

Shark News

Principal's Corner

October 20, 2021

www.stlucie.k12.fl.us/SLK



Volume 22 Issue 1

FACEBOOK

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



<https://www.facebook.com/StLucieWestK8>

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!

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.

Dear Parents,
We are happy the start of the school year has gone remarkably well. Despite the challenges that COVID 19 presents, teaching and learning continues at SLWK8 School. Our students are engaged; the feedback from parents, students and teachers reiterates this. September was a busy month with Shark Writes, picture day and much more. As always, we enjoy providing activities that bring the community safely into our school. Also, October marked 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 or Parent Teacher Organization. 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.

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.



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 the 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.

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: stluciestudent
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.



K **indergarten 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. We are learning about the role of an author and illustrator in a text. We also are working on the difference between fiction and non-fiction text. When reading at home, ask your child about the author and illustrator and help them identify what kind of text they are reading (fiction or non-fiction.) In science we are concluding our unit on the five senses. We look forward to learning about living and non-living things in our next unit. In math we are learning to read and write our numbers 1-10. We are also working on counting objects up to ten. We will be working on 2D shapes next. We will learn about vertices, straight and curved lines, and other attributes. Continue working on letter sounds and the sight words of the week! Make sure you are reading to your child for 20 minutes, every evening. Please be on the lookout for information about our upcoming events. The Vocabulary Parade and our Fall Celebrations will be so much fun!!



2 **nd 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.



4 **th 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. During **Science**, we have been working on the genetics of plants and animals and how they reproduce.



1 **st 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 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. Unit 1 is all about "How Living Things Grow and Change". We are learning so much about Life Cycles! For writing, we are learning how to write a topic sentence and include key details in their writing. For Math, we will be focusing adding and subtracting within 10. Please start practicing those addition facts with your child. 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 the unit sight words. Homework is due EVERY Friday!

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.

3 **rd Grade Parrot Fish**—Welcome Back!!! The third grade team is very happy to welcome back our students for the 2021-2022 school year! We know this year is going to bring a lot of exciting things for our students!

We are launching the district's new ELA curriculum, Benchmark Advanced! This program will provide students with engaging texts, level-based instruction, and knowledge-building topics that will provide students with background knowledge and vocabulary that will grow with them grade-by grade. In math, the third graders started the year by reviewing rounding and place value. We also started addition and subtraction up to 1000. We are currently on our multiplication & division unit which will lay the foundation for all remaining units. It is vital that students start memorizing their multiplication facts now. In science we are studying plants and animal classification and in social studies we are working on maps & globes and government & civic participation. We are looking forward to a fantastic year!

5 **th Grade Stingrays**—Fifth graders have been off to a busy start this year! In **Social Studies**, we have been studying geography and land forms and ancient civilizations. By the end of the fall, we will be studying the Native American groups that lived in the United States prior to colonization. We have also been working on using visual features and inferencing in informational text and 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 multiplication of large numbers, long division, order of operation, and volume of three-dimensional shapes. We are learning and practicing the Scientific Method and integrate these new skills in our Science Lessons throughout the year as we study Energy, Electricity, Force, and Motion. Several classes have already started on hands-on projects such as using visual features to build models in science.



6th Grade—In **ELA**, there will be heavy emphasis on works of fiction--concise stories and plays. Students will be reading an independent chapter book and writing a daily summary. By the end of the quarter students will be required to create a Movie Poster Project, pulling from both their reading log and their interactive notebooks. Keeping them organized and insuring great note-taking will make this project red-carpet worthy!

In **Science**, 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 the spheres and how they make our earth a wonderful place to live in. Part of those lessons will include introducing the water cycle, showcasing how it interacts with all of Earth's systems. Students will design a model that shows interactions between two different. In **Math**, the sixth-grade students who are in 7th grade advanced class just finished their first unit on Real Numbers and are moving on to Unit 2 which is solving equations and inequalities. The rest of the 6th grade students are just finishing the first unit on operations with multi-digit numbers and will be starting division of fractions. In **World History**, World History will examine 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. We will also be preparing for National History Day, and the contest that accompanies it. This year's theme is "Debate and Diplomacy in History: Successes, Failures, Consequences". There are many categories and topics to choose from; pick a topic you're passionate about. We will be learning more about each of the contest's steps in the coming weeks.

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).
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 the understanding proofs and angles and practicing mathematical problems that encompass this learning.

7th Grade—7th grade **ELA** is working on analyzing point of view in literary texts and finding the meaning of words using context clues.

7th grade **Civics** students are e working on Unit 3, Foundations of Government. We are utilizing what we learned in Units 1 & 2 and applying the information in Unit 3. In 7th grade comprehensive **Science**, is studying energy and changes in matter, types of energy and how energy can transfer and transform. In **Math**, 7th graders are working in Unit 2: Ratios and Proportional Relationships and the lesson we will be starting Unit Rates with Fractions.



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. STEM Fair projects will be due early December.



Important Dates

Holidays (no school):

- Veteran's Day - Nov 11th
- Thanksgiving - Nov 22nd - 26th
- Winter Break - Dec 20th - Jan 3rd

Interim Letters—Grades 6-8 Nov 10

Student of the Month Oct 20

—9:45 am (Students Only) Nov 30

Dec 15

Progress Reports/Family Access Nov. 10(K-5 only)

SAC—8:30 am (Virtual) Nov. 17

Dec. 15

Jan 26

Early Dismissal @ 2:00 pm Dec. 18

Jan. 27

PTO—7:00 pm (virtual) Nov. 17

Dec. 15

Jan 19

Virtual Book Fair Oct. 6-Nov. 5

Report Cards Oct. 25th

Looking Ahead:

- Oct. 18th-29th - Shark Writes
- Dec. 6th-17th—Semester Exams*
- Dec. 17th
 - End of the 2nd nine weeks/1st Semester
 - Early Dismissal at 2:00
- Dec. 20th-Jan. 3rd—Winter Break
- Jan. 4th—Students Return
- Jan. 17th—MLK, Jr. Holiday
- Jan. 19th—Report Cards

*tentative dates

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.

Business Partners

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.