linear functions and how to graph them on a coordinate plane. Students will prove that linear functions grow by equal differences over equal intervals. In **Geometry**, students will continue to learn how to use postulates and theorems for indirect proofs. They will use the triangle inequality. Students will learn to apply basic properties of triangle similarity

including using proportions to find missing measures and proving similarity. In **Social Studies**, the students are completing a unit on the American Revolutionary War and how the 13 Colonies finally earned their independence from Great Britain. Following the war, the students will be studying how our newly formed country and its government developed under the Articles of Confederation, the Constitution, and its new leadership. **Please remember to continue to work on your History Fair Project which will be due 1/11/19.** You can access information relating to the History Fair Project at www.nhd.org. For our upcoming **Science** unit, we will be exploring the Periodic Table of Elements, compounds, and mixtures. During this unit, students will learn about the building blocks of matter and how they combine to create everything in the universe. Then, we will dive into the driving forces of the carbon cycle: photosynthesis and cellular respiration. Students will discover the path that carbon takes and it cycles throughout the Earth and atmosphere.



Important Dates

Winter Band Concert —6:30 pm @ TCHS	Dec. 4
Progress Reports /Family Access	Dec. 6 Jan. 24 Feb. 7 (K-5 only) Feb. 21
PTO Holiday Shoppe	Dec. 10-18
Semester Exams	Dec. 11-19
Science Fair —5:00-7:00	Dec. 13
Student Council Family Game Night —5:30-7:30	Dec. 13
Student of the Month —9:45 am (Cafeteria)	Dec. 13 Jan. 17 Feb. 7
WIK —8:30 am (Media Center)	Dec. 18 Jan. 22 Feb. 19
PIQ —4:30 pm (Media Center)	Dec. 19 Jan. 16 Feb. 20
End of 2nd 9 weeks/1st Semester	Dec. 21
Early Dismissal @ 2:00 pm	Dec. 21 Jan. 23 Feb. 13
Winter Break M, Tu, W, Th, Friday	Dec. 24-Jan. 7
Report Cards	Jan. 21
Literacy Week	Jan. 23
100th Day!	Jan. 28-Feb. 1
Teacher Professional Day	Jan. 29
Spring Book Fair	Feb. 1
Spring Pictures—K-4/5-8	Feb. 4-8
Student Council <i>Why</i> School Fun Run	Feb. 5/6
Interim Letters—Grades 6-8 with Future Notices	Feb. 9
Honor Roll—2nd 9 Weeks • 9:45—Grades 3-5 • 10:45—Grades 6-8	Feb. 11
PRESIDENT'S DAY HOLIDAY	Feb. 14
	Feb. 18

Looking Ahead:

- Mar. 7—Once Upon This Island—7 pm
- Mar. 11-15—Spirit Week
- Mar. 15—Carnival
- Mar. 15—End of 3rd 9 weeks
- Mar. 18-25—Spring Break
- Apr. 1-12—Writing Testing—Grades 4-8
- Apr. 4-5—FSA Reading—Grade 3
- Apr. 9—Report Cards—3rd 9 weeks
- Apr. 19—Spring Holiday
- Apr. 25—Honor Roll—3rd 9 weeks
- Apr. 26—Parent/Child Dance
- May 1-14—FSA Testing
- May 1-29—Algebra/Geometry EOC
- May 14—End-of-year Awards—Grades 1-5
- May 15—End-of-year Awards—Grades 6-7
- May 30—End-of-year Awards—Kdg
- June 3—End-of-year Awards—Grade 8
- June 4—Last day for students

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Wow! Here we are almost at the end of Quarter 2 already. Parents please remain cognitive of checking your child's planner daily, as well as Skyward. Skyward enables you to be on top of your child's grades, attendance and cafeteria balance. Open communication with your child's teacher(s) is always beneficial to your child's success. Remember, the school counselors are here to support your children so they are successful in school.