Dear Parents,

It’s hard to believe we are nearing the last quarter of the school year! It is awesome to see the students beginning to comprehend difficult concepts through implementation of strategies that they have learned. Our 3rd-8th grade students are gearing up for their FSA tests which begins in April and will continue into May (see schedule below). 3rd Grade students will have Reading testing on April 4-5.

If you have not checked out the FSA website, please do so at http://www.fsassessments.org/students-and-families, there are many resources for parents and students on the site.

Make sure your child arrives to school on time, especially on the dates that they will be testing. Also, continue to encourage your child to "finish strong" during this last quarter. There is still much learning that is taking place during this last quarter of the school year.

Don’t miss our spring show—Once On This Island—presented by our drama students, led by Drama Teacher, Trenisa Wilson-Brown, on March 7th at 7:00 pm.

Thank you for all of your support.

Eldrique Gardner, Principal

Follow me on Twitter @SLWK8_principal

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### Biology Science Fair Winners

**1st:** John Melvin (8th—Williams)

**Chemistry**

1st (e): Brianna Morrison (7th—Wardwell)

1st (e): Cherie White (8th—Williams)

2nd: Ryan Rodriguez (8th—Williams)

**Environmental Engineering**

1st: Ethan Ha on (7th—Wardwell)

**Physics**

1st: Damien Gonzalez & David Reisch (7th—Wardwell)

**Plant Science**

1st: Sean Minch (8th—Williams)

Three of our SLWK-8 Shark science fair projects won district level awards at the ceremony at Centennial High School on February 13th:

- John Melvin won 1st Place in the Junior division for Cellular/Molecular Biology.
- Ethan Ha on won 2nd place in the Junior Division for Environmental Engineering.
- Ryan Rodriguez received an Honorable Mention in the Junior Division for Chemistry.

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### Grades 3-8 FSA Testing Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Testing</th>
<th>Make-ups</th>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 1-5</td>
<td>Grades 7-8—Writes</td>
<td>Apr. 8-12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 2</td>
<td>Grades 4-6— Writes</td>
<td>Apr. 3-12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 4-5</td>
<td>Grades 3—Rdg</td>
<td>Apr. 8-12</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 1-2</td>
<td>Grades 4-6 Reading</td>
<td>May 3-14</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 1-29</td>
<td>Grades 7-8 Rdg/Math</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>May 1-29</td>
<td>Algebra/Geometry EOC</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>May 6-7</td>
<td>Grades 3-6 Math</td>
<td>May 8-14</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 9-10</td>
<td>Grades 5 &amp; 8 Science</td>
<td>May 13-14</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 24</td>
<td>Civics EOC</td>
<td>May 28-29</td>
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### History Fair

The following students will represent SLWK-8 in the upcoming County History Fair:

**Historical Paper:**
- William Widdick—6th, Seng

**Exhibit—Individual:**
- Gabriella Collazos—6th, Lindberg
- Matthew Coff—8th, Hines

**Website—Group:**
- Morgan Cosgrove, Noah Cuoco & Roseanne Rodriguez—8th, Lindberg

**Website—Individual:**
- Nicholas Ha on—6th Grade, Seng
- Ava St. Hilaire—6th Grade, Seng
Kindergarten Angel Fish—Calling all Angel sh! Let's do our best as we wrap up this year in Kindergarten. In Science, we will have a fun time exploring our Earth in space and time. Parents, please help your child make observations of the sun, moon, and everything we see in the sky. As we come to the end of the year, we will investigate living and non-living things. In Math, we will describe and compare measurable attributes such as length, height, and weight. Please practice counting to 100 with your child. By the end of the year we will be adding and subtracting within 10. We will need to be fluent in sums and differences up to 5. In Reading, we will integrate learning about different kinds of jobs using literature and informational text. Your child should be able to sound out simple CVC words and the kindergarten sight word list. Using these words together helps your child read and write simple sentences. Keep a composition book and practice writing a sentence a day. Be sure to illustrate.

2nd Grade Butterfly Fish—We are so excited with the progress 2nd grade has been making. Our current focus has been on informational writing and reading comprehension strategies. We will begin to focus on opinion writing and narrative writing. In Math, we will be working on partitioning shapes and preparing for fractions. The students always enjoy the lessons on money and time which will begin in April. Our Social Studies focus will be on economics and life cycles. We do have another field trip planned in April. We will be going on an interactive field trip to Publix, where the students can use the skills learned in math and social studies! Please remember to read every night with your child!

4th Grade Lion Fish—Wow, here we are almost the end of the 3rd quarter! The FSA Writing Assessment will take place on April 2, 2019. Reading and math testing will start in early May. The students have been learning fractions, angles, and measurement. They are preparing for their upcoming assessments by reviewing key math and reading skills that will not only benefit them this year, but in the years ahead. Our last field trip will be on May 23rd and will provide the students with many hands-on educational, fun activities at The Museum of Dinosaurs and Ancient Civilizations.

1st Grade Tangs—It is hard to believe that spring will soon be here and the end to another school year is upon us. Although school may be on break for the summer, your child’s learning doesn’t need to take an academic break. A summer without academics can cause students at every grade level to digress two to three months in their academic learning. Here are a few suggestions to help you prevent that “summer slide.”

- How will your child become a better reader? Read! Just set aside 10-15 minutes and have your child read. Ask them questions about what they read. Play games with their kindergarten through second grade sight words… gold, sh, match games etc.
- Improve reading comprehension or grammar skills. Go to the dollar store and purchase a workbook that focuses on these skills. Allow your students to complete a page or two each week.
- Have your child keep a diary or log book of all the fun things they did over the summer. This is great for the first week back to school when the teacher asks, “What did you do over the summer?” In addition, it helps your child’s writing skills.
- Practice math facts and sight words with flash cards.
- Last, select a skill that your child needs help with and work on that skill with your child.

If iReady is available, please feel free to have your students log-in and work on this school approved site. The 1st grade teachers would like to thank all our parents for their help and support throughout the school year. Thank you for allowing us to do what we love most… teach your child! Have a safe and fun summer!

3rd Grade Parrot Fish—We have done so much this year and the end of this school year is quickly approaching. Money for Wonder Works is due February 28th on School Pay. We will also be celebrating Spirit Week March 11-15. We will end Spirit Week with our annual carnival on March 15th. March 15th is also the end of the 3rd quarter and then Spring Break is right around the corner (March 18-22). Upon our return, the 3rd graders will be reviewing for their upcoming FSA tests. Reading FSA will take place April 4th & 5th and the Math FSA, is May 6th & 7th. We are eagerly awaiting their field trip to Wonder Works in Orlando on May 23rd. The last day of school is June 4th. Thanks for all of your support this year!

5th Grade Stingrays—We hope you are all having a wonderful transition into spring. Our 5th grade students are working hard to get ready for our FSA’s. Please help your child prepare for the FSA’s both physically and mentally with a well-balanced breakfast each morning, and send them off each morning with a positive attitude. Here are the dates:

- Writing FSA – April 2
- ELA FSA – May 7-8
- Math FSA – May 6-7
- Science FSA – May 9-10

Our students are looking forward to our field trip in March to Busch Wildlife, where they will see Florida wildlife undergo rehabilitation from either illnesses or injuries. They will enjoy an interactive wildlife session where they will learn characteristics of reptiles and birds. Students are also looking forward to our May 17th trip to Kennedy Space Center—so many hands-on activities, along with gaining a better understanding of our solar system. Don’t forget spring break is from March 18-25. Please continue to monitor your child’s time on i-ready nightly, along with making sure they complete their math and science homework nightly. Thank you for your continued support.
6th Grade—As we plunge into our final quarter of the school year we are preparing our sharks to take a bite out of those FSA tests! In **Math** with Mrs. Thomas and Mrs. Murray, students are working on data analysis and will soon be moving into dependent and independent variables. Some upcoming topics will include geometry and operation with multi-digit numbers. Sixth graders who have seventh grade advanced math have been working on probability and will soon be moving on to data analysis and linear functions. **Math FSA test dates for both 6th grade and 7th grade advanced are May 13-14.** In Miss Cutting and Ms. Warren’s **Science** classes, our students are diving into life science, starting with the cell. As students journey through learning about how living things function on the smallest scale, they will gradually work up to classification of organisms and the study of human body systems. In **World History** with Ms. Seng and Mr. Florio, students just finished History Fair and are now learning about India. After that, they will be journeying into China. We are mixing things up a little in **Language Arts** as students are beginning weekly rotations among the teachers to help them get a different perspective on writing that is sure to help deepen their understanding for the upcoming FSA writing test on April 2nd.

7th Grade—**Algebra:** Students are working on exponential functions and quadratics. **Course 2 mathematics:** Students are working on circles and 3D figure geometry. **Science:** Students are learning about evolution and the diversity of life. **ELA:** Creating quality introductions and conclusions in preparation for the FSA writing assessment. **Civics:** We are currently working on the 27 amendments. We are focusing on the Bill of Rights, and how they apply and give rights to U.S. citizens.

8th Grade—**Math:** In **Pre-Algebra**, we will be learning about functions and how to identify them in the real world. In **Algebra**, we will be extending our learning of functions into exponential functions. Students will learn how to write, graph and solve these special functions. In **Geometry**, we will be learning about quadrilaterals and circles. **Science:** Science is working on astronomy. In upcoming units, we will be learning about solar system formation, properties of planets, and the effect of the moon and sun on the Earth’s des. Afterwards, we will be starting projects related to space exploration. **Language Arts:** The 8th Grade Language Arts department is working on reviewing and refining the different components (planning, introductions, body paragraphs with sufficient evidence and elaboration, and conclusions) while reading both argumentative and informative texts. We are also reviewing skills such as central idea, point of view, analyzing structures of paragraph in both informational and literary texts. Vocabulary and grammar will also continue to be a priority. **Social Studies:** In 8th Grade Social Studies classes, the students are currently learning about the first presidents of the United States, how these individuals influenced the establishment of our new nation, and the role they each played in the creation of our government. Next, we will be learning about our country's continued expansion and the influence this growth had on the social, political, and economic development of the United States.
Counselor’s Corner

Wow! We are already more than halfway through the school year. With the testing window nearing, it is extremely important to ensure your child is in school as to not miss crucial instructional time. As always, continue to monitor how your child is doing both academically and emotionally as both are key factors in the overall health and success of your child.

Happy Spring

Boys Basketball Team

Top L to R: Jeremiah Louissaint, Isaiah Jean, Nicholas Maione, Jeffery “Abel” Craver and Coach Bell.

Bottom L to R: Rashead Bastien and Pasquale Altman

Not pictured: Coach Braddy