

# Words of Wisdom



THE NEWSLETTER OF LORETTO ELEMENTARY PTA

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## Stay Connected with the Loretto PTA

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

You can also find us on [Facebook!](#)

**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>

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## FCAT is approaching!

FCAT time is right around the corner!!!

We wanted to inform you that testing will be:

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

**Make-up testing period extends until April 30<sup>th</sup>.**

**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.

### 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!

**Loretto Families: School is in the home stretch! Recommit yourself to not talk or text when you drop off or pick up at Loretto! Our children are too important.**



**SPIRIT DAY** next Friday, April 11th. Wear **Blue** or **Yellow** or your Loretto shirt!!

## Sunshine Math Incentive Drawings

We have winners for the incentive drawing for Sunshine Math weeks 11 through 15! Winners were randomly drawn based on the number of worksheets completed.

### **First Grade**

Janessa - Cushnir  
Macy - Jernigan

### **Third Grade**

Steven D - Coulson  
Breyanna - Hudson

### **Fifth Grade**

Evan - Tarabishi/Holley  
Sarah Z - Tarabishi/Holley

### **Second Grade**

Kieran - Bryant  
Cristian - Roulhac

### **Fourth Grade**

Payton - Beltz  
Sofia - Lindsey

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!



## Mark your Calendars

- **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)
- **May 21, Wednesday**  
Early Dismissal
- **May 26, Monday**  
No School
- **June 6, Friday**  
Last Day of School

## Pollo Tropical

Each year, we honor outstanding educators in the 23 counties Pollo Tropical serves – including yours – in our Pollo Tropical Teachers of the Year awards. Now through Friday, April 18, we are accepting nominations for our fourth annual awards.

Anyone can nominate a public, private or charter school teacher within the county by going online to <http://pollotropical.com/forms/teacher-of-the-year-2014/> and following the instructions. The teacher with the most nominations in each participating county will be recognized and will receive Pollo Tropical complimentary coupons valid for one year of free meals at Pollo Tropical, plus a Golden Apple Award engraved with “Teacher of the Year.”

In addition to honoring the teachers, Pollo Tropical will donate \$500 to the school in each county with the most teacher nominations. Everyone who submits a nomination will receive a buy one, get one free small TropiChop® coupon.

## 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 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.

### 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**



## February - Charity

### Characters in Action

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 months of August and September are combined and the traits are respect/responsibility. 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

Rylee M.  
Michael H.  
Keagan H.  
Jaelyn H.  
Amyliah B.  
Ketelyn H.

#### First Grade

Aidan M.  
Caleb K.  
Morgan C.  
Gaby P.  
Savannah H.  
Isabella A.  
Conner W.  
Mark H.

#### Second Grade

Jayla L.  
Shiv P.  
Kristin C.  
Gabrielle L.  
Azian B.  
Cammie F.  
Emma T.

#### Third Grade

Mya G.  
Seth C.  
Noah S.  
Alexis W.  
Aidan P.  
Abby H.  
Carly Y.

#### Fourth Grade

Michaela S.  
Alexander S.  
Olivia G.  
Ethan L.  
Kara A.  
Charlotte R.  
Bo S.

#### Fifth Grade

Geisi I.  
Zoe J.  
Joseph B.  
Mylee D.

## March - Honesty

#### Kindergarten

Lorena S.  
Harlie P.  
Xavier B.  
Anastasija M.  
Dylan P.  
Christian P.

#### First Grade

Kate L.  
Leonides D.  
Aunish B.

#### Second Grade

Brendan D.  
Brian H.  
Genecis A.  
Ara C.  
Dharshan J.  
Sarah T.  
Kadyn P.  
Christopher J.

#### Third Grade

Ethan R.  
Abigail V.  
Kody F.  
Kenny A.  
Layla N.  
Alisia V.  
Carson L.  
Jasmine R.

#### Fourth Grade

Katie G.  
Autumn T.  
Malin R.  
Taylor B.  
Cohen C.  
Conrad I.

#### Fifth Grade

Gage S.  
Brendan D.  
Riley S.  
Brandon T.  
Reagan C.



## April Character Trait Self Control



## 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](mailto: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](mailto:aimee.mallini@fldoe.org)

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





## PTA Business Partners

Zaxby's [zaxbys.com/FL/12301SanJoseBlvd-Mandarin.aspx](http://zaxbys.com/FL/12301SanJoseBlvd-Mandarin.aspx)  
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Barnes and Noble [www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com)  
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[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/)  
Tutti Frutti Frozen Yogurt [www.tfyogurt.com/home/](http://www.tfyogurt.com/home/)  
Watson Realty - Jennifer Cate [www.jencate.watsonrealtycorp.com](http://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](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