

Shark News

Principal's Corner

September 1, 2019



Volume 20 Issue 1

www.stlucie.k12.fl.us/SLK

FACEBOOK

Like us on Facebook for the most up-to-date information about what is happening in our school!



Look for information soon about the 2019-20 yearbooks.

Dear Parents,

We were happy to have Curriculum Night for grades K-8 in August. It was well attended, and the feedback from parents and teachers was that the time and shared information was valuable. September will be a very busy month with Shark Writes, pictures and much more.

In October, we will host a K-1 Fall Festival and look forward to seeing lots of parents in attendance. We enjoy providing activities that bring the community into our school. October will also mark the end of the 1st quarter. Be sure to check your child's planner daily, and monitor their progress through Skyward. We value your partnership and know that it takes all of us to give your child a positive educational experience.

We welcome your involvement, either through the School Advisory Committee, Parent Teacher Organization, or volunteering. More information can be found on our website regarding these opportunities. Please check out the website for the new Florida assessments - <http://www.fsassessments.org>. You can sign up to receive email alerts for any updates. There are also sample grade band assessments available. We are continuing to prepare our students for success with the new assessments.

Eldrique T. Gardner, Principal
Follow me on Twitter @slwk8_Principal



Family Access

Your child's progress reports and other information is available on Family Access/Skyward. If you do not have access, please come in to the office and complete the form and provide your driver's license for verification. You can also make lunch payments (see below) and much more.

VOLUNTEERS/FIELD TRIPS

It is School Board policy that ALL chaperones for field trips must be approved volunteers, which includes a complete background check. If a person shows up the day of the trip and is not an approved volunteer, they CANNOT attend the field trip.

The application is on-line. Please visit the district website <http://www.stlucie.k12.fl.us/>. From there you will see the tab for Apply for a Job. If you have never applied for a job with SLPS, tutorial on apply as a user. It is a step guide contact on who to you have any



As part of application, you will need to scan and upload your Government Issued ID (driver's license) in order to complete the application.

PLEASE REMEMBER, there can be up to 3 weeks processing time prior to approval, so please plan ahead.

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 so we can call and verify the information. Thanks for your cooperation.

Positive Behavior Support (PBiS)

The first PBiS event for the year will be in September and will be a Team event. The November event will be a school-wide event. Encourage your child to earn their SHARK Bait cards so they can attend these fun activities!

Lunch Payments Online



Payments can be made online for student meals.

From the District's Homepage, select Online Payments.

At the next screen, select Student Food. You will then be taken to the Family Access screen to log in.



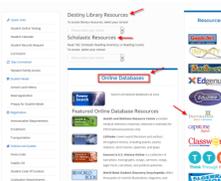
Once you are on Family Access, you will be able to pay your child's meals with a credit or debit card. You will also be able to view the history of your child's meal account.

If you have any questions about your child's meal account, please contact our Cafeteria Manager, Mrs. Henry, at 785-6646.



Library Updates

The online card catalog is a great benefit to students, not only at school, but also at home. The home page on the card catalog offers students our online research sources all on one page. The catalog can be accessed from home at [St. Lucie West K8 Destiny](http://St.LucieWestK8Destiny)



Destination Reading & Math
Username/password: Student ID #

Grolier (on District website):
Username: stlucie
Password: reads

United Streaming
Username: stluciestudent
Password: student

Newsbank
Username/password: stlucie

Gale Products
ID: sharks

Tumblebooks
User: stluciek8
Password: reads

World Book
Username: stluciestudent
Password: reads

Capstone Library
Username: stluciewest
Password: school



Please take advantage of all our valuable resources at this site. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Media Center.

Meal Applications

If you feel that you might qualify for free/reduced meals, you may fill out an application at any time during the school year.



- Just go to the School Board website www.stlucie.k12.fl.us
- Click on the Meal Application tab on the Home page
- Applications are processed within a few days.



Kindergarten Angel Fish—We are so excited to be SHARKS! We are working hard on our SHARK expectations daily as we learn about our community and our responsibilities. We are learning to ask and answer questions about key details in a text while we learn how rules are important in school and in our community. We are able to answer **who, what, where, when, why** and **how** questions about the informational and literature stories we are reading. When reading at home, ask questions such as; who are the characters and where is the setting. In **Math**, we are learning to read and write our numbers 1-5. We are also working on counting objects up to five. Continue working on letter sounds and the sight words of the week! **Make sure you are reading to your child for 20 minutes, each and every evening.**



1st Grade Tangs—1st Grade has had a great start to this school year! The students are working hard to explore the learning process, as well as routines, and procedures. We are very proud of them. In **Reading**, the focus will be working on the short sounds for vowels **a,e,i,o,u** as well as learning to identify the main topic and retell key details of a text. For **Writing**, we are learning how to write a topic sentence and include key details in their writing. For **Math**, we will be focusing on two and three dimensional shapes. We will be creating cubes and pyramids using toothpicks and marshmallows; students will identify and count the number of sides and vertices a shape has. Homework is now being sent home every Monday. As part of the homework process, **please make sure students are reading each night and going over quarterly sight words.** The 1st grade team would like to thank you for all the support at home. Please feel free to email us any time with questions or concerns.



2nd Grade Butterfly Fish—Second graders have been off to a great start this year! We have been focusing on a number of different strategies in **Math** to help build fluency in addition and subtraction. **Please continue practicing doubles facts, fact families and make a ten strategies at home.** The math menu has great activities to help build on these skills. Second grade teachers have created a homework book which follows the reading skill of the week. We assign one page in order of the book each night. These pages will help students practice phonics words, vocabulary, and reading skills for the upcoming assessments. We are here to help our students succeed! Please feel free to email us any time with questions or concerns.



3rd Grade Parrot Fish—Third graders have been off to a busy start this year! We have been studying the government and how to be a good citizen. We will be reading several books on citizenship including *A Fine, Fine School* and *The Trial of Cardigan Jones*. We will also be working on referring to text to ask and answer questions, determining word meaning (vocabulary strategies), as well as using illustrations to help us understand what we are reading (just to name a few standards). In addition to reading, we have been focusing on different strategies in **Math** such as rounding, place value, and adding and subtracting with and without regrouping.



The third grade team is dedicated to making sure your child succeeds. Please feel free to email us any time with questions or concerns.

4th Grade Lion Fish—Fourth graders have been off to a busy start this year! In **Social Studies** we have been studying geography and land forms. By the end of the fall we will be studying the Native American groups that lived in Florida prior to colonization. We have also been working on using visual features and inferencing in informational text, and will continue to work on these skills in **Reading** throughout the year. In addition to reading, we have been focusing on different strategies in **Math** such as rounding, place value, and adding and subtracting with regrouping. In October, we will focus on multiplication of large numbers and long division. We are learning and practicing the scientific method and will integrate these new skills into our **Science** lessons throughout the year. Several classes have already started working on hands-on projects such as using visual features to build models in science.



5th Grade Stingrays—Our fifth graders are off to a wonderful start! We've got the year started in the right direction. We are learning and practicing strategies for accountable talk, which will allow students to work better with partners and groups. Students have access to Flocabulary at home and can use it nightly to help strengthen their academic and domain-specific vocabulary. In **Math**, students are working on quick recalling of multiplication and division facts and will soon be ready for all operations with fractions. In **Science**, students are getting prepared to master the processes of scientific investigation. We look forward to a fantastic year!





6th Grade—In **ELA**, during the first quarter, there will be heavy emphasis on works of fiction-- particularly short stories and plays. Starting the 4th week of school, we will be reading an independent chapter book and writing a daily summary. By Halloween, students will be required to create a movie poster project, pulling from both their reading logs and their interactive notebooks. Keeping them organized and insuring great note-taking will make this project red-carpet worthy! We will be working on Unit 2: Earth Systems and



Patterns in **Science**. This includes identifying and learning about the geosphere, hydrosphere, cryosphere, biosphere, and atmosphere. We will be analyzing the interactions between all of

the spheres, and how they make our earth a wonderful place to live with variety in life. Part of those lessons will include an introduction to the water cycle, showcasing how it interacts with all of Earth's systems. In **Math**, we will be using in-depth verbal problems pulled from real-life situations to show how the past three weeks of material learned relates to daily scenarios, and how our lessons have real world applications. **World History** will be examining the present before it ventures into the past, where students will be learning about geography (including local geography, simple cartography, and advanced map skills) for the first quarter to help understand ancient landforms and borders better. We will also be preparing for National History Day, and the contest that accompanies it. This year's theme is "Breaking Barriers in History". There are many categories and topics to choose from; the sooner you pick a topic you're passionate about, the better! We will be learning more about each of the contest's steps in the coming weeks.

7th Grade—7th grade ELA is currently working on determining author's purpose and point of view in a text, and explaining how they distinguish their point of view from that of others. 7th grade **Civics** students are engaged in learning about the rule of law and U.S citizenship. In 7th grade comprehensive **Science**, students have begun the unit of study on energy. Topics that the students will explore will include the various energy forms, energy transformations, and the Law of Conservation of Energy, where energy cannot be created or destroyed. In **Math**, 7th graders are learning the rules for performing operations on rational numbers (negative and positive numbers), then applying these rules to solve real-world mathematical problems. The **advanced** classes are working on understanding the classifications of real numbers (whole numbers, integers, rational and irrational numbers), as well as estimating the values of irrational numbers (non-perfect squares). In **Algebra**, we are working on the students creating and solving one variable linear equations and inequalities.



8th Grade—**Social Studies**: Over the course of the next few months, the 8th Grade Social Studies classes will be actively studying the following content areas: Exploration of the Americas, Colonial Development (or the Thirteen Original Colonies), the French and Indian War (fought between the French and the British), and the American Revolutionary War (fought between the British and the Thirteen Original Colonies). **Please remember to keep working on the assigned History Fair Project (www.nhd.org) which will be due around Winter Break.**

Math: The **Pre-Algebra** classes will be working with understanding real numbers and then how to do mathematical operations with them. After that, students will be introduced to the Pythagorean Theorem and try to solve real world problems that can be related to right triangles. In **Algebra 1**, the students will be working on solving more complicated algebraic equations and inequalities. They will then practice graphing inequalities on a coordinate plane to find solutions. After that, we begin to explore functions; what they are and how to work with them in the real world. In **Geometry**, the students will be working on understanding proofs and angles, and practicing mathematical problems that encompass this learning.

ELA: Students are exploring "The Thrill of Horror" while analyzing how and why the horror genre is terrifying, yet fascinating, to its readers. We will also discuss how readers' knowledge of this genre, in addition to varying points of view, creates a level of suspense that keeps the reader wanting to know more. This collection of texts will change the way we categorize and define horror.

Science: Before diving into exciting topics within astronomy, students will begin at the basics: the ingredients of our universe. The fundamentals of matter will first be discussed, followed by an exploration of the periodic table, scientists' way of organizing these important ingredients. **Science Fair projects will be due mid-November.**



Important Dates

Holidays (no school): - Labor Day - Fall Holiday - Veteran's Day - Thanksgiving	Sept. 2 Oct. 9 Nov. 11 Nov. 25-29
Teacher Workday	Sept. 20 Oct. 14
Interim Letters—Grades 6-8 with Failure Notices	Sept. 10 Nov. 15
Student of the Month —9:45 am (Cafeteria)	Sept. 11 Oct. 2 Nov. 13
Progress Reports/Family Access	Sept. 12 (K-5 only) Sept. 26 Oct. 31 Nov. 14 (K-5 only)
SAC—8:30 am (Media Center)	Sept. 17 Oct. 15 Nov. 19
Make-up Pictures/Retakes/ K-5 Groups	Sept. 24
Bring Your Child to School	Sept. 25
Early Dismissal @ 2:00 pm	Oct. 31
PTO—4:20 pm (Media Center)	Sept. 18 Oct. 16 Nov. 20
End of 1st 9 Weeks	Oct. 11
Book Fair	Oct. 28-Nov. 8
Report Cards	Oct. 28
Honor Roll	Nov. 14
● 9:45—Grades 3-5 ● 10:45—Grades 6-8	

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Wow! Can you believe that summer is over already? As we jump into a new school year, now is the best time to develop your child's routine for studying and completing homework. Designate a quiet location away from distractions, noise and electronics. Consistency is ideal and helps your child to develop good study habits. Remember, it's important for you, as parents, to be involved in what your child is doing at school. Ask them about their day. This could be a simple, "What is something new you learned today?" or "What made you laugh today?". Check your child's planner regularly as all pertinent information regarding homework, projects and due dates should be written in there. Lastly, stay on top of your child's grades by checking Skyward often. It's best to do this throughout each quarter rather than at the end only so you can monitor your child's grades. If you have any concerns or questions, be certain to communicate them with your child's teachers. We look forward to a successful school year.

Looking Ahead:

- Dec. 5th—Band Winter Concert @ TCHS
- Dec. 12th-20th—Semester Exams*
- Dec. 20th
 - End of the 2nd nine weeks/1st Semester
 - Early Dismissal at 2:00
 - PBIS Events
- Dec. 23rd-Jan. 6th—Winter Break
- Jan. 7th—Students Return
- Jan. 20th—MLK, Jr. Holiday
- Jan. 23rd—Report Cards

*tentative dates

Business Partners

Texas Roadhouse Dine To Donate

On October 17th, 10% of SLWK8 sales will return to our school! Come out to TRH to support SLWK8!

Banners for Business!

If you are a business, or know of a business wanting to advertise on our campus with a banner displayed in a prominent, highly visible area, contact Jennifer Tremblay at 785-6630 ext 8321.