

Fruit Cove Middle School

THE PILOT

Bi-Weekly Newsletter

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



November 21, 2025



Pillar of the Month:
November - Citizenship

Important Dates

Nov. 10—Dec. 5

Toy Drive

November 24-28

Thanksgiving Break
Student/Teacher Holiday

December 9

Beginning Band Concert
6:30pm

December 11

Chorus Concert 6pm

December 16

Jazz Band Concert 6:30pm

December 19

2nd Quarter/1st Semester
Ends
12:50pm Dismissal

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

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.



Congratulations to Ms. Alford and the WEB Team for winning first place in the Len Mattiace Foundation Anti-bully Contest! The WEB Team won the award for the programs they host to bring a culture of kindness, inclusiveness and empathy to our school. Programs like 6th Grade Connections, Get the Scoop, PBIS Store, Sundae Monday, Fall Festival, Friendsgiving, and No One Eats Alone. Thanks, Mr. Mattiace, for your inspiration!



Toy Drive

The National Junior Honor Society will be sponsoring a toy drive from November 10 to December 5. Please bring in any unwrapped toy to donate. All donations will be given to the local chapter of Toys 4 Tots. The homeroom with the most donations will receive fresh baked cookies!



Spelling Bee News

The Fruit Cove Middle School 2026 Scripps National Spelling Bee winner is 6th grader Kevin Macieira. He will represent FCMS as the SJCS District Spelling Bee on Wednesday, January 7, 2026. Second runners-up were 8th graders Nishal Chitteti, Alexandra Wolcott, Eira Puri and 6th grader Alvin Berrios.

Congratulations to all the contestants!

Purple Star School



Congratulations to Fruit Cove Middle School on successfully receiving the Purple Star School of Distinction Designation, as outlined by the Florida Department of Education. This prestigious honor celebrates your school's outstanding commitment to supporting military-connected students and their families. Through compassion, understanding, and dedicated programs, FCMS staff and students have created a welcoming environment where every student can thrive, no matter where their journey begins or takes them. Thank you to the staff, students, and families who made this achievement possible!

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

Coins for a Cure

Thank you to all who participated in the Coins for a Cure week. We raised a total of \$2327.61, surpassing our goal by over \$600. In 3rd place raising \$143.28 is Ms. Johnson's Art Class. In 2nd place raising \$216.53 is Mr. Benavides. In 1st place and the winner of the doughnut party, raising \$274.88 is Mr. Isabelle.

Great job, Flyers, supporting the American Cancer Society!



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.



Cross Country News

Congratulations to the following runners for breaking into the ALL TIME FCMS XC RUNNERS 2014-2025 board:

GIRLS

ANNA WITTMANN--12:39---#20
AMELIA FLOOD--11:20---#3
EMMA GODFREY ---11:09---#2
MADELEN FINCH---11:03---#1-
Fastest FCMS Female EVER!

BOYS

COOPER FINCH-- 10:49---#20
AMARI ISOM---10:48---#19
THOMAS HURT---10:41---#14
NICHOLAS LUGO---10:32---#11
HARRISON LAFSER---10:07---#5
PARKER AKINS---9:59.5---#3
BRYCE CUNNINGHAM--9:51.9-#2

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](#).



The next meeting is December 3.



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: Upcoming meetings: Dec. 4, Dec. 11, Jan. 8, and Jan. 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).



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](#)

[Sunshine State Young Readers Program](#)

Registration ends December 1, 2025.

January Testing

FRUIT COVE MIDDLE SCHOOL

**January
2026**

WIDA TESTING 1/12-3/13

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			1 New Year's Day	2
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
12 8 TH FAST MATH	13 6 TH FAST MATH	14 6 TH FAST MATH	15 7 TH FAST MATH AM/PM	16
19 M L King Day	20	21	22	23 Testing window ends.
26	27	28	29	30

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

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, December 9. 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.



**Congratulations to Ms. Lewis, the FCMS
School-Related Employee of the Year!**





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.

GO FLYERS!





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 SCHEDULE

2025-2026

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

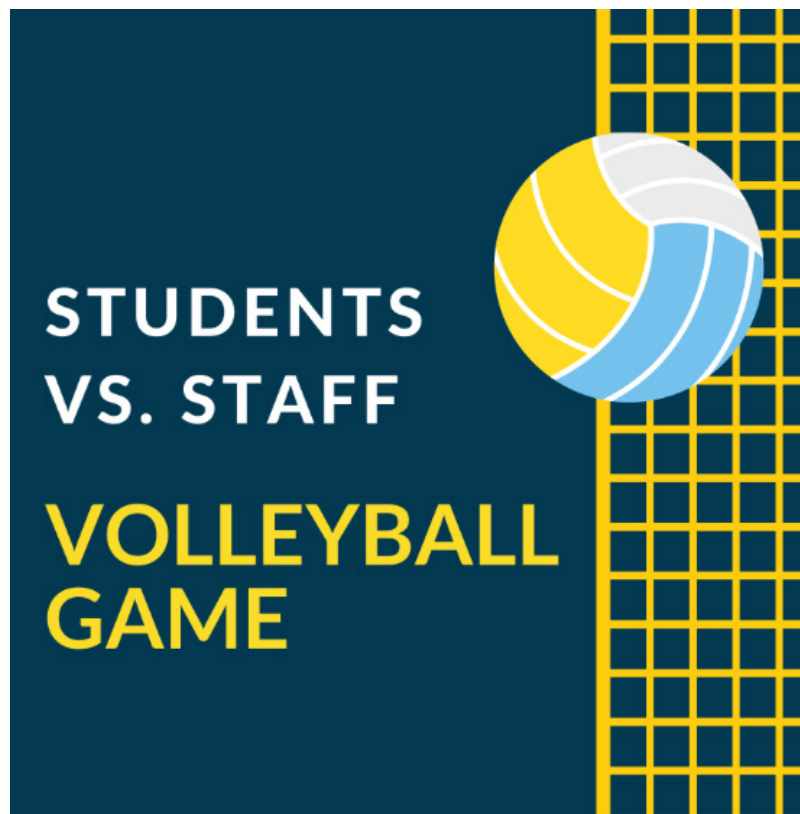
FEB
ALL DAY

CREEKSIDE HIGH
SCHOOL SCHEDULES

Go through language arts classes.
Other schools will be TBD

Media Center

Coming to the PBIS Store in December!



STUDENTS
VS. STAFF

VOLLEYBALL
GAME

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



DOWNLOAD
NOW



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoe.org

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.



NOV 21

PTO "FLYER"



Website



Instagram



Facebook

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>

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.



**FCMS PTO Membership**
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 incl 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.

FRUIT COVE MIDDLE SCHOOL

COLOR RUN

SAVE THE DATE

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, 2026
THIS EVENT WILL TAKE PLACE AFTER SCHOOL

MORE INFO
COMING SOON!



**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

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

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

STAY TUNED

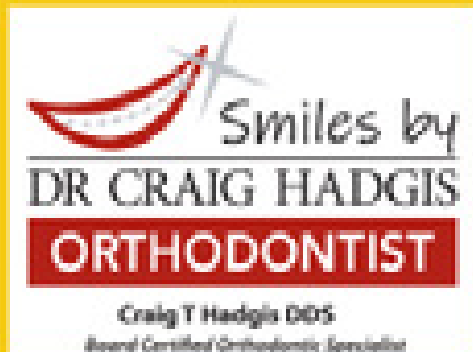


THE PTO IS
GRATEFUL FOR
ALL OUR
MEMBERS!

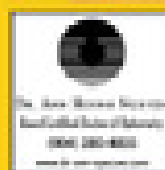
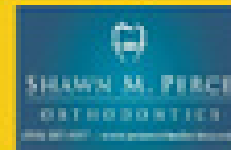
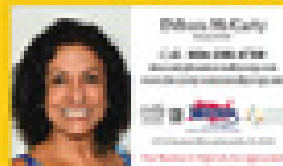
THANK YOU

to the PTO BUSINESS PARTNERS

Maverick



Blue Angel



Top Gun



Elite

