

# Words of Wisdom



THE NEWSLETTER OF LORETTO ELEMENTARY PTA

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CHRISTOPHER BEGLEY  
PRINCIPAL

THERESA ROGERS  
PTA PRESIDENT

## SPRING PICTURES

Spring pictures will be taken on Thursday, Feb. 27. Beginning this year a new procedure will be in place for "spring" pictures. Only students who **"Prepay"** for pictures and send in their money **before 2/27 will be photographed.** Along with individual pictures being prepaid, the student's **class group picture will be prepaid.** Leonard's studio will only produce enough class pictures as ordered. If anyone can volunteer and help with "Spring" pictures, please call 260-5800 - ext. 2101 and ask for Marti.



## Parking Lot Safety

**Please observe all traffic signs and rules when driving on and around campus. Children are NEVER to be dropped off anywhere other than the designated drop off circles. Please remember that the driveway that encircles the school is a "No Cell Phone" zone and that the speed limit on campus is an extra slow 5 mph. Thanks for helping keep our children safe!**

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## Teacher of the Year

The Rotary Club of Mandarin held a breakfast honoring the Mandarin Area's Teachers of the Year. Pictured here are Ms. Tarabishi (Loretto's Teacher of the Year - center) with Principal, Mr. Begley (right) and the President of the Mandarin Rotary (left).



**PARENTS:** We want your feedback! Please take a few minutes to take our survey about fundraising and let your voices be heard. Please take the following link to the survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/JSVPB3D>



## Mark your Calendars

- February 25-26  
FCAT Writing 4th Grade
- February 27, Thursday  
Spring Pictures
- March, 12, Wednesday  
Early Dismissal
- March 17-21, Spring Break
- March 26, Wednesday  
Early Dismissal
- April 9, Wednesday  
Early Dismissal
- April 16, Wednesday  
Early Dismissal
- April 22-May 7  
FCAT Reading, Math, and Science  
3rd-5th Grade

## Accreditation

As promised, we are sharing more information about accreditation with you and all of our stakeholders. In January, we provided information about Standards 1 and 2.

Duval County Public Schools are going through the accreditation process this year. You might be familiar with the previous SACS Accreditations. In a technological age, SACS is using AdvancED as their portal. Last year, there were surveys that you might have filled out asking questions about the school. The students and faculty were also asked to fill out surveys. All stakeholders are an integral part of the ongoing continuous improvement process. This year we are in the process of self-assessment on five standards for "quality practice and conditions that research and best practice indicate are necessary for schools to achieve quality student performance results and organizational effectiveness. The indicators are operational definitions or descriptions of exemplary practices and process. When seen together, the indicators provide a comprehensive picture of each standard."

"Each indicator provides four performance levels that describe varying degrees to which a school is able to verify its assessment of the question." We use the performance levels as an opportunity to ask the "stakeholders challenging questions and respond with accurate answers geared toward improvement of our school."

Standard 3 is on Teaching and Assessing for Learning. We believe we have achieved a level 4 because we provide research-based curriculum and instructional methods with clear and measureable expectations for student learning that provides opportunities for all students to acquire requisite knowledge, skills, and attitudes. Teachers use proven instructional practices that actively engage students in the learning process. Teachers provide opportunities for students to apply their knowledge and skills to real world situations. Teachers give students feedback to improve their performance.

Standard 4 is on Resources and Support Services. We believe we have achieved a level 4 because we have the resources and services necessary to support its vision and purpose and to ensure achievement for all students. We have sufficient human, material, and fiscal resources to implement a curriculum that enables students to achieve expectations for student learning, to meet special needs, and to comply with applicable regulations. The school employs and allocates staff that are well qualified for their assignments. The school provides ongoing learning opportunities for all staff to improve their effectiveness. The school ensures compliance with applicable local, state, and federal regulations.

Thank you for being a part of the success of our school and being a part of the process of continuing our accreditation. If you have any questions, please feel free to email any member of the administrative team.

## Sunshine Math Awards

### **First Grade winners:**

Sarah P - Kim  
Leo - Lucciola

### **Second Grade winners:**

Morgan - Petrich  
Owen M - Rosenblum (Chester)

### **Third Grade winners:**

Lauren K - Bacon  
Griffin N - Vondrasek

### **Fourth Grade winners:**

John W - Beltz  
Eric L - Fountain

### **Fifth Grade winners:**

Sara - Kusmirek  
Faith - Kusmirek

**Congratulations!!!**

## FCAT is approaching...

FCAT time is right around the corner!!!

We wanted to remind you that testing will be:

- February 25<sup>th</sup> -26<sup>th</sup> for 4<sup>th</sup> grade FCAT Writing and
- April 22<sup>nd</sup> - May 7<sup>th</sup> for FCAT Reading, Math and Science for 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

Please make sure that your schedule is clear of any appointments or family trips, so that your child will be able to complete their tests in a timely fashion.

Even if your child is in a non-testing grade they will not be able to join their class or be dismissed early as we are under testing conditions school-wide.

Parent volunteers/visitors are welcome after 11:30 am each testing day.

Testing will begin promptly at 9:00 am and continue through the morning.

## The Counselor's Corner

Duval County Public Schools (DCPS) has launched the Parent Academy to promote parental involvement and enhance student achievement. Academy classes are offered in schools, libraries, community centers, government offices, and faith-based institutions. The Parent Academy's focus is on three primary tracks: Student Achievement, Parenting and Advocacy, and Personal and Individual Growth.

**Student Achievement:** Workshops and activities provide parents and caregivers with tools to promote students' academic achievement and navigate the school system.

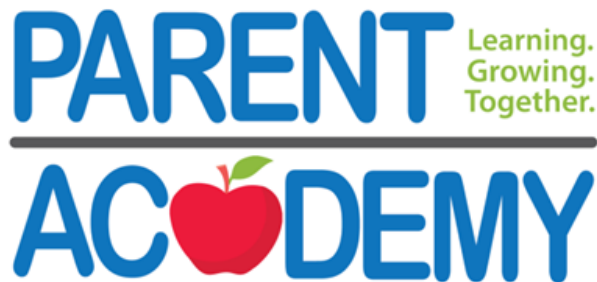
**Parenting & Advocacy:** Workshops and activities provide tools to more effectively enhance parenting, advocacy and leadership skills.

**Personal & Individual Growth:** Workshops and activities provide tools for supporting the personal and professional growth of parents and caregivers.

Parent Academy courses are also offered on two levels:

**Foundation:** Courses which address basic core concepts.

**Advanced:** Courses which explore concepts at a more in-depth level.



For more information, check it out on the DCPS web page.

## Characters in Action Awards

### Tolerance

We would like to recognize the Character in Action students of the month. Each month one student per class who best represents the character trait of the month is nominated by his/her teacher. The following students received a certificate and had their pictures taken with Mr. Begley. These photos are displayed on the Character in Action bulletin board located in the main hallway. Congratulations students and keep up the good work!

#### Kindergarten

Malakai D.  
Amogh H.  
Vishnith A.  
Sean L.  
Maddie L.  
Madison P.

#### First Grade

Kaitlynn E.  
Mitchel C.  
Hailee H.  
Everett S.

#### Second Grade

Madison Q.  
Dayshaun B.  
Isabella A.  
Elisa H.  
Hermes H.  
Christian K.

#### Third Grade

Jeremy U.  
Mikayla R.  
Malachi M.  
Taliah S.  
Ty H.  
Aryette C.  
Param G.  
Jenicah D.

#### Fourth Grade

Sebastian B.  
Channing C.  
Kimberly K.  
Adam E.

#### Fifth Grade

Devon B.  
Ryleigh C.  
Sean R.  
Jacob C.  
Zoe G.  
Jaden K.



### February Character Trait

Charity

### March

Honesty



## PTA Business Partners

Zaxby's [zaxbys.com/FL/12301SanJoseBlvd-Mandarin.aspx](http://zaxbys.com/FL/12301SanJoseBlvd-Mandarin.aspx)  
Red Elephant [redelephantpizza.com](http://redelephantpizza.com)  
Baptist Pediatrics - [facebook.com/BaptistPediatrics](https://facebook.com/BaptistPediatrics)  
Barnes and Noble [www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com)  
Carolyn R. Jones, Associate, Colleen A. White Attorney at Law  
[www.colleenawhite.com](http://www.colleenawhite.com)  
Champion Gymnastics [www.championsgymnasticsofjax.com](http://www.championsgymnasticsofjax.com)  
Chick Fil-A [www.chick-fil-a.com/southside](http://www.chick-fil-a.com/southside)  
First Watch [www.firstwatch.com](http://www.firstwatch.com)  
Huntington Learning Center - [jacksonville.huntingtonhelps.com](http://jacksonville.huntingtonhelps.com)  
Julington Academy of Martial Arts [www.jamakick.com](http://www.jamakick.com)

Kessler Creative [www.kesslercreative.com](http://www.kesslercreative.com)  
Little Britches [www.jaxlittlebritches.com](http://www.jaxlittlebritches.com)  
Main Street Haircuts [www.mainstreethaircuts.com](http://www.mainstreethaircuts.com)  
Nemetz Dental [www.nemetzdental.com](http://www.nemetzdental.com)  
Newk's Eatery [www.newks.com](http://www.newks.com)  
Pink's Towing [www.towtruckjacksonville.com](http://www.towtruckjacksonville.com)  
Seeking Sitters [www.seekingsitters.com](http://www.seekingsitters.com)  
Steamin Jax [www.eatsteam.com](http://www.eatsteam.com)  
Suburban Turf - 904-226-3318  
Tippi Toes Dance [www.tippitoesdance.com/jacksonville-fl/](http://www.tippitoesdance.com/jacksonville-fl/)  
Watson Realty - Jennifer Cate [www.jencate.watsonrealtycorp.com](http://www.jencate.watsonrealtycorp.com)

## PTA Business Members

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Rodan & Fields Dermatologist, (904) 710-1922, [annechapple.myrandf.com](http://annechapple.myrandf.com)  
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### PTA Newsletter

Are you interested in producing our weekly PTA newsletter? If you would like to be considered, please contact Theresa Rogers at [lorettopta@gmail.com](mailto:lorettopta@gmail.com) for more information.

Please Email newsletter submissions to:  
Becky Geoghagan at [AshBeDev@comcast.net](mailto:AshBeDev@comcast.net)  
Due Date is each Tuesday by 5:00pm