

# Fruit Cove Middle School

## "THE PILOT"



Bi-Weekly Newsletter

August 15, 2025

### CHARACTER COUNTS!



ST. JOHNS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Pillar of the Month:  
August — Citizenship

### Important Dates

**September 1**  
Labor Day  
Student/Teacher Holiday

**September 10**  
Interims Issued

**September 19**  
Teacher Inservice Day  
Student Holiday

**October 10**  
First Quarter Ends

**October 13**  
Teacher Planning Day  
Student Holiday

**October 22**  
Report Cards

**November 11**  
Veterans Day  
Student/Teacher Holiday

**November 13**  
Interims Issued

**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.

## NJHS



There will be an informational meeting for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> parents and students wanting to join NJHS. It will be held on Thursday, August 21 at 5:30 in the auditorium.

Applications will be accepted from August 21 through September 5. No late applications will be accepted.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Doemel or Ms. Farbo.

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

## FCA News

Fellowship of Christian Athletes begins September 3rd. The club is an outstanding way for athletes to connect to other athletes as well as deepen their faith. Required Forms are found under "School Clubs" on our school website. Please turn all forms into Mrs. Benavides Room 570. Club fee is paid on SchoolPay



<https://www.schoolpay.com/pay/for/2526-FCA-Club-Fee/SbzAkUk>

## Testing News

The testing calendar is available on the website:

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

August/September 2025		PM 1 TESTING WINDOW 8/11-9/26					
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
				8/28 8 <sup>th</sup> GRADE READING AM/PM	8/29	8/30	
8/31	9/1 Labor Day	9/2	9/3 6 <sup>th</sup> GRADE READING AM ONLY	9/4 6 <sup>th</sup> GRADE READING AM ONLY	9/5 7 <sup>th</sup> GRADE READING AM/PM	9/6	
9/7	9/8 6 <sup>th</sup> GRADE MATH AM ONLY	9/9 6 <sup>th</sup> GRADE MATH AM ONLY	9/10 FLYERS CLUB READING	9/11 7 <sup>th</sup> GRADE MATH AM AND PM	9/12 8 <sup>th</sup> GRADE MATH AM AND PM	9/13	
9/14	9/15	9/16	9/17 FLYERS CLUB MATH	9/18	9/19 TEACHER IN- SERVICE	9/20	
9/21	9/22	9/23	9/24	9/25	9/26 LAST DAY FOR TESTING PM1	9/27	

## Library News



Welcome to the 2025/2026 School Year!



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

Jennifer Jaeger, Media Specialist

Please check the [Media Center homepage](#) for more information.

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 SchoolPay: \$10 for paperback books, \$20 for hard cover books (see the website).

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](#)

## Guidance News

### How can School Counselors help?

**Academic:** • teacher support • goal setting • connecting to tutoring and other resources • study skills and organization • identifying strengths and areas for growth

**Career:** • education on job clusters • interests/skills survey • Naviance • life skills

**Personal & Social Skills:** • Social skills • Character Counts Pillars • respect of self and others • interpersonal skills • coping skills • problem solving skills • strengths and resiliency



### Amanda Johnson

Last names A-L

From: Florida  
College: American Military University  
Color: Pink  
Hobby: Traveling  
Number: 1

Quote: "Life is 10% what happens to you and 90% how you react to it."  
-Dennis Kimbro



### Kelly Howard

Last names M-Z

From: Texas  
College: University of North Florida  
Color: Blue  
Hobby: Anything outside  
Number: 3

Quote: "You never know if you don't go"  
- Smashmouth



## Volleyball News

### TRYOUT INFORMATION

A sports physical liability waiver form is required before tryouts begin.

6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE GIRLS: Monday, August 25, (2-4 PM)  
7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE GIRLS: Tuesday, August 26, (2-4 PM)  
8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE GIRLS: Wednesday, August 27, 3 (1-3 PM)  
\*\*\* CALLBACKS: Thursday, August 28, (2-4 PM)  
BOYS: Friday, August 29, (2-4 PM)



### PRACTICE INFORMATION

Girls' and Boys' practices will begin on Tuesday, September 2 from 2-4. There will be a mandatory parent and player meeting in the cafeteria on Tuesday, September 2, following practice at 4 PM. Practices will be every day after school from 2-4. Practices on Wednesdays will be from 1:00 to 3:00. After September 15, there will be no practices on game days.

\*Students provide their own transportation for practices and games.

## ParentSquare News

We're excited to share that St. Johns County School District is launching a new and improved way to stay connected — **ParentSquare!**

**ParentSquare** is a unified communication platform that streamlines how we share important information with you. With this all-in-one tool, you'll receive updates from the district, your child's school, and teachers — all in one convenient place.

Please download the App!

 **Download the App**



Android



iOS

[www.parentsquare.com](http://www.parentsquare.com)

## Front Office Reminders

### 2025-2026 Bus Schedules

Families who have not yet logged in to the [BusPlanner website](#) or the [Chipmunk app](#) are strongly encouraged to create an account before the start of the new school year.



### Forgotten items

If a student has left schoolwork, a project, PE clothes, a band instrument, etc., please drop it off no later than **8:15AM**. These items will not be taken after that time. The only exceptions would be lunch, money for lunch, glasses, or medicine. Thank you for your help with this!

### Early checkout

If you need to take your student out of school early, the latest time that he/she can be picked up is at **1:20PM (12:20PM on Wednesdays)**. If you come after that time, you will need to wait until dismissal at 1:50PM (12:50PM on Wednesdays) to get your student.

## Attendance News



If a student is unable to attend school, upon returning, the parent/guardian must complete an online attendance form, or submit a note within 48 hours stating the date of the absence, the specific reason for the absence, and have the parent/guardian's signature.

**Emails and phone calls are not accepted as notification of absence.**

For more Information checkout our "[Attendance Tab](#)"

## Cross Country News

Calling all runners. FCMS Cross Country begins August 25<sup>th</sup>. We will train Monday/Tuesday/Thursday from 215-330pm. You may be a strong distance runner or even join us to cross train for your primary sport. There are no tryouts. All athlete make the team. Please contact Coach Benavides [Jill.benavides@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:Jill.benavides@stjohns.k12.fl.us) for all required forms and information. All requirements must be turned in before you are allowed to train with the team.



## 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)

## 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.



• FCMS •

**SAC**

School  
Advisory  
Committee

**Join us...**

**School  
Library &  
Virtually**

**2:30-  
3:00pm**

**2<sup>nd</sup>  
Tuesday  
Monthly**

September 9<sup>th</sup>

October 14<sup>th</sup>

\*November 18<sup>th</sup>

December 9<sup>th</sup>

January 13<sup>th</sup>

February 10<sup>th</sup>

March 10<sup>th</sup>

April 14<sup>th</sup>

May 12<sup>th</sup>

\*Alternate date due to holiday

To Join Us... Contact Tee'ha Carroll at 904-547-7880 or [teeha.carroll@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:teeha.carroll@stjohns.k12.fl.us)



# Guidelines for Generative Artificial Intelligence

Generative AI is a type of artificial intelligence that generates original content such as essays, images, music, or videos.

- Use of generative AI to complete assignments is prohibited unless there is documented permission from the teacher.
- Never present AI-generated work as your own.

## Good to go



- Use generative AI responsibly to support, not replace, your learning
- Use district-approved tools with teacher permission
- Stay curious, learn about how to appropriately use generative AI

## Be Cautious

- Check for bias or unfair perspectives
- Be aware that generative AI can make mistakes or provide outdated information
- Ask questions if you're unsure about how to use generative AI appropriately



## Never



- Never share personal information
- Don't use generative AI to complete assignments without documented teacher permission
- Never use generative AI in ways that violate school policies or the law





# PTO

# "FLYER"

AUG 15



Website



Instagram



Facebook

## NEW SPIRIT WEAR

<https://www.fcmspto.com/category/spirit-wear>

## PTO MEMBERSHIP

<https://www.fcmspto.com/join-the-pt>

## PTO BOARDING PASS FUNDRAISER

<https://www.fcmspto.com/product-page/scorecard-25-26>

# MEETING

General PTO Meeting

August 25th

6:00pm

Join us in the Media Center!



## FCMS PTO Membership

[fcmspto.com](https://www.fcmspto.com)



	Gold Star	Aviator	Blue Angel
Access to Flash Spirit Wear Sales	✓	✓	✓
Early Access to Dance Tickets	✓	✓	✓
Color Powder for Color Run (\$5 value)		✓	✓
Yearbook			✓
"Boarding Pass" (\$20 value)			✓
Raffle: \$300 Code Ninja Gift Certificate			✓

\*\$5 faculty/staff membership includes 20% off ANY spirit wear item. We also have an option on our website for families to sponsor a teacher (does not include spirit wear discount).

**100% of membership fees go back to teachers and students.**

While your level of involvement—whether through volunteering, attending meetings, or supporting fundraisers—is entirely up to you, our goal is for 100% of families to contribute through membership dues. This collective support enables the PTO to make a meaningful impact on the students and teachers of FCMS.

## DONATIONS NEEDED

This school year, FCMS will have an incentive corner in the cafeteria for students who have earned Pilot Points! We are looking for lightly used donations of the following items:

- GAMING DEVICES
- TELEVISION
- COMFY CHAIRS
- LARGE WIG
- TALL LAMPS
- BOARD GAMES
- SMALL BOOK SHelves
- SMALL TOILES FOR DEVICES AND BOOKS

PLEASE DROP OFF DONATIONS AT THE FRONT OFFICE

## FCMS SPIRIT WEAR

## ORDER NOW!

TSHIRTS | POLOS | SWEATSHIRTS

Orders will be delivered to your child's homeroom.

## DRAWSTRING BAG

*Special Sale*

For a limited time, FCMS Drawstring Bags are on sale for \$10! Perfect for packing PE clothes. Sale ends on 9/8!

## BOARDING PASS!

A great way to help our school and enjoy dining and services around Saint Johns! The FCMS PTO BOARDING PASS is our main fundraising that will help us contribute to school improvements. Several merchants are participating and offering great discounts that will pay for the card when you use it at your convenience during the school year. The card expires on August 31, 2026. Once you purchase the card on the [PTO Website](https://www.fcmspto.com), we will send it home in a sealed envelope with your child. Thank you!



For joining the PTO!

We are soaring towards 100% membership!

Thank you! :)



# FORTIFYFL

## SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTING APP

FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows you to instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials.



#FORTIFYFL  
GETFORTIFYFL.COM

Download on the  
App Store

GET IT ON  
Google Play



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION  
fldoe.org

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NOW