

SEXTON STINGRAY NEWS

A John M. Sexton Elementary School Publication



www.pcsb.org/sexton-es

May 2022 Issue

Upcoming EVENTS

May 2-6th: Staff
Appreciation Week

May 17:
Field Trip: PreK
classes to Del
Holmes Park

May 19:
Field Trip: 5th Grade
to Celebration
Station

May 26:
Last Day for
Students. Early
release day.

June 6-30:
Mon-Thursday
Summer Bridge



A Message from Mr. Pleshe

What a wonderful spring we are having! With Spring time comes a renewed sense of focus, a renewed joy, and the promise of sunshine and laughter. Everyone seems to smile a bit more, and steps are lighter as we round out the next few months together. That being said, please take note of all that is happening in the month of May.

As we enter the month of May, I want to take time out to thank all of our families for your diligence in having your child(ren) come to school on time and well prepared for the learning day. This optimizes and supports your child's success.

May also brings Staff Appreciation Week. Our PTA and Ms. Sheila have worked hard to *show the love* during the week of May 2 – May 6th. If you would like to show your appreciation to a teacher or staff member here, I have created this link [Staff Appreciation](#) to provide you with a few things about each staff member that may inspire an idea. You can also find it on Class Dojo, or under the Resources tab on our school website.

May also brings the Florida State Assessment which is given to all of our 3rd, 4th & 5th graders. As mentioned before, this is the last year of FSA. As a school, we need our students to do their very best. The grade we are assigned from this test will stay with us for two years. Thank you for encouraging your child and making sure they are well rested that week.
Tony Pleshe, Principal

WANTED: MORNING NEWS CREW!

Mrs. Bailey and Mrs. Robinson are looking for 5th grade recruits for the 2022 -2023 Morning News Crew. You may be interested in joining if:

- you like working with technology
- you're comfortable in front of a camera
- you enjoy being part of a team



See Mrs. Bailey or Mrs. Robinson for more information!

FSA TESTING SCHEDULE AT SEXTON ELEMENTARY

FSA Testing will continue through the month of May for our 3rd-5th graders. A few reminders to ensure your child is off to a great start on assessment days:

- get plenty of rest
- eat a good breakfast
- arrive to school on time
- encouragement/positive praise from adults

Date	Grade Levels	Assessment	Test Time
Tues. May 3 rd	4 th & 5 th	ELA Session 1	80 minutes
Wed. May 4 th	4 th & 5 th	ELA Session 2	80 minutes
Thurs. May 5 th	3 rd	Math Session 1	80 minutes
Fri. May 6 th	3 rd	Math Session 2	80 minutes
Tues. May 10 th	4 th & 5 th	Math Session 1	80 minutes
Wed. May 11 th	4 & 5 th	Math Session 2	80 minutes
Tues. May 17 th	5 th	Science Session 1	80 minutes
Wed. May 18 th	5 th	Science Session 2	80 minutes

Sexton Elementary would like to extend our **IMMENSE GRATITUDE** to all the **REMARKABLE** businesses who donated so generously to our Teacher Appreciation Week. Thank you all for your support and generosity to our school and its teachers.



Phenomenal Restaurants

Fresco's Restaurant, Lonni's Sandwiches, Karma Eatery, Maple Street Biscuit Company, Cracker Barrell, El Cap Restaurant, Oak & Stone Restaurant, Sonny's BBQ, Bella Brava Restaurant, Spring Garden Family Restaurant, Colony Grill, 4th Street Grill, Cheddar's Restaurant, Ferg's Sports Bar, Steak N Shake, Olive Garden, Cali Restaurant, Acropolis Greek Taverna, Hawker's Restaurant, Culver's Restaurant, On The Fly Restaurant, 4th Street Shrimp Store, Hooter's Restaurant, Chicken Salad Chick, PDQ Restaurant, Trip's Diner, Fresh Kitchen, Casual Clam, Buffalo Wild Wings, Firehouse Subs, Huey Magoos Chicken Restaurant, Little Italy Pizza Restaurant, Mangosteen Restaurant, Stillwaters Tavern, Dr BBQ Restaurant, Grain & Berry, First Watch Café, La Segunda Bakery & Café, Earl Of Sandwich, Pacific Counter, Grand Hacienda Mexican Cuisine Restaurant, Doc Ford's Restaurant, The Blend, Metro Diner, Bolay Restaurant, McDonalds on 54th Avenue, and 4th Street Pizza

Incredible Businesses

Edible Arrangements, Savory Spice, Take 5 Oil Change, Pep Boys, Great American Natural Products, Royal Palms Nail Spa, Daddies, Donuts & Delites, Bacchus Wine Bistro, Massage Envy, Target, Local Market & Deli, Paint Nail Bar, Nuvelle Beauty Bar, Hand & Stone Massage, The Fresh Market, WaWa, Forever Polished Nail Studio, Tuesday Morning, Trader Joe's, 5 Below, Rollin Oats and Ross Stores

**LIBRARY NEWS FROM MRS.
BAILEY, AKA THE
BOOKWORM**



Our 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade students were so excited to meet children's book author Sophia Gholz! Mrs. Gholz stopped by Sexton on the 20th of April to share a presentation about writing and read her latest book, *Bug on a Rug*.

You can purchase signed copies of her books at Tombolo Books in downtown St. Petersburg. Titles include *This is Your World: The Story of Bob Ross*, *The Boy Who Grew a Forest: The True Story of Jadav Payeng*, and *Jack Horner, Dinosaur Hunter*. We hope to have Mrs. Gholz back for another visit in the upcoming school year!



As of January 1, 2022, the Pinellas County School Board approved a partnership with Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA) to provide **FREE** PSTA bus rides to all students. The

opportunity is provided by the Universal Pass or UPASS, an agreement between the school district and the PSTA.

PCS students can ride free, any time (including after school hours and weekends), and on all routes so they can access not only school campuses but jobs, after-school activities, or even the beach just by showing their student ID to the PSTA driver. Please keep this resource in mind if transportation issues are impacting your child's attendance.

*Karen Marinari, LCSW
School Social Worker*



Battle of the Books Club 2022-2023

- *Do you love to read books?*
- *Do you like being part of a team?*
- *Do you enjoy challenging your brain?*

If you answered yes to any of those questions, the Battle of the Books Club might be the perfect fit for you! If you're a rising 3rd, 4th, or 5th grader and are interested in joining please see Mrs. Bailey or Mrs. Robinson for more details.



**SEXTON CAFETERIA
NOW HIRING!!
HOURS 7:30am-1:30pm
CONTACT CAFETERIA
MANAGER, SHERRY HOUSE
727-570-3394
housesh@pcsb.org**

FIELD TRIPS FOR SUMMER LEARNING: AVOID THE SUMMER SLIDE

By: Mrs. Hubble
MTSS at Sexton Elementary

As we start closing out the school year, we are thinking about all the FUN activities for our kids to do. Let's not forget about field trips that you can take as a family. Living in Florida and in the St. Pete/Tampa area there are plenty of fun things to do that are free or for a minimal fee. A few that would be good:

- Lowry Park Zoo
- Boyd Hill
- Visit a Nature Park
- Trip to the beach
- Moccasin Lake in Clearwater
- Tampa Bay Watch
- Sawgrass Lake
- Dell Holmes Park (small waterpark)
- Library Time (They have puppet shows, story time, and some make and takes)
- Home Depot has a make and take wood working class on Saturday mornings
- Pier in St. Petersburg can be very educational
- Movies in the park (Clearwater and Largo)
- River Walk in Tampa
- Great Explorations in St. Pete



There is a what teachers call a “summer slide” meaning when a child is not reading or doing math the whole summer, they tend to slide backyards from where they ended in May. So, when they go back to school in August they are not starting out where they should be. Simply going to Dollar Store or Five and Below to get a reading and math workbooks really helps. Having your child work a couple pages in both books helps them focus and increase their learning. Also, having them read DAILY for 20 minutes, boost up their fluency and comprehension as well. Take a trip around our city and have fun!

Library Time: www.splibrary.org scroll down to Children's Programs: There are two programs: Outdoor Early Literacy and Kids Craft. Time and locations will be on the website.

Happy Summer! Mrs. Hubble

ATTENTION PARENTS! *Do your kids need clothes?*



What is Clothes To Kids?

Clothes To Kids is a nonprofit organization with three stores located in Pinellas and Hillsborough Counties where kids in crises or eligible for free or reduced priced lunch can shop for a week's worth of school clothes — free of charge. The selections at our stores are a combination of new and quality-used clothing (underwear and socks are always new).

Each shopper receives a wardrobe which includes:

5 pairs of new underwear, 5 pairs of new socks, 5 tops, 4 bottoms (including uniforms), 1 dress (optional), 1 pair of shoes and a jacket (in season)

There are two ways PreK4-12th grade kids receive a wardrobe:

1. Shop with us in person! Call 727-441-5050 and schedule your appointment.

2. Clothes To Go. Visit: <https://clothestokids.org/>. Complete a Clothes To Go form and request a wardrobe curbside.

Complete the form as instructed for all students in the family (PreK4-12th grade)

When form is completed, click submit.

Clothes To Kids, Inc., will contact you when your Clothes To Go bag(s) are assembled and ready to be picked-up.