



# CURTIS CHRONICLE

531 Beltrees Street Dunedin, Florida 34698

www.curtis-es.pinellas.k12.fl.us 727-738-6483

Richard Knight, Principal, KNIGHTRI@pcsb.org

Ward Kennedy, Assistant Superintendent, Area 1, 727-588-5023

## MARCH 2018

### Dates to Remember

- **March 2** -  
Open Court
  
- **March 12** -  
Hurricane Makeup Day
  
- **March 15th-22nd** -  
Book Fair
  
- **March 16** -  
Family Fun Night  
(counts as PTA meeting)  
5:00-8:00 PM
  
- **March 23** -  
Report Cards Distributed
  
- **March 24 to April 1** -  
Spring Break.  
No School For Students

### *From the desk of the Principal*



With March comes the beginning of the testing season. Throughout the month of March students will be taking the third round of ELA, Mathematics and Science MAP Computer Based Assessments. Our students are working hard to do their best each and every day to continue to show improvement. I know that with your support, our students will make gains and show what they know on the test!

Also, on March 6<sup>th</sup>, our fourth and fifth grade students will be taking the FSA Writing Assessment. The writing assessment is part of the fourth and fifth grade overall ELA score they will receive when it is combined with the Reading FSA Assessment they will take later on in the year. It is important that all fourth and fifth grade students are present and on time on March 6<sup>th</sup>. Testing will begin first thing in the morning. The Writing Assessment is a 120 minute test with breaks built in throughout the 120 minutes. I will be sending out School Messenger Messages to all families as a reminder. On that day we will have a silent campus until all students are finished testing. Any fourth or fifth grade student that arrives on campus after testing has begun will not be able to enter their classroom until testing is completed for the day. Students tardy will take the test on a make-up day.

I hope everyone has a wonderful month. Take some time over Spring Break to reconnect as a family and have fun!

Sincerely,  
*Mr. Richard Knight*

### School Mission

Teachers, students, staff, parents and community are partners in education. We join together to assure a focus on highest student achievement by implementing the Plan/Do/Study/Act cycle. Our goal is for each student to learn and to be successful.

## MEDIA NEWS

Our Spring Book Fair is coming. The Book Fair will run from **March 15 – 22**. Please look for volunteer sign-up that will be sent home soon.

Congratulations to all the students who qualified to participate in our school Battle of the Books. Our Battle will be held **April 13th**.



**THUMBS UP!**

**TO OUR CFN BROADCAST TEAM MEMBERS**

**JANUARY/ FEBRUARY**

**SCARLETT MCN, ELDAR Z,**

**MICHAEL W, CALLIE R**



Parents, with the beginning of Spring Training, the parking at the Dunedin Blue Jay's Stadium may not be available in the mornings on home game days. Please be mindful and if there is no parking there, please either use the parent lot off of Milwaukee or drive through the car line. Please do not park on side streets, in the grass or in the staff parking lot.



# ART ROOM NEWS



March is Youth Art Month! We are fortunate to be able to provide a strong visual art program to our students thanks to the additional funding that the tax referendum provides for the arts.

We have amazing artists at Curtis! Several of our students have been recognized in county wide art exhibits.

Congratulations to the following artists that were recognized recently at the Morean Art Center for their exceptional art work:

Carli T

Luke L

Mia H

Ryan W

Vicky F



Luke received a top honorable mention award and gift certificate for art supplies.

Vicky received a top award of excellence and a free week of summer art camp.

Congratulations to the following artists whose sculptures will be displayed in the upcoming 3+Dimensions Art Exhibit at Gibbs High School:

Emma G

Libby H

Jacqueline L

Madison P



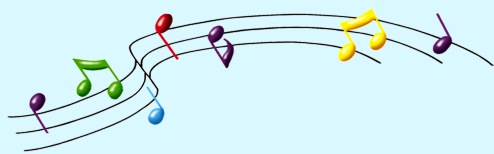
Congratulations to the following artists whose work was selected for the upcoming Youth Art Month exhibit at Clearwater Library:

Elliot E

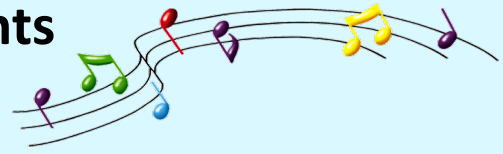
Olivia B

Sara B





## Musical Moments



The Song of the Month in March is The National Anthem written by Francis Scott Key in 1814. He was a lawyer and an amateur poet. Eventually his poem was partnered with a tune from England and in 1931 became our National Anthem!

**Kindergarten** – We are singing simple songs and playing instruments to accompany those songs. We are using body and hand gestures to show pitch.

**First Grade** – We are taking simple songs and making them more complex by learning how to read the pitches (Mi, Sol and La) and rhythms. Pitched instruments help accompany the songs we are learning and hand gestures help us understand pitch names.

**Second Grade** – There is a balance of enjoying music and being able to read it. We are understanding that pitches have names and we are trying to see where they live on the staff. Playing to accompany ourselves while singing music has been challenging but fun.

**Third Grade** – Our focus has been on playing the woodwind instrument called the Recorder. We are trying to read rhythms and notes while covering the right holes in tempo.

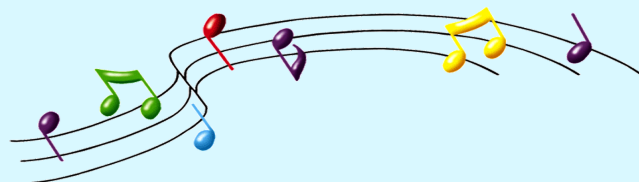
**Fourth and Fifth Grade** – Reading pitch and rhythm has been our focus. We touched on reading key signatures but have been diving into finding Do (pitch) and using the other pitches to figure out how the song sounds. Notating patterns would be an amazing step but we are not completely there yet.

**Chorus** – Our concert is Tuesday, May 8th at 6p.m. We will probably have our Dress rehearsal that morning.

We have been blessed to have Clearwater Jazz Festival Outreach program share their music with 3rd, 4th and 5th grade. Their concert was February 16th.

Pinellas Community Orchestra came and performed amazing music for the entire school on Friday, February 23rd. We had two of our students perform for the school as well.

**All County Honors Chorus** – Congratulations to Grace L, Jameson C and Leila M for representing Curtis at the Honors Chorus concert coming up at First Baptist Church in St. Petersburg on March 10th!





# PE News



## Jump Rope for Heart

Thank you to everyone that donated money during our Jump Rope for Heart event!! Thanks to our wonderful Curtis families, we were able to exceed our school goal of \$9,000.00!!! Curtis raised **\$12,100.00!!!** That is truly amazing.....the most donations we have ever collected for the American Heart Association!

Following are the class winners:

K: Bakewell \$1055.00

1st: Miller \$340.00

2nd: Houser \$365.00

3rd: Johnson \$1005.00

4th: Eberle \$415.00

5th: Rizzo \$1251.00

Thank you again for your support!!!

## Motor Skills Challenge

All 4th and 5th grade students had the opportunity to participate in our Motor Skills Challenge. This challenge is a set of 6 motor skills that the students had several opportunities to accomplish. Students that were able to accomplish 6 out of 6 skills will be receiving a gold pin, 5 out of 6 a silver pin, and 4 out of 6 a bronze pin. We are very proud of all of them for their persistence and perseverance! All 4th and 5th grade parents will also get the opportunity to participate in the Motor Skills Challenge at our April PTA meeting.

K-2 grade students just finished a Throw/Catch Unit while 3-5 grades just completed a Targets Unit. We had such fun watching the throwing and catching skills of our primary students develop! Our intermediate grades focused on throwing for accuracy, defensive and offensive strategies and we talked a lot about how to work together as a team.

### Upcoming:

K-2: Rhythms

Dribbling

3-5: Chase/Flee/Dodge

Fitnessgram

All: Spring Games

**Mark your calendars...Monday, May 21 is Field Day!!** The entire school will participate and it is all day once again this year!! We will need many volunteers. More information will be sent home as the date gets closer.



PTA Connection  
presents

# COUGARS' ROAR

Curtis Fundamental  
Elementary  
**PTA**  
everychild.onevoice.

**MARCH 2018**

Mr. Richard Knight  
**Principal**

Kelly Westerlund-Pena  
**PTA President**

Laura Daniels  
**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Public  
Relations**

Sherri Amato  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Volunteer  
Coordinator**

Lauren Thacker  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President, Programs**

Char Leininger  
**Treasurer**

Estelle Valsamis  
**Recording Secretary**

Anne-Maire Nurnberger  
**Corresponding Secretary**

**Like us on Facebook:**  
[www.facebook.com/  
CurtisFundamentalElementary](http://www.facebook.com/CurtisFundamentalElementary)

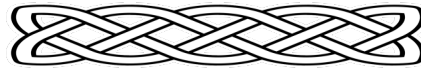
### CONTACT US

**Curtis T-Shirts:**  
[curtisteeshirts@gmail.com](mailto:curtisteeshirts@gmail.com)

**Yearbook:**  
[curtisyarbook@outlook.com](mailto:curtisyarbook@outlook.com)

**All other PTA questions/  
comments:**  
[curtiscougarspta@gmail.com](mailto:curtiscougarspta@gmail.com)

### *A message from your PTA*



As we march towards Spring we edge closer to our biggest event of the year. Family Fun Night is set for March 16th! We will have fun and games, great food and amazing baskets for you to bid on and win! Don't forget to take lots of pictures and upload them to our yearbook website. Pre-order forms for food and tickets will be going home soon . Its sure to be an amazing night. See you there!

### **#PTAPROUD**

The recent tragedy at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School has set each and every parent, grandparent, sibling, family and community member back on their heels. The heaviness of this horrific act has suffocated us with grief, sadness, hopelessness and hurt. Florida PTA has a long and successful legacy of fighting for the safety, health and well-being of ALL children in our state and will continue to do so. We ask that you please keep them in your hearts and find ways to honor them with your advocacy and actions.

The PTA at **Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School** is selling MSDStrong t-shirts to raise money for the families of victims killed in the school shooting. 100 percent of the proceeds will go to the victims' families, first responders and the Stoneman Douglas High School Memorial Fund. Please visit [www.lovemsd.com](http://www.lovemsd.com) to purchase your t-shirt and support this PTA chapter through this terrible time.





**MARCH 16th, 2018**

**5:00-8:00pm**

The luck of the Irish will be with you when you join us at Family Fun Night 2018! Pre-order forms will be coming home soon!

## **VOLUNTEERS**

We need volunteers!

Please use our signup genius to see volunteer opportunities:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0945a4ab28a0f85-family3>

Shifts are one hour each. Various areas need to be staffed for the duration of the night to make the event successful. We can all help a *little* and have a *lot* of fun with our families.

**DODGE BALL  
PHOTO BOOTH  
BOUNCY HOUSES  
GOLF  
FACE-PAINTING  
WATER BALOON BURST**

## **BASKETS & LIVE AUCTION**

As always we will have amazing themed classroom baskets and live auction items including hotel stays, rounds of golf, summer camps, tickets to SeaWorld, Universal, Busch Gardens & much more!

## **FOOD VENDORS**

Choose an awesome food truck to get dinner. We will have: Fishin Chicken (chicken tenders and fish tacos), Engine 53 (pizza and salad), and Clear Sky Draught House (menu t.b.d.)

Kona Ice, Cafe Getaway & Mookies  
Popcorn

## **Music & Entertainment**

Music will be provided by Mr. Brad. Other special guests include Dunedin Fire Rescue, Mad Science of Tampa, Clearwater Marine Aquarium, McGough Nature Park, Highland Dance, Dunedin Library and more!



Did you know you can order your Curtis yearbook online, upload photos for inclusion and purchase personalized ads. You can find your purchased ad under the "My Stuff" link just press "Edit" to design.

Goto: <https://commpe.pictavo.com>

Questions? e-mail : [CurtisYearbook@outlook.com](mailto:CurtisYearbook@outlook.com)

## Treasurer's CORNER

Balance from 1/16-2/23

Opening Balance: \$19,129.97

Current Balance: 19,663.45

We made \$10,377.02 from Curtis Spirit Fundraiser, Community Activities, Yearbook, PTA membership

We spent \$9,843.54 on purchasing T-shirts, Community Activities, Curriculum Enhancement, Tech Support, Classroom Support/Class Sponsors and Teacher development

## 5TH GRADE POT O'GOLD



Calling all leprechauns...

If the change in your pockets is getting too heavy the fifth grade class is getting ready. The Pot o'Gold is coming your way so bring your change to school each day.

**March 1-23**, look for the green pots. Proceeds go towards the 5th Grade Celebration. All donations are greatly appreciated.



# FIFTH GRADE CELEBRATION

**Calling all 4th Grade parents:** Volunteers are needed on May 23rd for the fifth grade program on campus. If you are interested in helping, or if you would like to plan the celebration next year, this would be great opportunity to learn the process. Please contact Kristie Lyerly at 727-422-6874.

**All Parents:** If you are in the food and/or restaurant industry and would be willing to donate food items for the celebration, contact Eda Seibert at [eda.seibert@gmail.com](mailto:eda.seibert@gmail.com). Keep in mind you maybe eligible to deducted the donation from your taxes, and your business will be recognized in the 5th Grade Celebration Program.

**5th Grade Parents:** Do you want to see your child on the BIG SCREEN? You must submit photos for the slideshow. Please email your photos to Maria Narvaez at [mariaeugenianarvaez@gmail.com](mailto:mariaeugenianarvaez@gmail.com). We are collecting three pictures per student: baby/toddler, recent picture and group picture (2 or more students).



## WE NEED YOU!

We are looking for parents to join the School Advisory Council (SAC) for the 2018/2019 school year. The mission of SAC is to enrich the learning environment at Curtis by establishing educational priorities, assessing improvement progress and providing leadership opportunities for each of the communities served by the school.



The Council consists of parents, business partners, teachers and school support staff. SAC meets once a month for an hour during the school year. If you are interested in joining SAC or would like additional information, please contact Eda Seibert at [eda.seibert@gmail.com](mailto:eda.seibert@gmail.com).