

Words of Wisdom



THE NEWSLETTER OF LORETTO ELEMENTARY PTA

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CHRISTOPHER BEGLEY
PRINCIPAL

THERESA ROGERS
PTA PRESIDENT

YOUR LORETTO PTA AT WORK!

What has YOUR Loretto PTA been up to so far this year? Here's a brief overview of just some of what we've been able to accomplish because of your help through volunteering and participation in our fundraiser!!

Back to School breakfast for faculty, administration, and staff

Boo Hoo/Woo Hoo breakfast for incoming Kindergarten parents

No talking or texting while driving on campus campaign including distribution of free magnets and two signs posted on campus

Car rider sign project (signs given free to car riding families)

Facilitate "Walk to School Day"

Reflections Art Contest

First AR Store of the year

Purchase of yearly subscription for entire school to the AR Renaissance Program and STAR test

Thanksgiving Food Drive

Provide programs at General Meetings including a Common Core presentation, Duval County School Choice presentation, and 4th and 5th grade talent show

Coordinate volunteers and provide financial support for Art Appreciation, Campus Watch, Character in Action, Homeroom Parents, Sunshine Math, and Where in the World

New ponchos for safety patrols

Acquirement of two new bike racks (installation date coming)

New key card swipe system to keep cafeteria doors secure during lunches

Family Outreach program funded by our Family Nights

Facilitate the school's bookfair which supports the library and school

Coordinate Hearing and Vision screenings

We're just a little more than half way through this school year. There's A LOT more coming soon!

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!

Check out our new and improved "Links" page on the Loretto PTA website:

<http://lorettopta.weebly.com/links.html>

We are working to bring you more useful and relevant information so check back regularly!



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Box Tops News

Congratulations Loretto students for turning in over 19,000 Box Tops and earning our school over \$1900. Here are the top earning classes from each grade level that won an ice cream celebration.

K- Ms. Ellis
1st- Ms. Herrmann
2nd- Ms. Scott
3rd- Ms. Soud
4th- Ms. Manning
5th- Ms. Holley
CSS- Ms. Thomas
CSS- Ms. Dworschak



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>



Accreditation

Mark your Calendars

- **March 17-21, Spring Break**
- **March 25, 7:00PM**
General Association PTA Meeting
- **March 26, Wednesday**
Early Dismissal
- **April 4, Friday**
No School
- **April 9, Wednesday**
Early Dismissal
- **April 14-April 23**
FCAT Reading, Math, and Science
3rd-5th Grade
- **April 16, Wednesday**
Early Dismissal
- **April 18, Friday**
No School
- **May 3, Saturday**
Family Fit & Fun Day (SAVE THE
DATE—MORE INFO TO COME)

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 and in February, we provided information about Standards 3 and 4.

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 5 is on Using Results for Continuous Improvement. We believe we have achieved a level 4 because we maintain and consistently use a comprehensive assessment system that produces data from multiple assessment measures, including locally developed and standardized assessments about student learning and school performance. The system ensures consistent measurement across all classrooms. All assessments are proven reliable and bias free. The system is regularly and systematically evaluated for reliability and effectiveness in improving instruction, student learning, and the conditions that support learning. Systematic processes and procedures for collecting, analyzing, and applying learning from all data sources are documented and used consistently by professional and support staff. Data sources include comparison and trend data that provide a comprehensive and complete picture of student learning, instruction, the effectiveness of programs, and the conditions that support learning. All school personnel use data to design, implement, and evaluate continuous improvement plans to improve student learning, instruction, the effectiveness of programs, and organizational conditions.

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.

FCAT is approaching!

FCAT time is right around the corner!!!

We wanted to inform you that testing will be:

**April 14th-April 23rd for FCAT Reading,
Math and Science for 3rd- 5th grade.**

**Make-up testing period extends until April
30th.**

**These are newly revised dates and differ
from previously published dates.**

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.

Please be mindful that even if your child is in a non-testing grade he/she will not be able to join their class if tardy to school or be dismissed early as we are under testing conditions school-wide. Thank you in advance!

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.

Important Reminder for Volunteers

Volunteers, don't forget to log any hours spent volunteering at school in the volunteer log located in the main office. Keeping track of the hours spent documents our parent involvement. These hours spent represent the amount of work that could not have been completed with out you. Hours spent at home completing tasks for teachers should also be logged.

The school can win an award for the most parent involvement. Lets win that award!

Volunteers help make Loretto a great school!

Thank You



Parent Survey - Exceptional Student Education

The Florida Department of Education is working with school districts to gather information on how well parents think their child's school is partnering with parents of students with disabilities, and would like to include your input. Your responses will help guide efforts to improve services and results for children and families. This survey is for parents of students with individual educational plans (IEP) receiving special education services during the 2013-14 school year. All information provided will remain confidential. You may submit one online survey for each child receiving services.

Here is the link to the survey:

<http://www.esesurvey.com/Login.php>

16th Annual Café Conference for Parents of children with Disabilities

The "Sweet Sixteen" 16th Annual Family Cafe is set for June 6-8, 2014 at the [Hilton Orlando in Orlando, Florida](#). This three-day event provides a venue for people with disabilities and their families to learn about available services, connect with policy makers and network with each other. It features dozens of breakout sessions, a full Exhibit Hall, a series of Keynotes and multiple opportunities to interact with other families informally.

The "Sweet Sixteen" 16th Annual Family Café will once again include The Annual Summit on Disabilities, with three special guests. The first will be long-time Family Café supporter State **Senator Bill Galvano**, Chair of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Education. Joining him will be **Governor Rick Scott**, who will once again be on hand to hear from families and share his vision for Floridians with disabilities. Finally, The Family Café is very excited to announce that NFL legend and disability advocate **Dan Marino** will also take part in the Summit! He will discuss his advocacy through the Dan Marino Foundation and the opening of the Marino Campus for students with disabilities in Fort Lauderdale.

There is **no registration fee for individuals with disabilities** and their family members or caregivers. **Professionals are required to pay a \$100 registration fee.**



Florida's 2013-2014 ESE Parent Survey February 1 - May 31

Parents!

We need your help to make Florida's 2013-2014
ESE Parent Survey a record success

Each year, the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) surveys parents of children with an individual educational plan (IEP) to determine how well your child's school is partnering with you and promoting your involvement in your child's education. All states must collect this data as part of their State Performance Plan, as required under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Make your voice heard!

- ✓ The web-based survey will open **February 1, 2014**.
- ✓ You can complete the survey online at <http://www.esesurvey.com> or request a paper survey from your child's school.

Your feedback is important in helping the state and local school systems continue improving educational programs for children with special needs. **Thank you!**



For questions about the survey,
please contact Aimee Mallini at FDOE
850-245-0916
aimee.mallini@fldoe.org

Florida Department of Education
Bureau of Exceptional Education
and Student Services



Encuesta ESE a Padres de Familia de la Florida 2013-2014 1 de febrero - 31 de mayo

Sres. Padres!

Necesitamos la ayuda de ustedes para que la Encuesta ESE a Padres de
Familia de la Florida 2013-2014 sea un gran éxito

Cada año, el Departamento de Educación de la Florida (FDOE) encuesta a los padres de niños con un plan educativo individualizado (IEP) a fin de determinar la relación de la escuela con usted y la promoción de su participación en la educación de su hijo(a). Todos los estados deberán recabar dichos datos como parte de su Plan Estatal de Desempeño, según exige la Ley de Educación de Personas con Discapacidades (IDEA).

¡Que se oiga su voz!

- ✓ La encuesta con base en Internet se abrirá el día 1 de febrero de 2014.
- ✓ Puede usted contestar la encuesta en línea en <http://www.esesurvey.com> o solicitar la encuesta en papel en la escuela de su hijo.

Su opinión es importante, pues ayuda a los sistemas escolares estatales y locales a seguir mejorando programas educativos para niños con necesidades especiales. ¡Gracias!



Para consultas sobre la encuesta,
dirigirse a Aimee Mallini en FDOE
Aimee Mallini at FDOE
850-245-0916
aimee.mallini@fldoe.org

Departamento de Educación de la Florida
Buró de Educación Excepcional
y Servicios a Estudiantes





March 2014 Activities for CHILDREN & teens at the South Mandarin Library

Sun	Mon	Tue (10-6)	Wed (1-9)	Thu (1-9)	Fri (10-6)	Sat (10-6)
						1 11:00 AM Storybook Art
2 CLOSED	3	4 10:30 AM Bilingual Stories for Babies & Toddlers	5	6 7:00 PM Teen Advisory Board	7 10:30 Stories for Young Children 11:00 Art for Young Children	8
9 CLOSED	10	11 10:30 AM Bilingual Stories for Babies & Toddlers	12 3:30 PM Early Out Fun: LEGO CLUB! (For grades K-6)	13	14 10:30 Stories for Young Children 11:00 Art for Young Children	15 2:00 PM An Irish Celebration
16 CLOSED	17	18 10:30 AM Bilingual Stories for Babies & Toddlers	19 2:30 PM Origami Fun Be a Star (For grades K-6)	20 2:30 PM Family Movie Frozen (PG) 7:00 PM Teen Advisory Board	21 10:30 Stories for Young Children with the Jacksonville Zoo	22 11:00 AM SAT/ FCAT Prep Course
23/30	24/31	25 10:30 AM Bilingual Stories for Babies & Toddlers	26 3:30 PM All About Birds & Bird watching (For grades K-6)	27 7:00 PM Mother Daughter Book Club	28 10:30 Stories for Young Children 11:00 Art for Young Children	29 11:00 AM Storybook Art

South Mandarin
Branch Library
12125 San Jose Blvd.
904-288-6385



PTA Business Partners

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

Kessler Creative www.kesslercreative.com
Little Britches www.jaxlittlebritches.com
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Steamin Jax www.eatsteam.com
Suburban Turf - 904-226-3318
Tippi Toes Dance www.tippitoesdance.com/jacksonville-fl/
Watson Realty - Jennifer Cate www.jencate.watsonrealtycorp.com

PTA Business Members

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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 for more information.

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