



# EAGLE'S EYE



## SKYCREST ELEMENTARY NEWS

December 2020

Phone: 727-469-5987

Eliza Defant, Principal

10 N. Corona Ave.  
Clearwater, FL 33765

Dr. Barbara Hires, Area IV  
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,

Many, many thanks to all the children and parents who helped with the Food Drive! Thank you for your kindness and generosity, the holidays will be very special for a lot of families. Also, thank you for continuing to ensure your child is wearing his/her mask every day while on school campus. This mitigation effort has helped slow the potential spread of COVID-19 in our school building.

As we approach the winter break we want to see our scholars grow academically, socially, and emotionally. We continue to need your on-going support. Below are some ideas of what you can do with your child at home during the holidays:

1. Play a game (help your child know his/her basic addition, subtraction, and/or multiplication facts)!
2. Read a book on a blanket outside and enjoy a snack and/or hot cocoa!
3. Build a fort to read in!
4. Play school!
5. Go on iStation and Dreambox to get to the next level!
6. Keep a daily diary!
7. Write letters to your family and friends to wish them a happy holiday and/or new year!
8. Go for a walk and count how many "holiday" things you see!
9. Go to the park and go on a scavenger hunt!

There are many ways you can have fun as a family. This is the time of year to be thankful and grateful of what we have. Have a wonderful holiday break and see you next year!

Eliza Defant  
Principal

### Dates to Remember

12/16 Virtual Math Night

12/21-1/04 NO SCHOOL, WINTER HOLIDAYS

-----

01/04 Students Return to School


### School Guidelines

Remember Skycrest School-wide Expectations is S.A.R.R.

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



[www.pcsb.org/safetyconcern](http://www.pcsb.org/safetyconcern)



## VIRTUAL Family Math Night


Come join our virtual community where we explore 5 fun math stations

- ★ Estimation Jar - Who will get the closest estimate?
- ★ Origami - Create your own origami and share a photo of your project
- ★ Scavenger Hunt - Discover the math in your home
- ★ Dice Games - A fun way to practice skills
- ★ What Do You Notice? - Share your observations

DATE : Wednesday, December 16th  
WHERE : Online Virtual Event  
TIME : 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Save the date for our Title I sponsored Family Engagement Event! We will be sending home math materials to families who RSVP. Please look for flyers advertising this event!

RSVP BY: Friday, December 4th



## Handwashing

Importance of knowing that cleanliness helps to keep good health. You are in charge of your body and can help to keep it healthy.



- "Teach by example" is the best way to learn

- Remember the words: **GERMS** are afraid of soap and water

- Proper way to wash your hands
- Use water and soap
- Rub hands together making sure to get in between fingers and sing the Happy Birthday song or rub together for at least 15 seconds
- Rinse and Dry
- Germs are so small and everywhere and cannot be seen. They make you sick, but you can prevent this by washing your hands.
- You should always wash your hands after using the restroom, playing with animals or when done playing at the playground.
- Always wash your hands before and after eating or touching food.



## Important Reminders

Just a few reminders, school begins at 8:45am and ends at 2:55pm. Please remember not to drop off your child or have him/her come to school early. The gates will not be open until 8:15am.

Also, all students were given 5 washable masks, it is very important your child have a mask in his/her backpack prior to coming on campus. We are limited on masks and are not always able to provide extras. Please help us keep everyone safe, we appreciate your support.

## Modified Dress Code

Skycrest has the following modified dress code. This dress code supports the Pinellas County District strategic plan to promote student achievement.

- Dark blue, light blue, white or hunter green tops (crew neck or polo style)
- Khaki or navy blue bottoms (includes plain, dark blue jeans, neat in appearance, no holes/tears, **no denim shorts**)
- Socks and tights must be school colors
- Closed-toe shoes

If assistance is needed meeting the dress code requirements please contact the "Clothes to Kids" organization at 727-441-5050 or the school office.

## You Are a Math Teacher!

We all know that reading with a child helps literacy skills, and that playing sports in the backyard teaches the value of teamwork and being physically active. But where are the life lessons for mathematics?

The truth is, we all use mathematics many times each day, but often don't realize it. From trips to the grocery store to swinging in a hammock, math is part of our daily lives.

Don't underestimate your own math skills. You can help your child learn math!

## Math in Everyday Life

It is important to help children recognize that everyone uses math all the time. Here are tips to help your child have a positive attitude about mathematics.

- Make learning math a positive experience. Don't talk negatively about math to your child—it can lead to "math anxiety" (a proven cause of low achievement).
- Schedule math homework at the same time in a quiet location every day. Be available during this period to talk with your child. Create a math homework toolkit with pencils, erasers, ruler, protractor, graph paper, counters (beads or beans) and a calculator.
- When helping with homework, follow the method being taught. Don't teach short cuts that could confuse your child. Do not say, "Let me show you my way - it's simpler and faster."
- Be relaxed and positive. You are not expected to be an expert. You are there to encourage learning.
- If your child becomes frustrated, stop. Remind your child of the things they have already learned how to do successfully, such as riding a bicycle, writing a paragraph or speaking a second language.
- Ask your child's teacher for strategies to use at home that reflect your child's learning style. If your child asks for help and you do not know the answer, be honest and say, "I don't know, but let's figure it out together." If you continue to be unsuccessful, you can also ask your child's teacher for help. This gives your child permission to ask for help as well.