

Fruit Cove Middle School "THE PILOT"



Bi-Weekly Newsletter

October 24, 2025

CHARACTER COUNTS!



ST. JOHNS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Pillar of the Month:
October — Responsibility

Important Dates

October 27-31
Red Ribbon Week

October 29
Fall Festival 1:00-2:30

November 11
Veterans Day
Student/Teacher Holiday

November 13
Interims Issued

November 24-28
Thanksgiving Break
Student/Teacher Holiday

December 19
Second Quarter/First
Semester Ends
12:50pm Dismissal

Dec. 22-Jan. 1
Winter Break
Student/Teacher Holiday

January 2
Teacher Planning Day
Student Holiday

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.

First Coast News Teachers of the Week!

Congratulations to two of our amazing teachers, Ms. Benavides and Ms. Alford for being named First Coast News Teachers of the Week! They were nominated by peers, students and parents and have been recognized for their outstanding performance in the classroom. Ms. Benavides will be shown on First Coast News Thursday! Ms. Alford will be shown sometime in the near future.



Fall Festival News

Hey Flyers! Our WEB Team is hosting a Mini Fall Festival after school on Wednesday, October 29 from 1:00-2:30pm. Come hang out for games, crafts, open basketball courts, music, friends, and fall fun!

How to join: Grab your ticket in the PBIS store under events—it is only 10 PBIS points! You must have a district parent permission slip (required by law). We have attached one to the newsletter and you may also pick one up on the website under WEB events. Bring your signed slip to the event to enter.



Fall Festival

Be a Sock-tober Hero: Bring a new pair of socks to the event to donate to neighbors in need and score a sweet treat!

News



Sock-tober is officially underway! We're collecting new socks all month long to help keep our community warm and clean this winter. Bring your socks-funky, fuzzy or fabulously plain to your homeroom. Every pair donated helps keep toes warm and hearts even warmer. Thank you for your kindness and generosity!

FCA News

Fellowship of Christian Athletes 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>

B6 Club News



B6 Cub is now accepting applications. B6 is a club for students who want to be a student leader who models a positive presence on campus. Stop by room 483 to pick up an application and parent permission form. Both applications must be returned to Mrs. Bass to be considered for B6. Students will be added to the B6 Club Schoology group upon application approval.

UPCOMING MEETING DATES: October 30th, and November 6th. Meetings dates will always be posted on Schoology group page. Parents, please arrange for your child to be picked up in the front of the school by 2:30pm at the front loop (or walk/ride bike home at 2:30pm).

SAC News

Please Join Us FCMS Families

Our School Advisory Council (SAC) needs school family and community members!

Our group meets with administration to get informed about matters that affect our school. For more information, please visit our website: <https://www-fcs.stjohns.k12.fl.us/sac/>

Our next meeting is Tuesday, November 18. Join us in person or online!

Microsoft Teams Need help?

Join the meeting now

Meeting ID: 295 114 505 494 5

Passcode: Sz6xL25r

Dial in by phone

+1 904-420-0831,,972032183# United States, Jacksonville

Find a local number

Phone conference ID: 972 032 183#

Contact Tee'ha Carroll at teeha.carroll@stjohns.k12.fl.us
or call if you have any questions at 904.547.7880.

Sports News

FCMS 2025 VOLLEYBALL SCHEDULE

Girls games begin at 5:30 and Boys games begin at 6:30.

The tickets are \$4.00

Links are to SchoolPay.



- ◇ [Tuesday, October 28](#): LMS@FCMS
- ◇ [Thursday, October 30](#): SMS@FCMS *Eighth Grade Night
- ◇ [Tuesday, November 4](#): Playoff Semi-Final – 1 vs 4 and 2 vs 3 (*Highest Seeded Team Hosts)
- ◇ [Thursday, November 6](#): Championship Games *TBD



FRUIT COVE MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL 2025—2026

Girls Coach: Mandy Risenmay

Boys Coach: James Tansey

GIRLS BASKETBALL INFORMATION

*** An Athletic waiver is required for tryouts.

OPEN GYM

November 4, 6, 13 & 19 2-3 PM

TRYOUT INFORMATION

7 & 8th Grade Girls	Monday, December 1	2:00-4:00pm
6th Grade Girls	Tuesday, December 2	2:00-4:00pm
Call backs—Girls	Wednesday, December 3	1:00-3:00pm
Call backs—Girls	Thursday & Friday, Dec. 4 & 5	2:00-4:00pm

BOYS BASKETBALL INFORMATION

*** An Athletic waiver is required for tryouts

OPEN GYM

November 18 and 20, 2-3 PM

TRYOUT INFORMATION

8th Grade Boys	Monday, December 1	4:00-6:00pm
7th Grade Boys	Tuesday, December 2	4:00-6:00pm
6th Grade Boys	Wednesday, December 3	3:00-5:00pm
Call backs—Boys	Thursday & Friday, Dec. 4 & 5	4:00-6:00pm

SEASON PRACTICE INFORMATION

***A physical is required if a student makes the team

PRACTICE BEGINS - MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2025

Girls Practice: 2-4pm Boys Practice: 4-6pm

SEASON GAME INFORMATION

Girls games start at 5:30 PM Boys game start at 6:30 PM

Game days are Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning January 13.

On Game days the students will go home and meet at the game

45 minutes prior to the start of their game.

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](#)



The SSYRA Program has begun! Interested students will be added to an SSYRA Course in Schoology **after** the [parent permission form](#) is returned. **Registration is ongoing until December 1, 2025.** Students will read an SSYRA book and take a 25-point quiz on the book. They must score 60% or over to receive credit for the book. Successful quizzes are rewarded with a Schoology badge and a PBIS point. The program ends on Sunday, April 26, 2026.

[2025-2026 Sunshine State Young Readers Award List](#)

The Battle of the Books team will be determined by the quizzes completed by Sunday, January 19, 2026. The seven students with the most books read and the highest average quiz score will make up the team.

The District Battle will take place on Tuesday, March 24, 2026.

For more information, visit the media center website:

<https://www-fcs.stjohns.k12.fl.us/media/sunshine-state-young-readers-program/>

Testing News

January 2026		WIDA TESTING 1/12-3/13				
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 New Year's Day	2	3
4	5 CLASSES RESUME FOR STUDENTS	6 8 TH FAST READING AM/PM	7 6 TH FAST READING	8 6 TH FAST READING	9 7 TH FAST READING AM/PM	10
11	12 8 TH FAST MATH	13 6 TH FAST MATH	14 6 TH FAST MATH	15 7 TH FAST MATH AM/PM	16	17
18	19 M L King Day	20	21	22	23 Testing window ends.	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

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

Red Ribbon Week



FRUIT COVE FLYERS **TAKE FLIGHT AGAINST CANCER** **COINS FOR A CURE, RED RIBBON, and SPIRIT WEEK** **LIFE IS A PUZZLE! SOLVE IT DRUG FREE!**



Pajama Day, Monday, October 27th

- Bring in your lucky pennies!
 - Wear your pajamas!
(must be school appropriate)
- Follow your dreams, not drugs!*



Favorite Holiday, Tuesday, October 28th

- Bring in your nickels!
 - Dress as your favorite holiday!
(no masks or face paint)
- Celebrate making good choices!*



Wear Pink, Wednesday, October 29th

- Bring in your dimes!
 - Wear your pink!
- Support Cancer Research!*



Battle of the Classes, Thursday, October 30th

- Bring in your quarters!
 - Wear your grade level color!
- 8th – Blue
7th – Yellow
6th – Gray

“Don’t Get Mixed Up with Drugs!”



Team Spirit Friday, October 31st

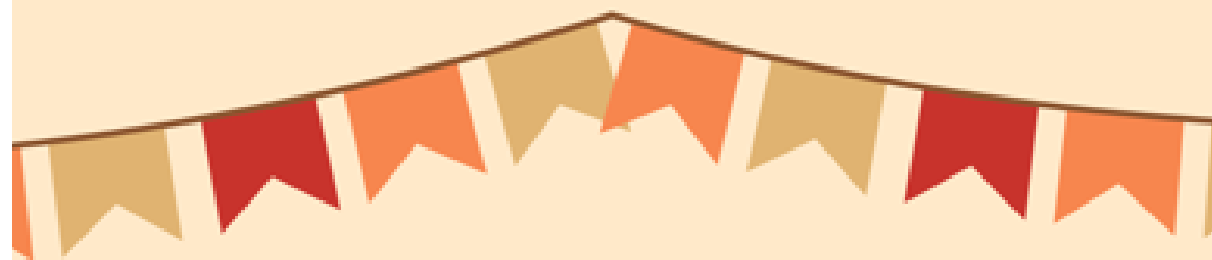
- Bring in your dollar bills!
- Wear your favorite Team Jersey!

On FRIDAY

- Wear your favorite **HAT** for **\$1.00**
- Team up against unhealthy choices!*



The homeroom that raises the most wins a doughnut party!
ALL DONATIONS FROM COINS FOR A CURE WILL BENEFIT THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY’S RELAY FOR LIFE



FRUIT COVE YEARBOOK

HOW TO BUY..

WEBSITE TO ORDER:
WWW.YEARBOOKORDERCENTER.COM
SCHOOL CODE: 10456
\$45 DOLLARS!

8TH GRADE DEDICATIONS
ARE \$20 — ORDER BY
DEC 1 TO BE IN THE
YEARBOOK.

EVENT 2025-2026 SCHEDULE

8th Grade
transition to HS

1

OCT
ALL DAY

CAREER LESSONS
THROUGH CIVICS
CLASSES

Labs 835 and 845

5

DEC
2ND PD

MIDDLE SCHOOL
BLITZ

Overview of Academies throughout the district

Auditorium

18

FEB
ALL DAY

HIGH SCHOOL VIDEO
THROUGH PE CLASSES

Auditorium

19

FEB
2ND PD

CREEKSIDE HIGH
SCHOOL PEP RALLY

Auditorium

24-26

FEB
ALL DAY

CREEKSIDE HIGH
SCHOOL SCHEDULES

Go through language arts classes.
Other schools will be TBD

Media Center



Front Office Reminders

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.

School Access: School access (proceeding past the front office of any school) is required for every individual that is not a staff member of the St. Johns County School District. This is done through completion of the district's **volunteer application**. School access is good for 3 years. For help completing the online application, please call (904) 547-3945.

Attendance: 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.

Welcome Military Families

We want to wish a warm welcome to all our military families here at Fruit Cove Middle School. We are working with Purple Heart Schools to provide special care and resources for the children of our servicemen and servicewomen. Please check out the military resources page on our website.



ParentSquare News

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

[Download the App](#)

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!



Android



iOS

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

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.



PTO

OCT 24

"FLYER"



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>

FCMS PTO Membership
fcmstpoto.com

	Gold Star	Silver Star	Blue Star
Access to Flash Spirit Wear Sales	✓	✓	✓
Early Access to Dance Tickets	✓	✓	✓
Color Powder for Color Run (\$8 value)	✓	✓	✓
Yearbook	✓	✓	✓
"Boarding Pass" (\$20 value)	✓	✓	✓
Raffle: \$500 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.

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, we will send it home in a sealed envelope with your child. Thank you!



MEETING

THE NEXT PTO GENERAL MEETING WILL BE VIRTUAL ON 11/17 AT 6PM. PLEASE CHECK THE NEXT NEWSLETTER FOR THE ZOOM LINK!

12 days of appreciation

Help the FCMS PTO celebrate our teachers and staff to show our appreciation for all their hard work throughout the year! Donate now at www.fcmspto.com/donate.



Info
Coming Soon
**8th Grade
Semi Formal**

UPDATE:

Nov: We will be sending out 3 themes for school approval for 8th graders to vote

December/January : Ticket Sales begin

February: Semi Formal Feb 1, 2026

STAY TUNED

PARENTS PLEASE PRINT
YOUR TICKET
CONFIRMATION FOR YOUR
CHILD TO TURN IN AS
THEIR ENTRY TICKET TO

THANK YOU

to the PTO BUSINESS PARTNERS

Maverick



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**RELATE
COUNSELING**



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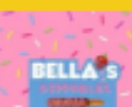
Elite



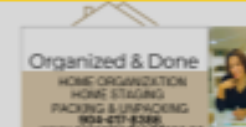
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Come Drive the Bus with Us!

Sat, Oct 25
8am to 11am



BUDDY BUS

**Joined By Our
Community
Partners**



BLOOD MOBILE

PUBLIC SAFETY CAMPUS TEST TRACK

3640 GAINES ROAD

ST. AUGUSTINE, FL 32084



MUST HAVE A VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE



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



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fldoe.org