



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 3, 727-588-5023

OCTOBER 2017

Dates to Remember

- October 2 -

Picture Retakes

8:00-2:00 p.m.

- October 4 -

Walk To School Day

7:30-8:00 a.m.

Level II Background Check

8:15 a.m. in cafeteria

- October 6 -

Open Court 8:15 a.m.

Bowling Day 2:30-4:30 p.m.

- October 10 -

PTA Meeting 7:00 p.m.

- October 20 -

Trunk or Treat

6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

- October 27 -

Report cards distributed

Dear Curtis Families,

As we move into the month of October, we are looking forward to many opportunities to come together as a community of learners. From our Open Court, our Family Bowling Night to our PTA Curriculum Meeting, each night is a chance for families to meet one another and grow bonds that allow Curtis to be the wonderful school that it has become. I truly believe that it is because of our ability to come together as a community, that we were able to have such a smooth transition from our break due to Hurricane Irma.

I am excited for all of the outstanding activities we have planned for October as well as our first round of parent/teacher conferences. These conferences are a great time for you as parents to ask questions of your child's teacher that you may not have had a chance to ask, as well as find out ways to support your child both at school and at home.

I look forward to seeing everyone in the coming days and weeks. Have a great October!

Sincerely,

Richard Knight

Principal

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.



Art News



Congratulations to the following Curtis artists who have art work hanging in the Pinellas County School Board office this school year:



Aitana P
Kaia M
Joshua S
Mia H
Katie C
Layla L
Jenna W
Tatum F
Kaelyn A
Aria C



What's happening in the art room:

Kindergarten artists are learning about line varieties that artist use in their art. We have had fun cutting, gluing, drawing and painting all kinds of different lines.

First grade artists are learning to use overlapping shapes and patterns in their art with a variety of lines. They painted a line city and are now working on hands with patterns in them.

Second grade artists have been learning how artists use texture in art. They have drawn some adorable fluffy teddy bears and are now working on a scaly fish painting.

Third grade artists have been learning to show depth in their art with overlapping shapes and by changing the size and placement of an object to show distance. They drew a scarecrow from observation and added the scenery around it from their imagination.

Fourth grade artist are learning about values in art. They mixed values to paint an underwater background and are painting in their choice of plant and sea life.

Fifth grade artists are getting a firsthand experience in designing a consumer product by creating their own license plate design through a program called Kids Tag Art. The license plates will be available for purchase on the kidstagartpinellas.com website after Nov. 17.

THUMBS UP!

TO OUR CFN BROADCAST TEAM MEMBERS

SEPT. 18 – OCT. 6TH

Sara B , Rachel B, Trevor F, Luke N



BOWLING DAY



WHEN: Friday, Oct 6th 2:30-4:30

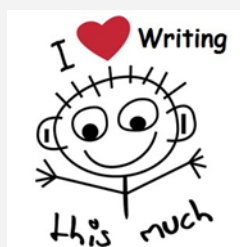
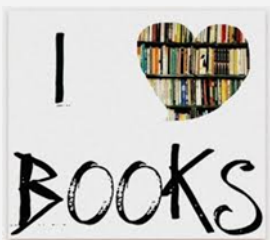
WHERE: Dunedin Lanes

Tickets on Sale October 2-6 from 7:30-8:00am in the courtyard. \$10 includes unlimited bowling & shoes for 2 hours.

CURRICULUM NOTES

Happy October! Hurricane Irma has passed, and the students and staff are back in the school groove. During the month of October, the focus in **Reading** is Informational Text. First grade will become experts about life science topics by reading a lot of books, while second grade will read about America; third, fourth and fifth grades will join first grade by reading about life science. **Writing** instruction will vary. Kindergarten will be writing personal narratives, first grade will write about topics they have read, and second grade will be writing "All About" books. Third grade will write all about books and essays while fourth grade changes things up by writing field guides, brochures, and informational articles. Fifth grade takes on the challenge of writing research reports. In **Math**, students move into using operational strategies. Kindergarten will continue to reinforce recognition of numbers and counting 0-10 and will also work with shapes; first grade will put learned concepts into action as they learn different strategies for addition and subtraction; second grade will work on addition & subtraction of basic facts and their relationships, while third grade dives into multiplication; fourth grade will finish up multiplying by one- and two-digit number and moves into dividing by one-digit numbers; and fifth grade will add and subtract decimals. The emphasis in **Science** for kindergarten is Physical while grades 1-5 continue to focus on Life. Units vary from grade to grade, but there's always something exciting to learn in science!

***Assessment notice:** Due to Hurricane Irma, teachers will continue to assess students' level of progress in reading, math, and science through the first 2 weeks of October. This baseline data will allow the teachers to refine their lesson plans to student needs. As always, continued support at home with your child's learning is essential to ensure their academic growth. Fundamental parents are the best!



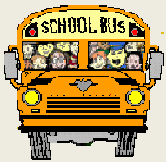


Our library is hosting the fall Scholastic Book Fair from **Nov. 13th-17th**

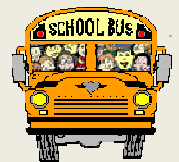
The book fair will be open for classes to preview and purchase on Nov. 13th and Tuesday Nov. 14th and Thursday Nov. 16th during school hours. The book fair will be open for evening purchases from **5:00PM-8:00PM** on Tuesday, Nov. 14th.

On **Monday and Wednesday, Nov. 13th & 14th**, book fair shopping hours are from 8:00AM – 4:00PM. (**Hours have been extended to allow shopping with your child** during after school activity pick-up and open for shopping on Friday, Nov. 17th, from 8:00AM – NOON. **All profits from our book fair go towards the library and technology needs of the school.** 'Google' Curtis Fundamental Book Fair to find our online book fair page.

FIELD TRIPS



October 2, 2017 – Schroeder's class is going to Brooker Creek
October 4, 2017 – Blacklin's class is going to Brooker Creek
October 19, 2017 – Eberle's class is going to Brooker Creek
October 13, 2017- Kindergarten has a visit from the Fire dept.



Log in with **Clever**



Using iStation, STMath or ThinkCentral from home has changed. Students this school year from school and home should use Clever to log in to programs.

Instructions can be viewed on the Curtis website under the
Resources>Digital Resources tab

Musical Moments

We will begin a Melody unit. All students will be learning how to sing correctly and in tune.

If you would like to help at home you can have them listen to excellent quality singers. I definitely feel kids should be exposed to a variety of different styles of music. I hope you are expanding your own horizons and trying to listen to various types of music.

K- I will be trying to help all children find their voice. Singing correctly helps children be a more in tune adult and usually helps them with organization and thinking skills.

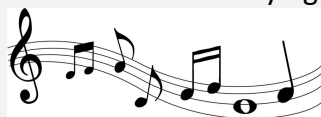
1st - I'll be continuing to help the children find their singing voice. We want happy musical adults who love to sing in the future. We will begin to explore what pitches are and begin learning Solfeggio (Do, Re, Mi, Fa, Sol, La, Ti, Do). Once we understand the big connection to pitches, we will focus on just a few pitches and songs that use them.

2nd - Not only will we continue to find our singing voice but we also will be reading melodic patterns (Solfeggio- Do, Re, Mi, Fa, Sol, La, Ti, Do). Once we see the big picture of pitches we will focus on reading a select few. We will be comparing written melodies to what they hear.

3rd - Hopefully the students will know how to find their singing voice at this age. If not, I will be helping as much as possible. We will be learning to sing unison songs while maintain pitch. As an adult, you don't want to sing a song and then it ends up totally not sounding anything like the song you started out singing. We will be reading and notating melodic phrases using Do, Re, Mi, So and La. We will learn all the solfeggio but we will focus mainly on the pitches stated before. We will be comparing aural (heard) melodic patterns to written and determining if they are the same or different.

4th - At this stage of the game we hope all children are able to sing in tune and with proper technique. The children will be singing melodic patterns using solfeggio (Do, Re, Mi, Fa, Sol, La, Ti, Do) while maintaining pitch. We hope to play melodic patterns with proper technique as well. An finally we will be reading and notating melodic phrases as well as matching aural patterns to written patterns.

5th - This is the year your student will be tested on their ability to sing solfeggio (Do, Re, Mi, Fa, Sol, La, Ti, Do). I will continue to help the children sing with proper technique. We also will be working on singing rounds which requires lots of concentration and good technique. We will be singing melodic patterns and reading and notating melodic phrases. We also will be identifying visually what pattern we heard played.



Chorus- Concert is Tuesday, December 5th at 6p.m. We will be having some after school auditions in the near future. Information to be sent home soon.

All State Chorus- Thank you to the 5th graders in Chorus who worked hard to prepare for their audition. I have never auditioned children for the opportunity before.

All County Chorus- more information to come home soon regarding this opportunity

**possible 4th and 5th grade field trip in the future to see The Master Chorale of Tampa Bay. This is not set in stone yet. Keep your eyes peeled.



PTA Connection
presents

COUGARS' ROAR

Curtis Fundamental
Elementary
PTA
everychild.onevoice.

OCTOBER 2017

Mr. Richard Knight
Principal

Kelly Westerlund-Pena
PTA President

Laura Daniels
**1st Vice President, Public
Relations**

Sherri Amato
**2nd Vice President, Volunteer
Coordinator**

Lauren Thacker
3rd 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

Yearbook:
curtisyarbook@outlook.com

**All other PTA questions/
comments:**
curtiscougarspta@gmail.com

A message from your PTA



Happy Fall! It is hard to believe that October is here. September was certainly a challenging month. Hurricane Irma did her best to disrupt routines and make daily life difficult. We are happy to put it behind us and get busy organizing our fall events. The highlight in October is Trunk or Treat. There will be tons of treats and tons of fun and lots of exciting decorated trunks provided by parent volunteers. See you there!

#PTAPROUD

With the money we get from member dues, sponsorships and fundraising **Curtis PTA** actively enhances student enrichment at the school



Curtis PTA pays for the following student enrichment:

Student Council

The Curtis Reading Challenge/Read Across America

Participation in the Might Mu Math Competition

Storytelling Festivals on campus

Dr. Seuss Celebration

PCTM - Math Mania T-Shirts

Author Visit to campus



Parents, thanks for supporting your PTA and making these things available to our students!

Trunk or Treat



We're excited to host the 2nd annual Curtis Family and Friends Trunk-or-Treat! This event will happen on campus on **Friday, October 20th** starting at 6:00 pm. It is a free event open to all Curtis families and friends.

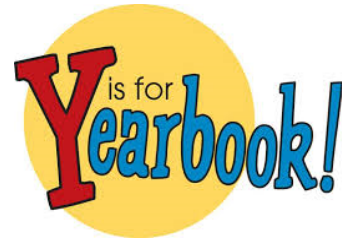
How can you help? We need some creative and crafty parents to decorate their trunks for the trick-or-treaters. Set up for parents with decorated trunks will start at 5:00 pm. At 5:45 gates to the parking lot will be closed for the safety of our walking trick or treaters. Trick or treating will end promptly at 7:30 pm where at that point decorated cars can leave the parking lot. Due to the safety of our trick or treaters, we'll need volunteers to help with parking and departure.

If you would like to participate in setting up a decorated trunk, contribute treats or small bottles of water for the event, or volunteer the evening of the event to monitor and help with setup, parking and cleanup please visit the sign

up genius:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0945a4ab28a0f85-trunk1>

Please email or call Nicole Delfino at nmdelfino@yahoo.com or [727-631-5418](tel:727-631-5418) with any questions.



Online Ordering and Community features through Pictavo won't become available until mid-late October. We will send an update when these features come online.

HOMework HELP

Dunedin Public Library offers FREE homework help. Youth Volunteers will help kids with their homework on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3 - 5 pm. No registration required. Contact Dunedin Public Library Youth Services for more information at 727-298-3080 ext. 1732.

upcoming EVENTS

Fall Fundraiser / Charleston Wrap

Beginning in October! Look for catalogue and order forms coming home soon.

Trunk or Treat

Friday, October 20th at the Curtis Campus.

Great American Teach In

Wednesday, November 15th
Curtis Campus



Do you love running? Do you love color? We need a volunteer who would be interested in organizing this years color run! Assistance and guidance will be provided. If you are interested please email curtiscougarspta@gmail.com



Membership Report

485 members in total, of which **134** are dads and **15** grandparents.

Thank you to everyone who has supported our school through PTA membership. You will be receiving your membership cards soon.

We are currently 15 people short of our 500 member goal for the year. We would also love a few more grandparents! It's not too late to join. Forms are located in the front office, or you can send your name, your child's name and \$7 in an envelope marked PTA membership to school with your child. Please consider helping our school by becoming a member.

Treasurer's CORNER

Monthly Report:

Curtis PTA's balance 8/8 - 9/20:

Opening balance- **\$20,874.02**

We deposited \$36,100.15 this included our 1st day packets, Amazon smile, Uniform resale and swim splash event

We withdrew \$12,707.24 for our insurance, PTA conference, Treasurer software, Boohoo breakfast, Maintenance lunch, Curtis T-shirt's, swim splash event, Curriculum events and Teachers using their funds from the PTA and class sponsors

Our current balance is **\$44,276.93**



CAR MAGNETS

Curtis Fundamental Car Magnets have been ordered. You too can have a paw for your car! Details to follow....

