



EXPLORER NEWS

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LEE ANNE YERKEY, PRINCIPAL

BETH HINTON, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

From Administration

Dear Families,

The school year is winding down, and we are planning many different events to make the last quarter of the year interesting and challenging. Students have been working hard all year and we would like to reward them with several special events during the last portion of the school year. All students that will take the state assessment (FCAT), AND be here each day of testing, will be invited to attend a Celebration to Fitness Day at the New Port Richey Recreation Center. During their special day, students will take part in activities such as Karate, Zumba, Gymnastics, Indoor Tennis and Team-building Games. All teams will be having an end of the year fun day. This special day is to celebrate all that they have accomplished this year. Our fifth graders will have several days of exciting end of the year events. Our fifth grade Moving On Ceremony will be on Friday, May 31, 2013 at 11:00 am. We are looking forward to seeing our fifth graders move up to middle school, as they all have made us very proud this year.

We'd like to thank all of our approved volunteers for assisting us during this years' special events. Their help and devotion to our school is very much appreciated! Please remember that in order for you to participate in field trips, field day or classroom events, you will need to be a district approved volunteer. Make sure you apply in August on our district's website!

I will be accepting parent requests for the 2013-2014 school year up until July 19th. Please provide a written request or an email to me at lyerkey@pasco.k12.fl.us stating your child's name and the teacher that you would like he/she be with next year. All parent requests will be considered, but final placement is based on the child's need or amount of services. Parent requests received after July 19th may not be accepted, as most class lists will be complete prior to the beginning of August. I appreciate your cooperation!

On a final note, I want to thank all of you for making another school year, one of the best ever! I am so very proud of our teachers, staff members and our students. We have a fantastic school and all of us are proud and honored to work with your children each and every day. Enjoy the summer and we look forward to seeing you again in August!

Lee Anne Yerkey
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Sunray Elementary School
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District School Board of Pasco County

Kurt S. Browning, Superintendent

7227 Land O' Lakes Boulevard Land O'Lakes, FL
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2013-2014

Kindergarten Registration

Registration Day: Monday, May 6th
Morning 10-2
Evening 5-7 pm

Required Documents:

- **Florida Immunization Card-Blue or White**
*4/5 doses DTP (if the 4th dose was given on or after the 4th birthday the 5th dose is not required)

*4/5 doses Polio (if the 4th dose is administered prior to the 4th birthday, a 5th dose is required)

* 2 doses MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella)

* 3 doses Hepatitis B Series

* 2 doses Varicella Vaccine (*Varicella Vaccine (protects against chicken pox) is not required if disease is documented by the healthcare provider)
- **Physical (dated within the last 12 months)**
- **Birth Certificate (copy)**
- **Social Security Card (copy)**
- **Proof of Address (utility bill, lease agreement –PO Box address will not be acceptable)**

APR. 8 - REPORT CARDS GO HOME

APR. 15- 26 - FCAT BEGINS QUIET CAMPUS!

APR. 16 - WHALE TAILS FIELD TRIP FOR SELECTED KINDERGARTEN CLASSES

APR. 23 - 2ND GRADE SAT 10 ASSESSMENT

APR. 23 WHALE TAILS FIELD TRIP FOR SELECTED KINDERGARTEN CLASSES

APR. 25 3RD GRADE INCENTIVE RECREATION CENTER TRIP FCAT

APR. 25 MCEXPLORER NIGHT 5:00 - 7:00 PM

APR. 26 FCAT ENDS!!

APR. 26 4TH GRADE INCENTIVE RECREATION CENTER TRIP FCAT

APR. 29 3RD GRADE INCENTIVE RECREATION CENTER TRIP FCAT

APR.30 ASTRO SKATE

MAY 1- PROGRESS REPORT CARDS GO HOME

MAY 2 - PTO EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

MAY 6-10 - TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

MAY 7 - 5TH GRADE VISITS PRSMS

MAY 6 - 10-2PM & 5-7 PM KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

MAY 10 - MOTHER/SON BLAST TO THE PAST DANCE

MAY 13-17 - SPRING BOOK FAIR WEEK

MAY 14 - 4:00 PM ASTRO SKATE

MAY 16 - 5:00 PM SPRING ARTS FESTIVAL

MAY 20 - 8:30 PM SAC MEETING

MAY 21 - MCEXPLORER NIGHT

MAY 27 - NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS

MAY 29 - INTERMEDIATE FUN DAY! (ONLY STUDENTS)

MAY 30 - PRIMARY FUN DAY! (ONLY STUDENTS)

MAY 31 - 5TH GRADE MOVING ON CEREMONY

JUNE 3 - 5TH GRADE DANCE

JUNE 4 - STUDENT'S LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

TO ALL PARENTS OR GUARDIANS



If you have had a change in personal information such as your address or your home, work, or cell phone numbers or even your pick up list, please send a note to school so we can update your information. Changes will not be accepted by phone.

We have many students who have accidents and spills throughout the school day and require a change of clothing. We recommend a change of clothes in all K/1 graders backpacks as our clinic is very limited with clothing.

Lost and Found items will be donated to a charity on April 19th. Please encourage your child to look for misplaced coats, jackets, hoodies, lunch boxes, etc. Feel free to go through the items yourself the next time you are at school.

Please remember that school starts at 9:20 am with a free breakfast and students need to be in their classrooms by 9:40 am. Students miss the most important part of the day as they are receiving announcements and instructions for the rest of the day. Excessive tardies will result on a phone call from the Social Worker or Administration.

Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) and Stanford Achievement Test (SAT) Dates



We'd like to remind parents that students do their best when they had a good night's sleep and start their day with a nutritious breakfast in the morning. This is especially important for our students in 3-5th grades. Second graders will take the Stanford Achievement Test during this window as well.

The School will be a **"quiet zone campus"** during testing and students will not be called from class during these times. Modifications will be made to our Specials and lunch schedules. It is very important that **students arrive to school on time** during testing. Students who arrive late will remain in the office to observe the **"quiet zone campus"** and will have the opportunity to make up the test at a later time. As much as we appreciate all of our dedicated volunteers, during all of our testing dates, we will be closed to volunteers and lunchtime visitors. We look forward to seeing you all again after testing.

We ask that you avoid coming for lunch with your child on FCAT testing because we are unable to give you an accurate lunch time for your child. You are welcome to continue to enjoy lunch with your child on all other days.

Below is the schedule for the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test 2.0. It is extremely important that your child is in school on the days he/she is scheduled for a test. If possible, please do not schedule appointments or trips on these dates. We will need to have a quiet campus on these dates in order to provide a productive testing environment for our students. This means no volunteers or visitors will be allowed on campus during FCAT testing.

Monday, April 15 – Grades 3, 4, 5 – Reading

Tuesday, April 16 – Grades 3, 4, 5 – Reading

Wednesday, April 17 – Grades 3, 4 – Math

– Grade 5 – Science

Thursday, April 18– Grades 3, 4 – Math

– Grade 5 – Science

Friday, April 19 – Make-up Testing

Monday, April 22 – Tuesday, April 23 – Grade 5 – Math

Tuesday, April 23 – Grade 2 – SAT – Reading

Wednesday, April 24. Thursday, April 25 and Friday, April 26 Make-Up



If you have questions about the FCAT or SAT, please contact your child's teacher or the front office (727) 774-9100.

Bullying and Harrassment



"Bullying" means systematically and chronically inflicting physical hurt or psychological distress on one or more students or school employees. It is unwanted and repeated written, verbal, or physical behavior, including any threatening, insulting, or dehumanizing gesture, by an adult or student, that is severe or pervasive enough to create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment; cause discomfort or humiliation; is carried out repeatedly and is often characterized by an imbalance of power; or unreasonably interfere with the individual's school performance or participation; and may involve but is not limited to:

1. Unwanted teasing or taunting
2. Social exclusion
3. Threat
4. Intimidation
5. Stalking
6. Physical violence
7. Theft
8. Sexual, religious, or racial/ethnic harassment
9. Public humiliation
10. Destruction of property

Important Links

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (Phone Number = 1-800-273-TALK)
<http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org>

Online Anti-Bullying and Cyber Safety Resources
http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/studentsservices/anti_bullying_and_cyber_safety_resources/

Student Rights and Responsibilities
<http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/studentsservices/conduct/>

Student Services Anti-Bullying Policy Guide
http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/wiki/index.php/SS:Anti-Bullying_Policy_Guide

Student Services Staff Listing
<http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/studentsservices/staff/>

MyFox Tampa Bay News Coverage of Pasco Anti-Bullying Site
<http://www.myfoxtampabay.com/story/21293988/2013/02/21/pasco-launches-anti-bullying-website>



Intimidación y acoso

"Intimidación" se define como infligir sistemática y crónicamente daño físico o sufrimiento psicológico a uno o más estudiantes o empleados escolares. Se define además como una indeseada y repetida conducta escrita, verbal o física, incluyendo cualquier gesto amenazante, insultante o deshumanizante por parte de un adulto o un estudiante, que sea suficientemente grave o perverso como para crear un entorno educacional intimidante, hostil u ofensivo; que cause incomodidad o humillación; realizada repetidamente y que frecuentemente se caracteriza por un desbalance de poder; o que interfiera irrazonablemente en el desempeño o

la participación del individuo en la escuela; y pudiera implicar, aunque no limitado a:

1. instigación o burla indeseada
2. exclusión social
3. amenaza
4. coacción
5. acecho
6. violencia física
7. robo
8. acoso sexual, religioso o racial/étnico
9. humillación pública
10. destrucción de propiedad

AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

Autism is a complex developmental disability that typically appears during the first three years of life and affects a person's ability to communicate and interact with others. Autism is defined by a certain set of behaviors and is a "spectrum disorder" that affects individuals differently and to varying degrees. There is no known single cause of autism, but increased awareness and funding can help families today.

Currently, the Autism Society estimates that the lifetime cost of caring for a child with autism ranges from \$3.5 million to \$5 million, and that the United States is facing almost \$90 billion annually in costs for autism (this figure includes research, insurance costs and non-covered expenses, Medicaid waivers for autism, educational spending, housing, transportation, employment, in addition to related therapeutic services and caregiver costs).

Know the Signs: Early Identification Can Change Lives

Autism is treatable. Children do not "outgrow" autism, but studies show that early diagnosis and intervention lead to significantly improved outcomes.

Here are some signs to look for in the children in your life:

1. Lack of or delay in spoken language
2. Repetitive use of language and/or motor mannerisms (e.g., hand-flapping, twirling objects)
3. Little or no eye contact
4. Lack of interest in peer relationships
5. Lack of spontaneous or make-believe play
6. Persistent fixation on parts of objects



Coming Soon Events



McDonald's Nights

Please join us on the following dates for our monthly family night.

Date: **Thursday, April 25, 2013** and **Tuesday, May 21, 2013**

Where: 7226 County Rd. 54, New Port Richey, FL 34653

Time: 5:00 - 7:00pm

Dine In or Drive Through
Proceeds will go to Sunray

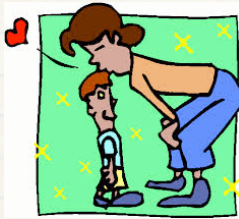
Astro Skate

We will be hosting a Astro Skate Night on April 30th, 2013 and another one on May 14th, 2013.

Information will be sent home closer to day of event.



BLAST TO THE PAST MOM & SON DANCE



Attention All Moms we will have our first Mom/Son Dance on May 10, 2013

Look for a formal flier coming home soon!

Spring Book Fair and Arts Festival

May 13 through May 17

5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Our annual spring book fair will start May 13 through May 17. An amazing selection of books is headed our way! At the Book Fair, you will find the latest and finest titles for kids, as well as books of interest to parents. The Book Fair is a great way to get everyone involve in reading. Hope to see you there!

Chorus Concert will start at 7:00 pm on May 16

Art Show will be from 5:00 -7:00 pm



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