

Shark News



March 1, 2020 **Happy Spring** Volume 20 Issue 3

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

www.stlucie.k12.fl.us/SLK

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 1-2.

If you have not checked out the FSA website, please do so <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—Shrek, Jr.—presented by our drama students on March 5th at 6:00 pm.

Thank you for all of your support.



Eldrique Gardner, Principal
Follow me on Twitter @SLWK8_principal



YEARBOOKS!

We are very excited to offer our 2019-20 yearbook for purchase online **ONLY!**

- Hardcover are \$40
- Softcovers are \$35

Yearbooks are available to purchase online **only** at www.slwk8.picaboo.com by April 19th.

After that, the yearbook will be shipped home for an additional fee.

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.

EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR!

- *Teacher of the Year*—Shawna Portee, 2nd Grade Teacher
- *Distinguished Minority Educator of the Year*—Robert Suggs, 4th Grade Teacher
- *Outstanding First Year Teacher*—Zena Merhi, 1st Grade Teacher
- *School-Related Employee of the Year*—Tracy Morgan, 6-8 Health Para

History Fair

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

Documentaries:

- 1st Place—Madelyn Daugaard—6th, Seng
- 2nd Place—Triston Richardson & Aiden Triana—6th, Seng

Exhibit—Group:

- 1st Place—Brianna Morrison—8th, Schmidt

Exhibit—Individual:

- 1st Place—Joy Didden—6th, Seng
- 2nd Place—Daniel Lemons—6th, Florio
- 3rd Place—Triston Lemons—8th, Harris

Historical Paper:

- 1st Place—Ary-Marc Monval—8th, Schmidt
- 2nd Place—Michaela Talbott—6th, Lindberg
- 3rd Place—Jacob Contreras—6th, Seng

Performance:

- 1st Place—Mariah Johnson/Jerri Hoke-Martin—8th, Lindberg
- 2nd Place—Juliana Gutierrez-Garcia/Tomme Lane/Kate Latham/ Kiara Rodriguez/Ashleyn Storm—6th, Seng

Website:

- 1st Place—Sophie Pasciotly—8th, Lindberg
- 2nd Place—Ethan Hutton—8th, Schmidt

SLC Science Fair Winners

The winners of the 32nd Annual SLC Regional Science & Engineering Fair were announced on February 5th at the County Office.

Biomedical Health Science: 1st place - Triston Lemons, 8th grade, Williams
Triston also received the following special awards:



- American Psychological Association Award for Achievement in Research and Psychological Science
- Broadcom Masters Award (which Qualifies Triston for a chance to be selected to go to Washington DC and meet the President)
- Walmart Distribution Center Special Award + 50 inch TV
- Triston was also chosen as a Florida State Qualifier and will be representing our school district in the competition in March.

Engineering: 3rd place - Keani Yamini, 6th grade, Laurino. Keani also won the Fort Pierce Utilities Authority Award

Environmental Engineering - Ethan Hatton, 8th grade, Williams - Publix Super Markets Great Science Award



Grades 3-8 FSA Testing Schedule

Dates	TESTING	Make-ups
Apr. 1-2	Grade 3—Reading	Apr. 3-14
Apr. 2	Grades 4-6—Writes	Apr. 3-14
Apr. 6	Grade 7—Writes	Apr. 7-14
Apr. 7	Grade 8—Writes	Apr. 8-14

May 1 & 6	Grades 7—Reading
May 4-5	Grades 4-6—Reading
May 7-8	Grade 8—Reading
May 11-12	Grades 2-6 & 8—Math
May 13-14	Alg/Geo EOC
May 15	Grade 7—Civics
May 18-19	Grades 5 & 8 Science
May 20-21	Grade 7—Math/Alg EOC



Geography Bee Winner!

Congratulations to **Brantly Heard**, 7th Grader from Mrs. Lindberg's class who won our school's recent National Geography Bee. Runner-up was Aiden Triana, 6th Grade.

Other participants were:

- 6th Graders Daniel Lemons and Jasmine Gabriel
- 7th Graders—Analiyah Cervantes and Willow Corso
- 8th Graders—Dennise Dillon and Isaela Sanchez

Thank you Mrs. Schmidt for organizing and facilitating the annual Geography Bee!

Kindergarten Angel Fish—Calling all Angelfish! 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. 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. **Please look for invitation and information about our End of the Year Kindergarten Celebration as we come to the close of our school year. The date will be during the last week of May and will be held at 9:45 in the Middle School Cafeteria.** Parents, thanks so much for all you have done throughout the year.



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 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 at Spring Break. The FSA Writing Assessment will take place on April 2, 2020. The 4th Grade students are working hard to fine tune their writing skills for the FSA Writes Assessment. Reading and math testing will start after 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 20th and will provide the students with many hands-on educational, fun activities at Legoland.



1st Grade Tangs—The 1st grade team is looking forward to our upcoming field trip to the Brevard Zoo on March 27th. This field trip will enhance our learning about living and non-living things. In **Math**, we will be studying money, time, and fractions. Students will also work on becoming fluent in their addition facts. In **Reading**, we are continuing our units of study and infusing science and social studies text. We will be reading and writing about our planet Earth and all its structures. Students will take the i-Ready Diagnostic assessment in May. **Please continue to read for 20 minutes each night and work on district sight words.**



3rd Grade Parrot Fish—We have learned so much and done so much this year. It's hard to believe that the end of this school year is quickly approaching. Money for the South Florida Science Center is due March 13th. We also have several 4-H, in-house field trips coming up. The first one is a pet presentation. That will take place on February 6th. The second one is a plant presentation. That will take place on March 25th. The final 4-H in-house field trip is a water presentation. That will take place on April 9th. We will also be celebrating Spirit Week March 9-13. We will end Spirit Week with our annual Carnival on March 13th. March 13th is also the end of the 3rd quarter and then Spring Break is right around the corner (March 16-23). Upon our return, the 3rd graders will be reviewing for their upcoming FSA tests. **Reading FSA will take place April 1st & April 2nd. The Math FSA, is May 11th & May 12th.** The last day of school is June 2nd. Thanks for all of your support this year.



5th Grade Stingrays—We hope you all are having a wonderful transition into spring. Our 5th grade students are working hard getting 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 4 – 5, Math FSA- May 11 – 12, Science FSA – May 18 – 19. Our students are looking forward to our field trip in May to Sea World, where they will see attractions from killer whales to bottlenose dolphins, from belugas to penguins and sea lions to sharks. We are so excited!! **Don't forget spring break is from March 16 – 23.** 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—ELA: We are reviewing the process for writing informational and argumentative essays using the FLEE map graphic organizer to effectively plan, read sources, organize, and write based on the given prompt. **Math:** Students will be demonstrating in-depth inferences and applications. Students will also be solving real world and mathematical problems by graphing points in all four quadrants on the coordinate plane. The students will be able to write statements of order in rational numbers in real world contexts. The 7th Grade advanced students will be drawing inferences about populations using statistical reasoning, deciding whether the polled used bias or random selected survey. The students will be able to measure the differences between centers of two numerical data distributions by expressing it as a multiple of a measure of variability. **Science:** The next 5 weeks in science we will be learning about cells. The students will understand and explore cell theory. They will be able to identify structures and functions of major components of plant and animal cells. We will learn how cells undergo similar processes to maintain HOMEOSTASIS. We will use microscopes to identify different types of cells. We will also identify patterns in the hierarchical organization of organisms from atoms to molecules, cells to tissues to organs to organ systems to organisms. **World History:** We will be studying ancient India, Greece, and the Roman Republic.



7th Grade—Civics: Students are working in their DBQ books and examining the question: Should schools be allowed to limit students' online speech? They are also learning about political participation and political parties and their ideologies. **Math:** Students are learning about angle relationships and quadratic functions. This is what we will be covering for the rest of the school year: **Course 2:** circles, 3-D figures, data analysis and probability modeling. **Algebra 1 Honors:** quadratics, exponential functions, statistics and data analysis, general functions and rational and radical equations. **Science:** Students are learning about heredity and reproduction, focusing on how genetic information is passed from parents to offspring. In addition, when we finish heredity and reproduction, we will move into the diversity of life through evolution, and finish up the year with ecology.




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. **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 tides. Afterwards, we will be starting projects related to space exploration. **Language Arts:** The 8th Grade Language Arts department is gearing up for their writing boot camp. Students are examining argumentative topics and analyzing texts to gather supportive, relevant evidence. The boot camp will focus on skills such as proper planning, well-structured introductions and conclusions, and elaborations that connect evidence to the topic. By the end of the boot camp, students will be able to write stronger, convincing arguments

that are purposeful and focused. In class, we will continue to reinforce grammar, academic vocabulary, and transition use in essay writing.

Social Studies: 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.



Important Dates

NJHS Induction—9:45 am	Mar. 4	
Shrek, Jr.—6:00 pm	Mar. 5	
Spirit Week	Mar. 9-13	
Student of the Month	Mar. 11	
	Apr. 15	
	May 13	
End of 3rd 9 Weeks	Mar. 13	
Spring Break	Mar. 16-23	
SAC—8:30 am (Media Center)	Mar. 24	
	Apr. 21	
	May 19	
PTO—4:30 pm (Media Center)	Mar. 25	
	Apr. 15	
	May 20	
Early Dismissal—2:00 pm	Apr. 1*	
	June 1-2	
Report Cards	Apr. 7	
Progress Reports/Family Access	Apr. 9	
	Apr 30 (K-5)	
	May 14	
Holiday	Apr. 10	
	May 25	
Honor Roll (Gym)	Apr. 23	
9:45 Grades 3-5		
10:45 Grades 6-8		
Interim Ltrs for 4th 9 - Grades 6-8 (including failure notices)	Apr. 28	
Teacher Appreciation	May 4-8	
Spring Concert @ CHS —6:30 pm	May 7	
End-of-Year Awards	May 19-20, 28, Jun 1	
Final Exams (Grades 6-8)	May	
Last day for Students	June 2	
First day for 2020-21	Aug. 10	

*Due to 3rd Grade testing, April 1st is now a full school day.



Counselor's Corner

Our school counselors have been working to promote a safe and kind environment for all students. In middle school, we're facilitating lessons to support students' understanding of Mental Health awareness along with kindness and bullying prevention. In elementary, students are being presented with the Safer Smarter Kids Curriculum to aid in the awareness and understanding of student safety and anti-bullying. Thank you for your ongoing support your children and their physical, emotional and mental well-being.