

# Fruit Cove Middle School

# THE PILOT

Bi-Weekly Newsletter

3180 Racetrack Road "Home of the Flyers" 904-547-7880



December 19, 2025



Pillar of the Month:  
December - All pillars

## Important Dates

**Dec. 22-Jan. 1**

Winter Break  
Student/Teacher Holiday

**January 2**

Teacher Planning Day  
Student Holiday

**January 5**

Classes Resume for Students  
Second Semester Begins

**January 15**

Report Cards

**January 19**

Martin Luther King Jr Day  
Student/Teacher Holiday

**February 10**

Interims Issued

**February 13**

Teacher Inservice Day  
Student Holiday

**February 16**

Presidents' Day  
Student/Teacher Holiday

**March 12**

Third Quarter Ends  
March 13

## School Hours

7:30am-1:50pm

Wednesday Dismissal @

12:50pm

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

## Mission Statement

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



We wish you a joyful holiday season filled with peace, happiness, and well-deserved rest. Happy New Year!

December 22 - January 1 Winter Break

Jan. 2 - Teacher Planning Day

Jan. 5 - Classes Resume!



## B6 Club News

## UPCOMING MEETING DATES:

Upcoming meetings:

January 8 and January 22, 1:55-3:00pm.

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 3:00pm at the front loop (or walk/ride bike home at 3:00pm).



NJHS collected over 270 toys for the toy drive. Thank you FCMS families for supporting this cause and our school!

The next NJHS meetings will be in January.

Tuesday, January 13th is the officers meeting

Thursday, January 15th is the all members meeting.

## NJHS News

## STEM Fair

Please join us in congratulating the winners of the Fruit Cove Middle School STEM fair. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners will go on to the regional STEM fair on February 3. The awards ceremony on February 5th at First Coast Technical College.

1st place - Adrina Aboutalebi 8th grade - Engineering project: Sunken Solar Panel Tie for

2nd place - Emily Davis 8th grade Breaking waves

2nd place - Nishal Chitteti- 8th grade A Eye

3rd place - The team of Hannah Seo and Tatsa Balaji 8th grade Floating Garden



Honorable Mention -

Puneeth Yerra 8th grade- Digital Pantry

The team of Shravan Nair and Sareyar Janagamu 8th grade - Bio-Band

Benjamin Monteiro - 8th grade Eyes on the Road

Sophia Carvalho -6th grade Crystal Growth



## Library News

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:

**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](#)

*Save the date  
& money!*

8th Grade Incentive Trip to  
Gradventure Universal Studios

Friday, May 15th

Information packets will be handed out  
in the New Year along with details to  
attend.

Cost will be \$225  
per student.  
Details will be  
provided.



## January Testing

FRUIT COVE MIDDLE SCHOOL

**January  
2026**

WIDA TESTING 1/12-3/13

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			<b>1</b> New Year's Day	<b>2</b>
<b>5</b> CLASSES RESUME FOR STUDENTS	<b>6</b> 8 <sup>TH</sup> FAST READING AM/PM	<b>7</b> 6 <sup>TH</sup> FAST READING	<b>8</b> 6 <sup>TH</sup> FAST READING	<b>9</b> 7 <sup>TH</sup> FAST READING AM/PM
<b>12</b> 8 <sup>TH</sup> FAST MATH	<b>13</b> 6 <sup>TH</sup> FAST MATH	<b>14</b> 6 <sup>TH</sup> FAST MATH	<b>15</b> 7 <sup>TH</sup> FAST MATH AM/PM	<b>16</b>
<b>19</b> M L King Day	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Testing window ends.
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>

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

## Cell Phone Reminder

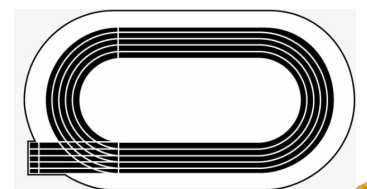
Florida law prohibits middle school students from using wireless devices during the instructional school day, from the time they arrive on campus until the end of the day. This means phones must be powered off and stored away. Students may not call parents if in school. PLEASE add the school phone number to your contacts so your student or administration can reach you via phone if necessary.

The number is (904) 547-7874.



## Track & Field News

2026 FCMS Track and Field season begins Monday, Jan 26th. Email Coach Benavides at [jill.benavides@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:jill.benavides@stjohns.k12.fl.us) for all required forms. ALL requirements must be submitted BEFORE an athlete may join us.





# School Advisory Council



Join Us FCMS Families!

Our School Advisory Council (SAC) meets with the administration to stay updated on issues impacting our school.

For more information, please visit our website: <https://www.fcs.stjohns.k12.fl.us/sac/>

Our next meeting is Tuesday, January 13. Join us in person or online!

Microsoft Teams Need help?

Join the meeting now

Meeting ID: 295 114 505 494 5

Passcode: Sz6xL25r

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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](mailto:teeha.carroll@stjohns.k12.fl.us)

or call if you have any questions at 904.547.7880.

# EVENT SCHEDULE

2025-2026

8th Grade transition to HS

1	OCT ALL DAY	CAREER LESSONS THROUGH CIVICS CLASSES	Labs 835 and 845
5	DEC 2 <sup>ND</sup> PD	MIDDLE SCHOOL BLITZ	Overview of Academies throughout the district Auditorium
18	FEB ALL DAY	HIGH SCHOOL VIDEO THROUGH PE CLASSES	Auditorium
19	FEB 2 <sup>ND</sup> 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

## Fruit Cove Middle School YEARBOOKS For Sale

Less than  
150 books remaining!

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

**School Code:** 10456

**Price:** \$45

# Career Academies

Application submission deadline for students currently enrolled in a St. Johns County public school: January 26, 2026, by 5:00 p.m.

## Timeline

Nov. 4- Dec. 10	Middle School Blitz held at each Middle School
10-Dec	High School Showcase Event 3:30 – 7:00 pm (World Golf Village Convention Center, 500 S Legacy Trail, St. Augustine, FL 32092)
5-Jan	Online Application OPENS 8:00 for newly applying 5th, 8th and 9th grade students.
January 8-22	Academy Nights (see schedule below)
21-Jan	St. Johns County Center for the Arts AUDITIONS at St. Augustine High School.
January TBD	Murray Middle School Arts auditions will be held at Murray Middle School and please bring your printed audition form.
	**Check school websites for audition sign-up directions.
26-Jan	Registration Deadline – Online – Registration will be closed at 5:00 p.m.
31-Jan	Last day for late applications
1-Jul	All out of zone placement decisions will be finalized

**Each high school will host an informational 2026 Academy Night. All parents with a student interested in attending one of the academies should make plans to attend these events. Each Academy Night will begin promptly at the time listed.**

1/21/2026	Allen D. Nease High School	6:00 – 7:30pm
1/12/2026	Bartram Trail High School	6:00 – 7:30pm
1/20/2026	Beachside High School	6:00 – 7:30pm
1/8/2026	Creekside High School	6:00 – 7:30pm
1/13/2026	Pedro Menendez High School	6:00 – 7:30pm
1/14/2026	Ponte Vedra High School	6:00 – 7:30pm
1/15/2026	St. Augustine High School	6:00 – 7:30pm
1/15/2026	St. Johns Technical High School	5:30 – 7:00pm
1/13/2026	<a href="#">St. Johns Virtual School</a>	5:30 – 7:00pm (Virtual)
1/22/2026	Tocoi Creek High School	5:30 – 7:00pm

Any SJCS D resident who is moving a student from home school, virtual school or private school may apply for an academy by pre-registering for school online at the SJCS D website and selecting to also apply for a Program of Interest. All pre-registrations need to be completed online by the end of the school day January 26, 2026.

For more information: <https://cte.stjohns.k12.fl.us/> If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact the Career & Technical Education Department at (904) 547-6000.





**JAN**

12 - AWAY VS PACETTI BAY

15 - BYE

21 - HOME VS SWISS POINT

22 - HOME VS GAMBLE ROGERS

**TEACHER APPRECIATION**

27 - HOME VS MURRAY

29 - AWAY VS LANDRUM

**FEB**

3 - AWAY AT SEBASTIAN

5 - HOME VS PACETTI BAY

10 - BYE

12 - AWAY VS SWISS POINT

17 - AWAY AT GAMBLE ROGERS

19 - AWAY AT MURRAY

24 - HOME VS LANDRUM

26 - HOME VS SEBASTIAN

**8TH GRADE NIGHT**

**MAR**

1 - SEMI FINALS

4 - CHAMPIONSHIP

**Doors open - 5:00pm**

**Girls - 5:30pm**

**Boys - 6:30**

**FLYER BASKETBALL**

## Front Office Reminders

**Forgotten items:** Please drop off any schoolwork, projects, PE clothes, or band instruments by 8:15 AM. After that, only lunch, lunch money, glasses, or medicine can be accepted. Thank you for your cooperation!

**Early checkout:** To pick up your student early, arrive by 1:20PM (12:20PM on Wednesdays). After that, you'll wait until dismissal at 1:50PM (12:50PM on Wednesdays).

**School Access:** Non-staff individuals must complete the district's volunteer application for school access, valid for 3 years. For assistance with the online application, call (904) 547-3945.

**Attendance:** If a student misses school, the parent/guardian must complete an online form or submit a note within 48 hours detailing the absence date, reason, and signature. Emails and phone calls are not accepted for notifying absences.



St. Johns County School District has introduced ParentSquare, a sleek communication platform for sharing vital updates from the district, your child's school, and teachers—all in one place. Please download the app Google Play or Apple Store!



Android



iOS



## 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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NOW



Students can earn PBIS points daily for exhibiting positive traits like citizenship, trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, and caring. These points can be traded for rewards in our online PBIS store, managed by the WEB Team. To order, students log in via /clever, choose their rewards, and place orders by Tuesday for delivery on the first and third Friday of each month.

[Support our positive choices initiative!](#)  
[Visit our PBIS store!](#)

Thank you for your support!



<<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.



DEC 19

# PTO "FLYER"



Website



Instagram



Facebook



## SPIRIT WEAR

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

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/donate](http://www.fcmspto/donate).

**BRAVOZ™**  
FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT CENTER

**Fun Night**

Thursday, February 12, 2026  
6-9pm

Get your discounted tickets and support the PTO by pre-purchasing here:  
<https://bit.ly/3WDyTO1>

Trampoline Park  
Laser Tag  
Ninja Course

14985 Old Saint Augustine Road  
Jacksonville, FL

## OPEN POSITION

**8th GRADE EVENTS**

The PTO is looking for a passionate new addition to our team! Much of the planning in this position is already in motion and we need somebody to successfully see it through.

Please contact PTO PRESIDENT VIA EMAIL:  
[FCMSPTOPRESIDENT@GMAIL.COM](mailto:FCMSPTOPRESIDENT@GMAIL.COM)

## 8TH GRADE

SEMI FORMAL

Ladies and gentlemen the moment you've been waiting for .... 8th grade goes to the movies {semi formal}

We're rolling out the red carpet, grabbing the snacks, and dancing throughout the film!

Red Carpet Premier {Spirit Week} will be Jan 26-Jan30

Mark your calendars for ticket sales go on January 5th at 7:00am, sale ends Jan 23rd at 3:00pm!

6PM | **02.01.2026** | 8PM

ST JOHNS GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB



# THANK YOU

to the PTO BUSINESS PARTNERS

## Maverick



**Smiles by  
DR CRAIG HADGIS  
ORTHODONTIST**

**Craig T Hadgis DDS**  
Board Certified Orthodontic Specialist

## Blue Angel



**Débora McCarty**  
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