

SEXTON STINGRAY NEWS

A John M. Sexton Elementary School Publication



www.pcsb.org/sexton-es

December 2024

Upcoming EVENTS

December

- ♦ **10th-13th:** Penguin Patch
- ♦ **11th:** Enterprise Village
- ♦ **11th:** Flakes! The Musical
- ♦ **13th:** Parents night out
- ♦ **20th:** End of second quarter
- ♦ **23rd-Jan. 3rd:** Winter Break
Happy Holidays!



A Message from Mr. Pleshe

Hello Sexton Families,

Here we are in the month of December! The school year is more than 1/3 of the way through and shortly after we return from the holiday break, we will be preparing to celebrate the hundredth day of school! Holiday decorations are sprouting up everywhere as families in our area begin their thinking about holiday shopping, vacation plans, and dinner menus. Many of our evenings and weekends will be spent getting ready for holiday celebrations. This year our PTA will be hosting a Parent's Night Out on Friday, December 13th 6-8. This is an opportunity for you to drop your kids off at school for a couple of hours. The evening will have several activities for the kids- arts & crafts, gaga ball, a Christmas movie will be shown along with other activities. It's \$5 for one child or \$10 for a family.

Also, this month, your child will be taking the second of three tests which measures how well they are doing in their current grade level. The Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST), which includes VPK through grade 10 ELA Reading and VPK through grade 8 Mathematics assessments, is administered as a progress monitoring assessment three times per year. This particular assessment will tell us if your child is on track to mastering the grade level expectations. The testing window starts December 2nd. Your child's teacher will share their results when they finish the testing.

On behalf of all of us at John M. Sexton Elementary, I want to wish you all a happy holiday season!



To contact Mr. Pleshe, please use his email address or call the school directly. He is unable to use Class Dojo or the PBIS App as a communication tool. His email address is pleshet@pcsb.org



PBIS Points

(Positive Behavior Intervention System)

By now you should have downloaded the app for PBIS Family. This is how we are communicating as a school with all our parents. Teachers also communicate with their individual families as well. If you need help please reach out to the front office, your child's teacher, or send us a note and we can help.

How do you feel about the app the school purchased?

Parents we are asking for your input. Please take the short 5 question survey. This gives us your input as a stakeholder. You can find the SURVEY on Sexton's website, sent by Mrs. Hubble over PBIS during the Thanksgiving break, or here:

Link for the parent survey: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=BZM8c9c5GkaGb3yePH0pubpyDexOpdXHbpZFCT1UNzFXNUdJVDZLSVBST1BaOFRBWjRSS1kwRy4u>

This month of December students can earn points:

Attending All Pro Dads and Moms Breakfast-10 points

December: I still have my badge! -20 points

Specific Praise: They can get 1-3 points from any teacher/staff on campus for being AMAZING!

December 18th will be our next BIG WHOLE SCHOOL REWARD.

It will be worth 100 points. Winter Wonderland...

Decorate a cookie, hot cocoa, dress in holiday colors for the day, and sing



If you would like to change your student transportation for the day or early release, please **call or pick up before 2:30pm**. This will help with communication between staff to make sure your student is in the right location for dismissal. To report a student absence we have a spot on the school website located at the top of the page " Report Student Absence" which will send an email to our DMT Cheryl Cunningham. You can also communicate this via Class Dojo.

Ms. Zaria, Front Office Staff



It's time to update your information!

If you have a new student starting school next year, here are the things that need to be done.

Parent Portal – make or update information

Make a reservation for your zone school (if you would like to go to a school outside of your zone.

- Things that you will need for registration:
- Birth Certificate
- Physical within the last year
- Updated Immunization records
- 2 proofs of address - electric bill, water bill, lease agreement, mortgage bill, homeowner insurance
- Any court documents that relate to the child
- Any other school records that may be helpful for your student
- FOR VPK: we must have the VPK voucher to register your child. You can go to Elcpinellas.org to get your voucher



If you have any questions or need help with any part of the process, feel free to contact Cheryl Cunningham at 727-570-3400 Ext. 2007, cunninghamc@pcsb.org or stop by the office between the hours of 9:00 – 2:00 and I will be more than happy to help you.

Cheryl Cunningham, DMT



Attention K-2 families:

We're puttin' on a show!

Wednesday, December 11 @ 5:30 pm.

As the North wind starts to blow and temperatures plummet to ten below,
a jazzy and finger-snappin' ensemble of snowflakes takes center stage.

Together, the Flakes and Snirts embark on a magical journey
with valuable lessons about uniqueness and unity
that celebrates the joy of winter and the beauty of individuality.

**Please complete brief form by Friday, Nov. 22 if your student is participating in the
show <https://forms.office.com/r/NgbX8K0caz>**

Simple costuming!

All K-2 students will need:

school-appropriate jeans and sneakers

a plain/solid (no logos) long/short-sleeve t-shirt -

white (snowflakes), or grey/black (snirts)

a pair of sunglasses



A BIG THANK YOU

Sexton would like to **THANK** the following businesses for their generosity to our school & students for the month of November, Dunkin Donuts on MLK, Popeyes Chicken, Local Pizza Company, Evo's Restaurant, Greenlane Restaurant, Astro Skate & Smugglers Cove Maderia Beach. Your kindness and commitment to Sexton is greatly appreciated.



Great American Teach-In

Sexton Elementary would like to THANK all the AMAZING Presenters who joined us for the GREAT AMERICAN TEACH IN. This year our campus was filled with every profession from fossil hunting to holding a baby alligator. Thank you all for taking time out of your busy schedule to meet with our kiddos.

TampaBay Rescues Discovery Center – Casey Walenda

Native American Presentation - Karen Welch, Cathleen Dickman & Charles Dunning

St. Petersburg Fire Department – Lt. Bieber-Rehsi, Firefighters Gaytan & Lawson

Air Ambulance Worldwide – Jill Cimakasky & Mindy LeGault

Code Black Fossils – Nilson Clark & Melanie Atkinson

Southeastern Guide Dogs – Elaine Ebaugh, Kelly Turner & Laura Vetro

Sunkissed Photography – Amanda Mayer

Coastal Waste Management – Mitchell Bower & Christina Rotella

PSTA – Devan Deal & Kyle Young

Mental Health Advocate – Michelle Ferrone

Medical Healthcare Nurse – Jean Torres

Go Smile Dentistry – Dr. Lynne

St. Petersburg Aviation Services – Pilot Jack Tunstill

Dr. Gross



We're also extremely grateful to Dunkin Donuts located at 7595 4th Street North for donating refreshments for this event!! Thank you for your support and commitment to our school and your community. □

Tutoring and Enrichment Clubs

Hurricane update: Because we had a few days off for the hurricane we are going to extend tutoring and clubs. Thank you, parents, for making sure pick-up time is at **4:15pm**. Dates for the rest of the school year for clubs/tutoring are as follows:

November 5th, 6th, & 7th
November 12th, 13th, & 14th
November 19th, 20th, & 21st
December 3rd, 4th, & 5th
December 10th, 11th, & 12th

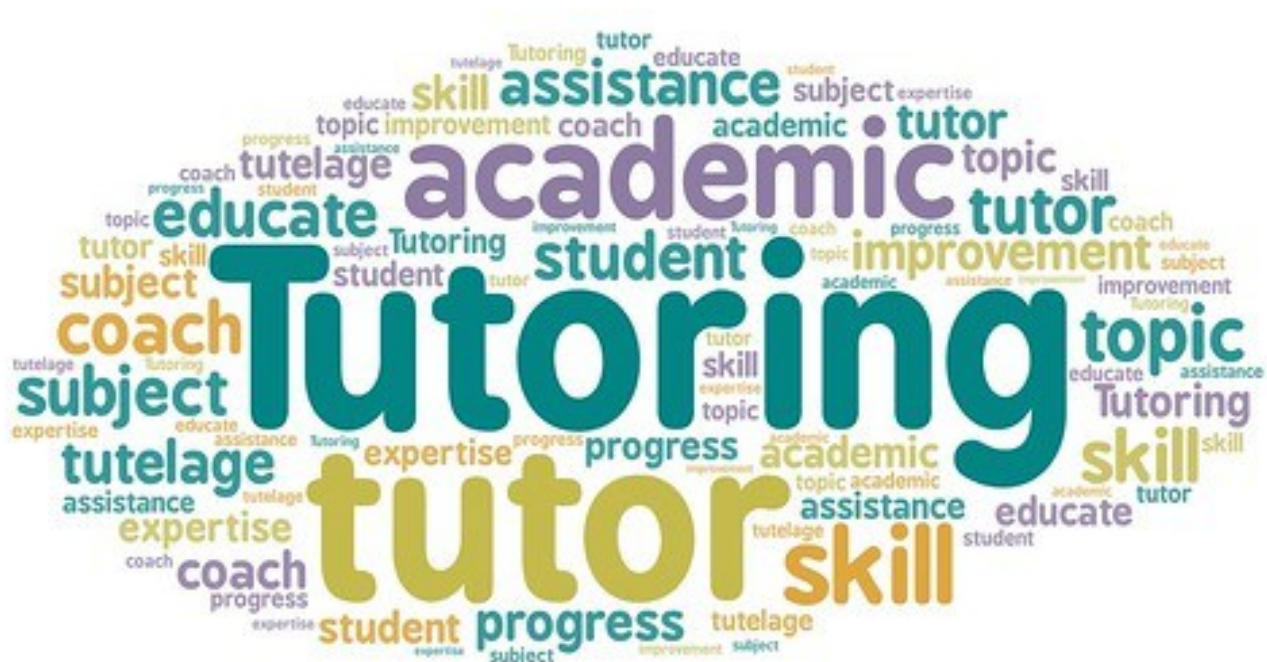
Holiday Break

January 14th, 15th, & 16th
January 21st, 22nd, & 23rd
January 28th, 29th, & 30th

December 9th I will be sending home the flyer to sign up for the spring session for tutoring and clubs. If your child is already in tutoring or in a club and you want them to continue, you don't need to do anything. If you want your child to be signed up for tutoring or clubs, information will be going home the week of December 9th.

YREADS: Has openings as well. To enroll, please contact Ms. Suzanne Daniels through email: sdaniels@stpeteymca.org. See YREADS openings:

Kindergarten-Monday
1st Grade-Tuesday





PARENTS *Night Out*

December 13th
6-8 pm
K-5 Students
**Sexton families
only please

Activities :

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Music | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Movies |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Crafts | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Snacks |

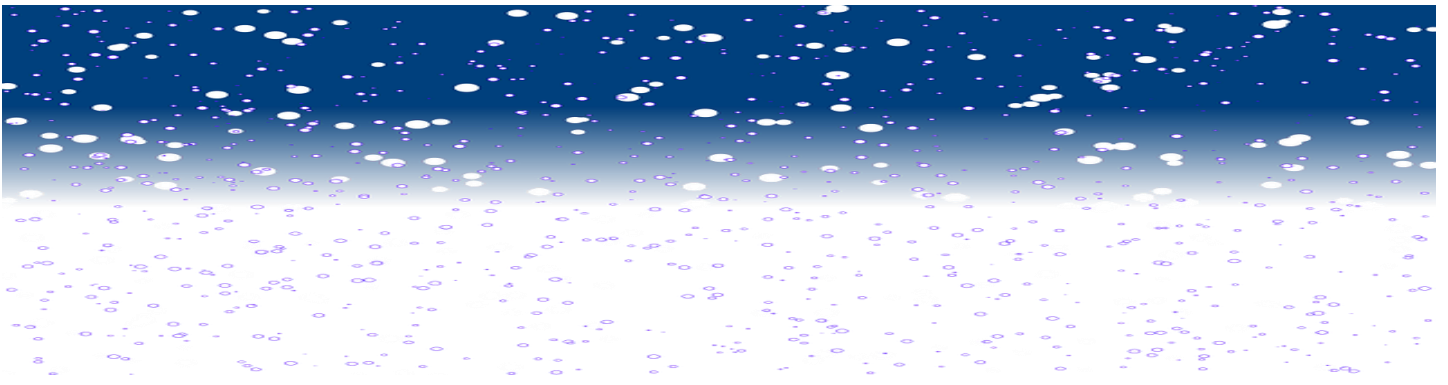


\$5 PER CHILD
\$10 PER FAMILY
LATE FEE APPLIED AFTER
8:00PM

Family Name: _____

Children attending: _____

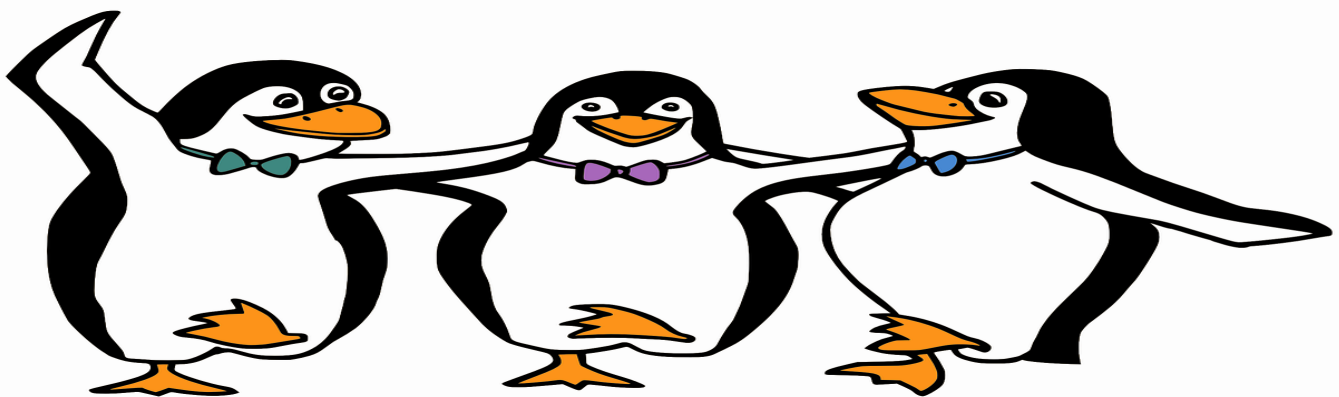
****Please return this to your child's teacher by 12/10**



Dear Sexton Families,

We are excited to announce that the Penguin Patch is coming to our school! This store will be an opportunity for students to purchase items for their family members for the holidays. There are items starting as low as .25 cents and up to \$12.00. An envelope is going home with your child today to discuss the pricing and how much they get to spend on their family members for the holidays. Please discuss this with your child and we will do our best to accommodate all the people on their list. Send the envelopes with their name on them to school and the teachers will hold onto their money (in the envelope-no loose bills or coins) until their shopping day. Please send this envelope in before December 10th. Students can also do shopping during the week if they forgot someone on their list.

The store will be open December 10th-13th. All classes will be given a designated shopping time, that information will come closer to the store's opening. We are looking forward to providing our students with a fun shopping experience. See you at the penguin patch! Volunteers are needed, so if you would like to sign up for a shift or two, that paperwork is attached.





Volunteers MUST be registered through Pinellas County Schools. Contact Shella Salg if interested in participating. Salgs@pcsb.org

CALLING PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS, AUNTS AND UNCLES!

We need your help! We are hosting a Penguin Patch® Holiday Shop to let our students experience the joy of giving by assisting as they shop for friends and family.

Where: At our school

When: _____

Will you volunteer to help with the shop? The excitement of the students will warm your heart! Please contact me or return this completed form to your child's teacher by _____. I will call you to discuss details and confirm your scheduled day and time.

Thank you very much,

Penguin Patch® Chairperson Contact Information:

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

(cut here & return to your child's teacher)

Your Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Your Email Address: _____

Please circle day(s) you are available: M Tu W Th F

Times you are available: _____