



# EAGLE'S EYE



## SKYCREST ELEMENTARY NEWS

December 2021

Phone: 727-469-5987

Eliza Defant, Principal

10 N. Corona Ave.  
Clearwater, FL 33765

Stephanie Woodford, Area II  
Associate Superintendent 727-588-5024

Lisa Pierzchalski, Asst. Principal

Skycrest Web site - <http://www.skycrest-es.pinellas.k12.fl.us>

### *Mission*

Educate and prepare students for college, career and life.

### A Message from Administration

Dear Skycrest Families,

The weeks are just flying by. Can you believe as of December 1<sup>st</sup>, your child has been in school for 74 days? We are already into our second grading period and your child is learning and growing each day. During the month of December, students will be assessed for the second time with MAP testing and for Kindergarten, this will be their first time assessing what they know in math and reading. Your child continues to amaze us with his/her level of engagement in learning and work ethic. We know the value you place on your child's education is a direct reflection of how hard he/she works to learn and master skills in school. Thank you for your commitment to education.

The month of November was busy with many activities. We celebrated our Veterans, had the Great American Teach In with many special guests including the K-9 dog, collected over 763 cans for the Salvation Army Food Drive and raised funds from our Annual Color Run Fundraiser. We raised almost \$1,000 with your support. These funds will go toward our classrooms and Eagle Store purchases.

As we approach our next break on December 18<sup>th</sup> through January 4<sup>th</sup>, it is important your child to continue his/her learning through Clever apps including: iStation, MyOn, Dreambox, and "Hey Did You Know" - check it out for enrichment activities. Over the break, is a great opportunity for your child to use a journal and write daily about anything that interests him/her.

The role of parents and teachers are what help students grow and succeed. As we partner together, we will continue to see growth. We appreciate all of your support. Please make sure to conference and stay in touch with your child's teacher regularly.

Have a safe and restful break - see you next year!

Mrs. Pier  
Assistant Principal  
Skycrest Elementary  
(727) 469-5987



### Dates to Remember

12/16 International Café, 8:45AM, Media Center  
12/17 End of the second quarter  
12/20-01/03 Winter Break, **No School**

### School Guidelines

Remember Skycrest school-wide expectations are S.A.R.R.

- Be Safe
- Be an Active Learner
- Be Respectful
- Be Responsible

### Shout Out

Congratulations to our Teacher of the Year, Ms. Melva Murphy, our 5<sup>th</sup> grade ESOL teacher. Mr. Bill Hart, our Head Plant Operator for Support Staff of the Year, has also made the top ten for Pinellas County Schools. We are so proud to have them represent Skycrest!

### New Media/Tech Specialist

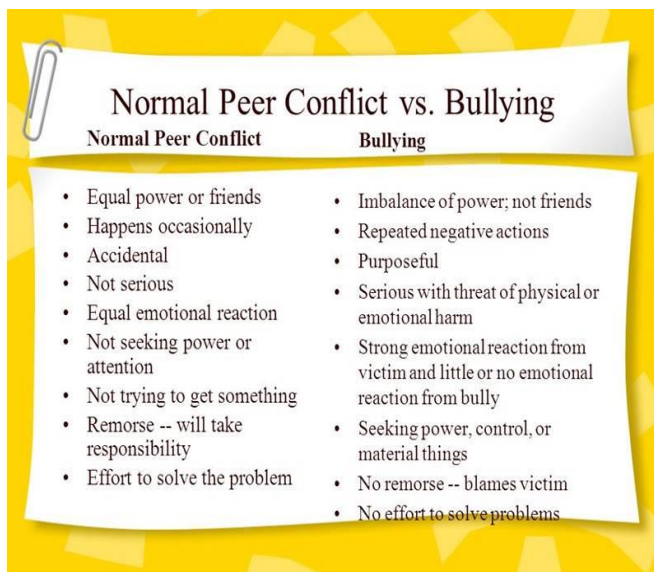
Welcome Ms. Shannon Hoff our new Media/Tech Specialist. Ms. Hoff is currently out-of-field as a Media Specialist. Any teacher assigned out-of-field is chosen carefully, given additional district support and will acquire certification in a timely manner. We are very excited to have her on our team.

## What is Bullying?

The Pinellas County Schools Policy against Bullying and Harassment defines bullying as:  
*Systematically and chronically inflicting physical hurt or psychological distress on one or more students or employees.*

In bullying situations, there are always **3 key elements present**:

- ✓ Imbalance of Power - Kids who bully use their power—such as physical strength, access to embarrassing information, or popularity—to control or harm others
- ✓ Intent to Harm
- ✓ Repeated Behavior



Normal Peer Conflict	Bullying
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Equal power or friends</li><li>• Happens occasionally</li><li>• Accidental</li><li>• Not serious</li><li>• Equal emotional reaction</li><li>• Not seeking power or attention</li><li>• Not trying to get something</li><li>• Remorse -- will take responsibility</li><li>• Effort to solve the problem</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Imbalance of power; not friends</li><li>• Repeated negative actions</li><li>• Purposeful</li><li>• Serious with threat of physical or emotional harm</li><li>• Strong emotional reaction from victim and little or no emotional reaction from bully</li><li>• Seeking power, control, or material things</li><li>• No remorse -- blames victim</li><li>• No effort to solve problems</li></ul>

## International Café

Attention Spanish-Speaking Families

Please join us at our monthly **International Café** on **Thursday, December 16th at 8:45am in the Media Center**. This meeting is held in Spanish, and each month we discuss different topics such as academics and community resources. It's a great way to meet other parents, learn what is going on at Skycrest Elementary, and hear about resources available in our Skycrest/Clearwater neighborhood.

The meeting takes place while your child is in class, but younger children are welcome. Join us for some coffee and cookies and helpful information. Hope to see you there!

## Volunteers

We need you more than ever!  
Become a volunteer and help your student's school.

Please go to <https://focus.pcsb.org/volunteer> to apply or email Ms. Miriam at [saucedocamposm@pcsb.org](mailto:saucedocamposm@pcsb.org).

## Little Free Library

Skycrest Elementary School has a new Little Free Library (LFL) book exchange box located outside the main entrance. It was donated by the Literacy Council of Upper Pinellas (LCUP) who stocked it with lots of English and Spanish language books for all ages. The Skycrest community is invited to visit the LFL to borrow books and when they are done reading them, the books should be returned to the LFL for others to enjoy. Anyone can contribute books to the Little Free Library!

## District Application Programs Information

Spanish-speaking families can participate in workshops to learn about applying for magnet programs and preparing for preschool and kindergarten. The district will be presenting a variety of sessions in Spanish.

Upcoming live Spanish-language District Application Program Virtual Workshops will take place:

- Wednesday, Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>, 12:30pm
- Thursday, Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>, 6:00pm
- Wednesday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>, 6:00pm

Learn more about the application process at [www.pcsb.org/dap](http://www.pcsb.org/dap).

The English for Speakers of Other Languages office will also offer Spanish-language presentations about Pre-K and Kindergarten Programs:

- Thursday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>, 12:30pm
- Thursday, Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>, 12:30pm

## Elementary Virtual Tutoring and Homework Support for English Learners

**When:** October 25, 2021-May 13, 2022

**KG-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade:** Mondays from 4:00PM-5:00PM

**3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Tuesdays from 4:00PM-5:00PM

The ESOL department offers FREE tutoring to English learners who need help completing their homework and learning new concepts and skills. Each tutoring session will include homework support followed by a reading lesson. The tutor is a Pinellas County Schools teacher and a fluent Spanish speaker.

**Go to the Skycrest website to click the link to join the session.**

For questions, email the ESOL Instructional Staff Anca Irimie at [irimiea@pcsb.org](mailto:irimiea@pcsb.org)