

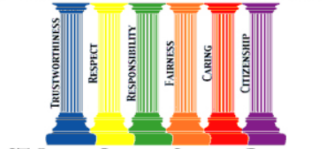
# Fruit Cove Middle School "THE PILOT"



Bi-Weekly Newsletter

April 5, 2024

## CHARACTER COUNTS!



ST. JOHNS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Pillar of the Month:  
April — All Pillars

### Important Dates

**March 18—April 22**  
Women in Need Drive

**Tuesday, April 9**  
SAC meeting 2:30pm

**Saturday, April 13**  
Relay for Life NHS 4-11pm

**Friday, April 19**  
Student/Teacher Holiday

**Tuesday, April 23**  
Interims Issued  
Student v Staff Basketball

**Friday, April 26**  
PTO GLOW Dance 2-4pm  
Arbor Day pick-up 5-6pm

**Tuesday, May 14**  
SAC meeting 2:30pm

**Friday, May 17**  
8th Grade Sea World  
Gradstastic

**Friday, May 24**  
Last Day for Students /  
Fourth Quarter Ends

**School Hours**  
7:30am-1:50pm

**Wednesday Dismissal**  
**@ 12:50pm**

**The building is open**  
**from 7:00am to**  
**3:00pm.**

3180 Racetrack Rd

"HOME OF THE FLYERS"

904-547-7880

## Mission Statement

Fruit Cove Middle School will inspire in all students a passion for lifelong learning, creating educated and caring contributors to the world.

## Solar Eclipse

A total solar eclipse—an event that occurs when the moon passes between Earth and the sun— will occur on April 8th. In Northeast Florida, the eclipse will begin at approximately 1:48 PM, and will reach its maximum at 3:05 PM. Due to our geographic location, the sun will be about 70% eclipsed at its maximum, which means the sun may only appear slightly dimmer than usual.

Even during a partial eclipse, there are safety concerns for students and staff; therefore, schools will not organize viewing activities of the solar eclipse. Absences will be excused if parents decide to keep their child at home or request early dismissal.



Safety guidelines should be followed if families decide to view the eclipse.

- Do not look directly into the sun during the solar eclipse, as it could be harmful to your vision.
- Do not look into the sun without proper eye protection.
- Do not look at the sun through a telescope or binoculars.
- Do not look at the sun through sunglasses, smoked glasses, or welder's glasses.
- Do not look at the sun through a camera/smart phone.

The only safe method for viewing the solar eclipse is by using special-purpose solar filters such as eclipse glasses or hand-held solar viewers. NASA does not approve any particular brand of solar viewer as stated on the NASA website.

### Suggested Resources

- 2024 Total Solar Eclipse Safety: <https://science.nasa.gov/eclipses/future-eclipses/eclipse-2024/safety/>
- 2024 Total Solar Eclipse (NASA): <https://science.nasa.gov/eclipses/future-eclipses/eclipse-2024/>
- NASA's 2024 Total Solar Eclipse Broadcast (NASA): <https://svs.gsfc.nasa.gov/14520>
- "What is a solar eclipse?" (NASA lesson): <https://myasadata.larc.nasa.gov/mini-lessonactivity/what-solar-eclipse>

## Women in Need Drive



### Make Your Mom Proud!

March 18 - April 22, WEB is working with 2 Men and a Truck to host a supply drive for women in need. We are collecting shampoo, soap, baby food, diapers, toothbrushes, toothpaste, socks for women and children, lotion, feminine hygiene, new XL twin sheets, and non-perishable food. These items will be delivered to women in local shelters on Mother's Day. Local shelters receiving the packages include: The Betty Griffin House, The Hubbard House and The Quigley House. Students may bring donations to their first period class. Thank you for your consideration and kindness. Let's color the world with kindness this Mother's Day!

## SAC News



This year's Relay for Life is Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> from 4 pm – 10 pm at Nease High School.

Watch for more details as we get closer to the date about volunteer opportunities.

Please go ahead and join our team at



[https://secure.acsevents.org/site/STR?fr\\_id=106888&pg=team&team\\_id=2696491](https://secure.acsevents.org/site/STR?fr_id=106888&pg=team&team_id=2696491)

You're invited to  
**RELAY FOR LIFE**

 <b>GO</b>	<b>APRIL 13TH</b> Drop by anytime between 4-10pm	<b>BRING CASH!</b> Send your friends and students to the FCMS jail! 	 <b>NEASE HIGH SCHOOL</b> 10550 Ray Rd, Ponte Vedra, FL 32081	<b>WANT MORE INFO?</b> 
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## Yearbook News

UH OH...

The Fruit Cove Middle School Yearbook is officially sold out!

Thank you for supporting the 2023 - 2024 yearbook team! :)

## March Students of the Month



Congratulations to our March students of the Month! Trustworthiness is the pillar of the month and students who exhibit this pillar keep their promises, are reliable to their friends and teachers, and have high integrity.

6<sup>th</sup> grade: Kathryn Larson  
7<sup>th</sup> grade: Adeliene Howarth  
8<sup>th</sup> grade: Davis Baldwin

## WEB News



### Student v Staff Basketball Skills Contest

Your WEB Team is bringing a fun new event to our school. On Tuesday, April 23, we are hosting a student versus staff basketball skills contest. Would you like to see some of your favorite teachers compete against our students in a free throw contest, 3-point contest and dribbling relays? It is sure to be a fun morning! Save your PBIS points because tickets go on sale when we return from spring break.

## Planting Kindness for Arbor Day

The WEB Team and the Art Club are teaming up to help color the community with kindness. These groups are holding a FREE tree and shrub sapling give away on Arbor Day, Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup> from 5-6pm. The kids are planting seeds, ordering saplings native to Florida. They are even making a special surprise for our guests. Pick up your FREE saplings in the parent pick up loop in front of Fruit Cove Middle School and help us color the world with kindness!



## SAC News



Join us for the next SAC meeting,  
Tuesday, April 9 at 2:30p in the Media Center.

## Chess Club News



Chess Club upcoming meeting dates are April 2, April 16, April 30 and May 7 (*last meeting*).

Only students with a completed application and signed permission form submitted to Mrs. Bass can attend meetings.

Meeting dates are posted in the Schoology group. If you will not be able to attend a meeting, please send a message to Mrs. Bass. The club has reached maximum capacity for this school year.

**New membership applications will be available in September of the next school year.**

## B6 News



B6 Club upcoming meeting dates are April 11, April 25, May 2 & May 9 (*last meeting*).

Only students with a completed application and signed permission form submitted to Mrs. Bass or Mrs. McLaughlin can attend meetings.

Meeting dates are posted in the Schoology group. If you will not be able to attend a meeting, please send a message to Mrs. Bass or Mrs. McLaughlin.

**B6 is a club for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders. The name B6 means Be all 6 (of the Character Pillars). The club has reached maximum capacity for this school year. New membership applications will be available in September of the next school year.**

## Guidance News

# Positive Affirmations

## FOR AN ANXIOUS MIND

Worrying won't change the outcome	You are responsible for your actions not their perception	Don't believe everything you think
You don't have to weather every storm alone, ask for help	Your anxiety is lying to you	You don't have to drown in scenarios that don't exist

## Testing News

### Computer-Adaptive Testing Video

A comprehensive video explaining Florida's statewide computer-adaptive testing (CAT) is now available on the statewide assessment portal: <https://flfast.org/resources/general/florida-statewide-assessments-computer-adaptive-testing-video>.

This video walks through the different components of how a CAT is designed, how CATs function while a student is taking a test, and how adaptive tests are scored.

Please note: this video describes the functionality of current FAST and B.E.S.T. EOC assessments and next year's Science and Social Studies assessments when they are fully adaptive. For more information about this year's Science and Social Studies assessments, please see the [CAT FAQ](#).

The April and May testing calendars are available on the website:

April 2024						
B.E.S.T. WRITING WINDOW APRIL 1-12						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 8TH GRADE WRITING	2 8TH GRADE WRITING	3	4 7TH GRADE WRITING	5 7TH GRADE WRITING	6
MAKE-UPS WILL BE WHEN ONE RETURNS TO SCHOOL						
7	8 6TH GRADE WRITING	9 6TH GRADE WRITING	10	11	12	13
MAKE-UPS WILL BE WHEN ONE RETURNS TO SCHOOL						
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

May 2024						
TESTING WINDOW MAY 1-24						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 CIVICS EOC	2 CIVICS EOC	3 6TH GRADE READING	4
5	6 6TH GRADE READING	7 7TH GRADE READING	8	9 8TH GRADE READING	10 6TH GRADE MATH	11
MAKE-UPS WILL BE WHEN ONE RETURNS TO SCHOOL						
12 Mother's Day	13 6TH GRADE MATH	14 7TH GRADE MATH	15	16 8TH GRADE MATH	17	18
MAKE-UPS WILL BE WHEN ONE RETURNS TO SCHOOL						
19	20 ALGEBRA EOC	21 GEOMETRY EOC	22 8TH GRADE SCIENCE	23	24 LAST DAY FOR STUDENTS	25
MAKE-UPS WILL BE WHEN ONE RETURNS TO SCHOOL						
26 Memorial Day	27	28	29	30	31	

## Library News

### Welcome to the 2023/2024 School Year!

Hours: 7:10am—1:50pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday  
7:10am—12:50pm Wednesday

Jennifer Jaeger, Media Specialist  
Vicki Barfoot, Media Aide

Please check the [Media Center homepage](#) for updates!

Students may check out three books at a time and keep them for two weeks. Overdue book notices are sent by email every Wednesday at 9:00am. There are no overdue fees, however, students who lose or damage a book are responsible for the cost of the item. Payments can be made using these links to SchoolPay: \$10 for paperback books, \$20 for hard cover books. These links are also available on the Media Center website.

**Make sure to include your student's name when paying!**

SchoolPay: Paperback Library Book (\$10)

SchoolPay: Hard Cover Library Book (\$20)

Parents who wish to restrict titles their child may check out in the school library should complete the form linked below and return it to your child's teacher or the media center. This link is also available on the media center homepage. No form is necessary if there are to be no restrictions.

[Library Book Access Form](#)

**All library books are due on Friday, May 10**

## PBIS Wish List



PBIS Rewards is a schoolwide management system that assists our school with Positive Behavior Interventions and Support. This platform makes it easy to continuously recognize students for meeting and exceeding behavior expectations from anywhere in the school! We love using PBIS and are looking for your help to stock our school store using the Amazon Wish List below!



[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/12ZC1TLXAE366?ref\\_=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/12ZC1TLXAE366?ref_=wl_share)

## Important Attendance Information!

All absence notes or online attendance submissions MUST be submitted within 48 hours of your student's return to school following an absence. Notes or submissions received after the 48-hour window will not be accepted, and the absence will remain unexcused. **8<sup>th</sup> grade parents – please keep this in mind as more than 15 unexcused absences in the school year will disqualify your student for the SeaWorld 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Behavior Reward Field Trip.**

Still have questions? Please contact Ginny Michalski at [ginny.michalski@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:ginny.michalski@stjohns.k12.fl.us)

## School Website

<<http://www-fcs.stjohns.k12.fl.us>>

Visit often for up-to-date information about our school!

Check out our Instagram Pages @ FCMSWEB and @FruitCove\_Flyers

Don't forget to check the *Peachjar* for eflyers about community events.

**The April and May testing calendars are available on the website:**

<https://www-fcs.stjohns.k12.fl.us/testing/>



# FCMS PTO



## NEWSLETTER



Website



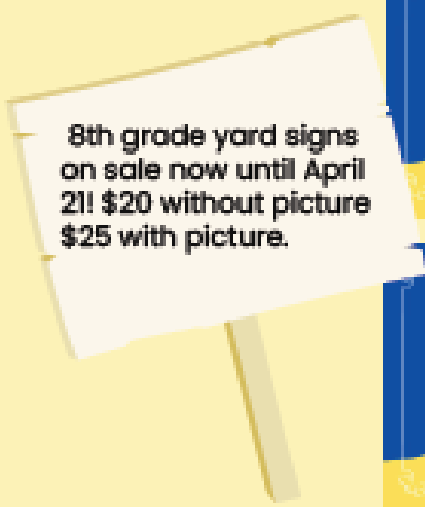
Instagram



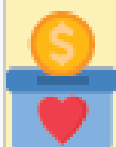
Facebook



<https://fcmsglowdance2024.cheddarup.com>



<https://my.cheddarup.com/c/8th-grade-yard-signs-1525>



It's not too late to donate to the PTO fundraiser. Cheddar up link is still open: <https://my.cheddarup.com/c/kindnessmatters>

### Important Dates

- April | 8th Grade Yard Sign Sale (more info coming)
- April 26 | 2:00-4:00 Let's Glow Spring Dance
- May 6-10 | Teacher Appreciation Week (fcmstota@gmail.com)

### The PTO Board is Almost Filled! We're just waiting for you!



If being president or leading fundraising is your jam, reach out to Joslyn. She will share all of her genius with you and set you up for success next year. [fcmstptopresident@gmail.com](mailto:fcmstptopresident@gmail.com)



# SALE

### Spirit Wear



Visit [fcmstpto.com](https://fcmstpto.com) for all your spirit wear needs!



Help us help the school !!

## YOUR PTO IN ACTION 2023-2024

### Programs Supported

- School Library
- School Clinic
- WEB
- PBIS

### Events Sponsored

- Back to School Breakfast
- Fall Book Fair
- Back to School Dance
- Open House
- Spring Dance
- Semi Formal
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Fun Day
- 12 Days of Christmas
- Bus Driver Day
- Resource Office Day
- Admin Day
- School Counselor Day

### Services & Supplies

- Teacher T-Shirts
- School Spirit Wear
- Volunteers Recruited
- School Fundraising Efforts

# FCMS PTO

## *Nominations & Elections for 2024-2025*

- ✓ I want Fruit Cove Middle School to be one of the best schools in {state}.
- ✓ I want my child to have a great school year – to learn and to have fun!
- ✓ I want to help decide how PTO fundraising moneys are spent.
- ✓ I want all the students at FCMS be successful.

If the above statements are true, then "help us help the school". Parent involvement is critical for a successful school, so volunteer as a PTO officer or a committee chair for 2024-2025 . There are jobs that take no more than a couple hours a month, some are that are seasonal, and a few that require a routine commitment.

Dedicated teachers, staff, and PARENTS help make FCMS a great school! Join us – it's rewarding, it's important, it's even fun!

Nominate yourself or someone else. All positions can be shared. (See back of form for position descriptions.) If you have any questions, please contact Joslyn Current PTO President at fcmsptopresident@gmail.com.

Elections will be held at the PTO General Meeting on Monday May 13<sup>th</sup> at 6pm in the multipurpose room. All candidates for officer positions must be registered with the Nominations Committee by May 1<sup>st</sup> . Please return this form to the PTO President.

<u>Elected Officers</u> (Elected at General Meeting)	Nominee Name	Contact Info
President	_____	_____
Membership	Liliya Dudenkov	_____
Secretary	Vanessa Williams	_____
Treasurer	Andres Arrubla	_____
Fundraising	_____	_____

<u>Committees Chairs</u> (Approved by PTO Board and Presented at General Meeting)	Nominee Name	Contact Info
Spirit Wear	Tanisha Arthur	_____
Dance	Cinthia Lebron	_____
Teacher Appreciation	Jena Nelson	_____
8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Events	Amanda Ramirez	_____
Fence Decorator	_____	_____
Book Fair	Shalini Nair	_____
Communication	Christina Gonzalez	_____
Website	Abigail Welborn	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____

## Officer and Committee Chair Descriptions

The PTO Executive Board is comprised of elected officers, committee chairs, and school representatives. It meets one evening per month to conduct PTO business. Anyone may attend. General meetings for the entire membership are scheduled twice per year: one in August to approve the budget, one in May to elect officers.

### Elected Officers

**President** – Serve as leader and key contact for the PTO; preside at all PTO meetings; ex-officio member of most committees; appoint chairpersons for special committees; coordinate the work of the officers and committees so that the PTO's objectives can be met. (Effort: year-round, on-going)

**Vice President** - Act as an aide to the President; perform the duties of the President in the absence or inability of that officer to serve; assume other responsibilities as assigned by the Executive Board; coordinate the general activities of any Special Committees created by the Executive Board. Ideally – is willing to serve as President in the future. (Effort: year-round, time varies depending upon roles)

**Secretary** - Keep the minutes of all general meetings and all meeting of the Executive Board; prepare correspondence and perform all other duties assigned; maintain master documents on school computer; help recruit committee chairpersons for all vacant standing committees of the board; keep the calendar of events for the PTO. (Effort: 3-4 hours per month, includes attending meeting and typing up minutes)

**Treasurer** - Be responsible for and have custody of all funds; make disbursements as properly authorized; be present at all PTO events where money will be collected; assure that PTO policies and best practices are followed with regards to funds; prepare financial reports for each meeting and as needed; prepare the books for an annual audit. (Effort: 4-5 hours per month, average)

**Parliamentarian** – Act as a consultant to assure that meetings and processes are conducted in accordance with bylaws; advise on parliamentary procedures using Robert's Rules of Order; bring current copy of Constitution and By-Laws to all meetings. (Effort: 2 hours per month).

### Chairs and Other Positions (Remember, these are COMMITTEES – there should be volunteers to help.)

**Spirit Wear**- Coordinate the selection, design, ordering, inventory, and sales of school T-shirts and any related products. (Effort varies. Peak sales in August/September. New design in late Spring/Summer).

**Dance** – Coordinate the 2 school dances. One in Spring and one in the Fall. Typically includes, food, games, and DJ/Photobooth.

**Fundraising** - Manage the coordination of the PTO's fund-raising activities.

**Membership** - Organize the annual PTO membership drive and the on-going process to encourage membership. Maintain membership records. Effort is primarily in August, September. 3-5 hours per month. Minimal role after September.

**Communications** - Disseminate positive information to the community about the school, its students, and the PTO. Promote related activities and programs in order to heighten community awareness. Many tasks can be accomplished via email. (Effort: year-round, but minimal, 1-2 hours per month.)

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Events** – Coordinate the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Semi Formal as well as 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Fun day. Both are in the second half of the school year. The semi formal in February. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Fun Day typically the 2<sup>nd</sup> to last day of school. Works closely with the school for 8<sup>th</sup> grade fun day.

**Teacher Appreciation** – Organize monthly teacher appreciation activities and to coordinate daily recognition for Teach Appreciation Week in May.

**Spirit Wear**- Coordinate the selection, design, ordering, inventory, and sales of school T-shirts and any related products. (Effort varies. Peak sales in August/September. New design in late Spring/Summer).

**Website** – Maintains the FCMS PTO website with current information for parents and the community.

**Fence Decorator** – Keeps the fence up to date for events with colorful cups to be placed. All designs to be approved by the school.





Maverick Level

# FCMS BUSINESS PARTNERS

We are so grateful for our business partners!

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# ***SPRING FOOTBALL, CHEER, & DANCE***

**TO PARTICIPATE PLEASE REGISTER FOR SY 2023-2024**

**FOOTBALL (11-MAN), COMPETITIVE CHEER, OR DANCE**

**AT CREEKSIDE HS IN [ATHLETICCLEARANCE.COM](http://ATHLETICCLEARANCE.COM)**

**WITH YOUR CURRENT GRADE (RISING FRESHMAN = 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE)**



**BEFORE APRIL 19, 2024**




## **FREE INTERNET ACCESS FOR K-12 STUDENTS**

We believe access to education is access to opportunity. That's why we've launched Project 10Million to offer ten million students FREE internet access over five years with a T-Mobile hotspot.

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-  **Free mobile Wi-Fi hotspot device:** a take-home internet connection for mobile network access
-  **Free data:** 100GB/year (for 5 years) data line per household, max one per student.
-  **Discounted Wi-Fi-ready devices:** equip students with tablets and laptops at low-cost

### Who is eligible?

-  A household with at least one K-12 student in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP)



**Know a student that could benefit from FREE internet?**

Sign up today at [T-Mobile.com/Project10Million](http://T-Mobile.com/Project10Million) or visit a T-Mobile retail store to receive assistance enrolling online.

**T-Mobile**

During congestion, Project 10Million customers may notice speeds lower than other customers due to data prioritization. Video typically streams at DVD quality (480p). Verify National School Lunch Program eligibility at sign-up. Limited time offer, subject to change. Available lines are limited. 1 offer per household. Roaming not available. Annual data service ends at earlier of 100GB or 365 days; you may purchase add-on passes. Annual data service resets each year for 5 years total. Video streams at up to 1.5Mbps. Optimization may affect speed of video downloads; does not apply to video uploads. For best performance, leave any video streaming applications at their default automatic resolution setting. Coverage not available in some areas. Network Management: Service may be slowed, suspended, terminated, or restricted for misuse, abnormal use, interference with our network or ability to provide quality service to other users, or roaming. See [T-Mobile.com/OpenInternet](http://T-Mobile.com/OpenInternet) for details. See Terms and Conditions (including arbitration provision) at [www.T-Mobile.com](http://www.T-Mobile.com) for additional information. T-Mobile, the T logo, Magenta and the magenta color are registered trademarks of Deutsche Telekom AG. © 2021 T-Mobile USA, Inc.

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