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education
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"Pioneers for the Future"

APRIL 2019



PINELLAS
COUNTY
SCHOOLS -

AN EQUAL
OPPORTUNITY
INSTITUTION
FOR EDUCATION
& EMPLOYMENT

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A note from Mrs. Buckles.....

Dear Pioneers Families,

Third through fifth grade classes have started the Florida State Assessment (FSA) period of the school year. Testing for these grades will extend from April into May. Please avoid scheduling any doctor's appointments or trips on your child's testing days. Also, help us by making sure that your child arrives to school on time and emotionally ready to take the state exams. We need to have our students well-rested and prepared each morning. Students arriving after testing has begun will wait in the office until testing is completed. Make up assessments will be scheduled for students who are ill. Parent volunteers are not allowed in the classrooms during scheduled testing times. Our Pioneers have worked hard all year and are excited to show what they have learned.

It was wonderful to see so many families attend our Garrison-Jones International Night. International Night is the closing celebration after a week of Olympic Field Days. We believe that parents are the most influential person in their child's life and we value your partnership! Thank you for being involved in your child's education. Special thanks and gratitude to our wonderful parent volunteers during the week of Olympic Field Days. It was a memorable week for all.

I hope to see you out at our annual Everything Garrison-Jones night on Thursday, April 18th, from 6:00 until 7:30p.m. Pioneer families will have the opportunity to visit the art show, book fair, second-grade concert, and classrooms for student-led conferences. The book fair will be open during lunch and after school Thursday in the media center.

We at Garrison-Jones thank you for your continued partnership.

Sincerely,

Karen Buckles

Karen Buckles

Dates To Remember:

April 18:
Everything
Garrison-Jones
Night

- * art show
- * book fair
- * student led conferences

April 19:
No School
for Students

April 25:
Spring Concert
Chorus

April 26:
RoundUp

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**May 10:**  
School Talent Show

**May 17:**  
Volunteer  
Appreciation  
Luncheon

**May 27:**  
No School  
for students-  
Memorial Day

Dear Pioneer Families,

Our students have been working so hard and focused on their learning and assessment cycles! Our kindergarten, first and second grade classes have taken their third and final MAP Assessment. Our third graders have completed their Reading FSA and fourth and fifth graders have completed their FSA Writing Assessment.

Our fourth and fifth grade students will be taking the FSA Reading Assessment on Wednesday, May 1<sup>st</sup> and Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Our third, fourth and fifth grade students will be taking the FSA Math Assessment on Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, May 8<sup>th</sup>. Fifth grade students will be taking the Science Assessment on Thursday, May 9<sup>th</sup> and Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup>.

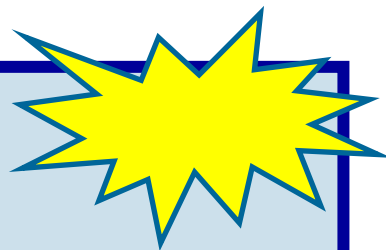
If you have any questions related to this test administration, you may contact your child's teacher at (727) 469-5716 or by email. For more information about the FSA program, please visit the FSA Portal at [www.FSAssessments.org](http://www.FSAssessments.org).

Thank you for supporting your child and our school!

Kind regards,

**Erica Pollick**  
*Assistant Principal*  
*Garrison-Jones Elementary School*





# One more very important word from

Last week I met with the administrative crew of the Blue Jay's construction project. In this meeting, we discussed upcoming site-based plans and its location in relation to our campus. Right now, construction will be working along the fence line on specific tree removal. It will be a bit noisy particularly during outdoor P.E classes. Most important, we discussed the dates and times of our

FSA testing. They will do their best to work with us and our testing schedule.

Morning and afternoon drop off can at times produce an extended line of cars onto Garrison Road. Please do not block the entrance to the Blue Jay jobsite on Garrison Road.

## ART NEWS

Mark your calendars for the 3rd annual whole school Art Show. Yes! Your child will have their art work framed and on display on Thursday, April 18 from 5-7pm. Framed art work can be purchased for \$27.

In May all students will participate in creating a mosaic mural with local artist Heather Richardson. The mural will be a permanent art work at GJE that all students will be proud to have contributed their talents to. The funds from the Art show will help pay for this mural.

## From Family and Community Relations

Mark your calendars May 17<sup>th</sup> will be our Volunteer/ Business partner Appreciation Luncheon. It will be held in the media center at 12:00. Flyers will be coming home shortly. We are so fortunate to have such dedicated volunteers who give generously of their time and talents! Hope to see you at the luncheon.

Lena Karamanli  
Family and Community Liaison



## Noteworthy News

### All Things Garrison-Jones Curriculum Night

April 18th- 2nd Grades sing on stage 5:30-5:50pm

*Students should wear dressy spring clothes.*

### Spring Concert for Strings and Chorus:

April 25th- Strings and Chorus Concert 7pm

*Family and friends should attend the 7pm concert. 4th and 5th Grade Chorus and Strings will wear dressy spring clothes.*

### Talent Show:

April 12th-Student Permission Slips are due by 3pm

April 17th- Student Auditions 2:45-4:45pm

April 18th- Acts are Announced

May 6-10th- Tickets go on sale in the AM out front

May 10th- Tickets are available at the door 6:30pm

May 10th- Talent Show begins 7pm



## Character Trait of the Month

### April: Self-Control

Managing your emotions and choosing acceptable behavior.

*"You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose. You're on your own. And you know what you know. And YOU are the one who'll decide where to go..."*

### General Strategies to Teach Self-Control

It is important to select age-appropriate goals for children who are learning self-control. Try simple goals first, where success is expected, one goal at a time. For preschool children, appropriate goals might include not interrupting or not fighting with siblings. For early elementary school children, appropriate goals might include complying with bedtime rules or showing anger appropriately (instead of hitting or screaming).

Some general strategies that often help children learn appropriate self-control behaviors include:

**Take a break:** Encourage children to "take a break" or a "time out" from a situation where they are feeling angry or upset.

**Teach and provide attention:** Children can learn to resist interrupting others by learning how to observe when others are not talking, so that they can join in appropriately. Be sure to provide children with attention at appropriate times so that they are not "starved" for attention and more likely to interrupt inappropriately.

**Use appropriate rewards:** Children need consistent, positive feedback to learn appropriate behavior. Praise and attention are highly rewarding for young children, as is special time with a parent. Be sure your child knows what behavior is desired!

**Use specific activities designed to teach self-regulation:** Parents can help teach even young children (ages 5–8 years) the skills that foster self-control, using activities such as those that follow. These skills include dealing with "wanting something I can't have," understanding feelings, and controlling anger.

*From The National Association of School Psychologists:*

<http://www.nasponline.org/resources/handouts/behavior%20template.pdf>