



# CURTIS CHRONICLE

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Richard Knight, Principal, KNIGHTRI@pcsb.org  
Ward Kennedy, Assistant Superintendent, Area 1, 727-588-5023

NOVEMBER 2018

## Dates to Remember

- **November 2** -  
Open Court
- **November 12** -  
PTA Meeting/  
Reading Under the Stars
- **November 12** -  
Veteran's Day Program
- **November 12-16** -  
Book Fair
- **November 14** -  
Great American Teach In
- **November 19-23** -  
No school  
Thanksgiving Break
- **November 26** -  
Classes Resume

## *From the desk of the Principal*



Dear Curtis Families,

Fall is finally here! As we move through the month of November, please remember to take time to read with your child. One of the best ways to increase a child's reading level is by reading every day for at least 30 minutes. By spending time and reading either with your child or side by side, you show the importance of taking time every day to read.

As the temperature outside begins to become cooler, please remind your child to bring their jackets, sweatshirts and other items home with them daily. If they forget, make sure that they check our lost and found outside of the administration building.

We are excited to have our Reading Under the Stars event as our monthly PTA Meeting. Reading Under the Stars will be on Monday, November 12th from 7:00-8:00 PM. Please make sure you stop by the Book Fair during the evening.

Also, on November 12th, we will be having our annual Veteran's Day Program in front of the two-story building. This program will begin at 8:15 and all families are invited to attend.

Great American Teach In is also right around the corner. GATI will be on November 14th. We would love to have as many parents as possible come in and talk to our students about your jobs, hobbies or interests. Please contact Holly Wintermeier in the front office for more information and to sign up. 15 minutes of your time can mean so much for our students!

I wish everyone a wonderful month and a restful and relaxing Thanksgiving Break (November 19-23). I am thankful to be a part of such a wonderful school family.

Sincerely,

*Mr. Richard Knight*

**727-738-6483**

### 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.

# Counselor's Corner

**During Classroom Guidance in October, our topic was Conflict and Bullying.**

**Kindergarten:** We read the book *Don't Squeal Unless It's a Big Deal* and did an activity where the students determined if a situation was a "big deal" or "kid-sized problem". A "big deal" is a situation that involves people or things getting hurt, and it's an emergency. A "kid-sized problem" is a situation that kids can handle on their own by talking, listening, and helping others.

**First Grade:** We practiced Friendship Problem Solving. The students brainstormed qualities of a good friend. They then practiced what to say and do to make good choices solving conflicts between friends. They also practiced how to help when they see other friends having a conflict. The students role played various school situations in front of the class.

**Second Grade:** We read the book *Enemy Pie* and discussed the universal themes of acceptance, choices, friendship, conflict resolution, differences, perspectives, and relationships. The students then created their own "friendship pie" recipe, and drew a picture and wrote about a treasured friendship of their own.

**Third Grade:** Bullies 101 which included topics such as:

Roles, What Bullies Do, How Bullies Make You Feel, What Makes a Bully, Strategies to Handle Bullies, How Bystanders are Part of the Solution

**Fourth Grade:** We took a closer look at Relational Aggression. The students got into small groups and did role plays to gain the perspective of being in someone else's shoes.

**Fifth Grade:** We explored the difference between being a Bystander and being an upstander. The students got into small groups and discussed how becoming an upstander means taking risks. They finished by getting into a restorative circle and sharing a time when they were an upstander, or an upstander helped them.

**Classroom Guidance in November will focus on Gratitude.**

*Heidi Jolliffe*

Jolliffeh@pcsb.org



# Media Center News

The Curtis Fundamental Library is hosting the Fall Scholastic Book Fair from Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>

The book fair will be open for classes to preview and purchases on Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> and Thursday Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> during school hours. Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> as well as 8:00 - 3:00. The Book Fair will be opened until 12noon on Nov. 16<sup>th</sup>.

Hours have been extended to allow shopping with your child during after school activity pick-up and open for shopping on Friday, Nov. 16<sup>th</sup>, 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. We also will have an eWallet available if you want to use that for purchases.



**THUMBS UP!  
TO OUR CFN BROADCAST TEAM MEMBERS  
FOR SEPT. 24TH – OCT. 26TH**

**CAMBELL M.  
JOSEPH D.  
KRISTINA H.  
VICKI F.  
LILY N.**

# ART News

As we begin the month of November and the season of Thanksgiving, I am reminded of how grateful I am to be able to teach art at a school with such supportive administration, generous parents and most of all the BEST art students in Pinellas County. I really do love teaching your children art every day and feel very blessed to be at Curtis!

## **Artist in Residence Mosaic Project**

I am exciting to announce that we were awarded a \$2,500 grant by the Art Department of Pinellas County to have professional artist, Heather Richardson, come and work with our students in January to create a mosaic mural. The mural will be created out of hand made and donated tiles and will be comprised of several panels. The panels will include inspirational words and of course a cougar, our school mascot! When the panels are complete they will be installed on the façade of the cafeteria building.

### **How you can help:**

- Donate any leftover tiles you may have from a home improvement project. They must be glazed not porous (these hold up better in the elements).
- Volunteer to help collect tile from outside sources and deliver to school.

If you can help in either of these two ways please contact me via e-mail: [hilterbrandt@pcsb.org](mailto:hilterbrandt@pcsb.org)

Thank you for your continued support and have a wonderful

Thanksgiving!

*Linda Hilterbrandt*



The title "Musical Moments" is written in a bold, dark blue font. To the left of the text is a graphic of a treble clef and a series of colorful musical notes (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple) that curve across the page.

# Musical Moments

Song of the Month for November is America (aka: My County 'Tis of Thee)

**K/1** students are beginning to learn about various classroom instruments I have available (Metallophones, Xylophones, Glockenspiels, Triangles, Drums, etc.). During the month of November we will discover how to play each correctly and if they are pitched or unpitched.

We are learning how to hold the Ukulele and how to strum it. We also have created a sentence in each class that helps remind the kids what the string letters are. Maybe ask you child if they remember the sentence.

We also are learning how to share keyboards and how to change sounds on the keyboards. We are learning black keys and white keys and how to get around the keyboard

**2/3** students are continuing to practice classroom instruments they have used previously as well as some new instruments. During the month of November we will be learning how to separate each instrument into Metals, Skins (Membranes) and Woods. We have been practicing good mallet skills.

Our Ukulele time has been dedicated to making sure our Uke is being held correctly and played correctly. Many of us are practicing C chords but we have not all Mastered it yet.

During our keyboard time we practice the basics of the keyboard and sometimes we get to share with our partner what songs we have learned in piano lessons or songs we have just created together.





# Musical Moments

**4/5** students are using Mallet Madness to play various classroom instruments. We are 100% on task and focused when we learn in the exciting way. We will eventually be classifying instruments into Woodwind, Brass, Strings and Percussion.

Some days we get to use the Ukulele to accompany ourselves singing songs. We are constantly trying to play correctly and have a great time in the process.

Our Keyboard time is used to focus on really getting to understand reading music. We are learning to read symbols which is really all language is – Symbols! Hoping we will get many things accomplished on the keyboard this year!

## Chorus Announcements

**ALL STATE Chorus – CONGRATULATIONS to Anabela J. and Frankie O. for being accepted into the All State ensemble for January 2019!** In the 23 years I have been teaching I've only auditioned students twice. I'm not even sure Curtis has ever been recognized at All State! Great Job, Ladies!!

**5<sup>th</sup> grade All County Chorus** – Auditions will be held on Tuesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, Thursday November 14<sup>th</sup> from 7:30-7:55 and 2-2:30. 4 5<sup>th</sup> grade students from Curtis will be participating in All County. An email will be sent out soon to 5<sup>th</sup> grade Chorus students regarding All County.

**4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade Chorus** – We just finished up Auditions! So many talented kids!! We will be having some after school rehearsals to prepare for our Winter concert! The *tentative dates are November 29<sup>th</sup>, December 3, December 4<sup>th</sup> and December 6<sup>th</sup> in the Auditorium from 2-3:15p.m.* Our concert for the kids at school will be the morning of December 11<sup>th</sup>. **The Concert for parents and family will be Tuesday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 6p.m.**





# PE News



Primary grades wrapped up their Health/Wellness Unit and began a Rhythms/Dance Unit. They had such fun warming up to Rhythm Tag and learning their Character Parade dances. They spent the week using Lummi sticks in various ways. They learned how to perform the Cha Cha Slide while drumming on buckets, used the Lummi sticks to do the Macarena, and even created their own rhythms with partners!

Intermediate grades warmed up to Walk/Run Switch-A-Roo and learned their Character Parade dances. They had a ball playing Variations of Capture the Flag. Lots of teamwork, strategizing, and sportsmanship was demonstrated throughout this unit!

Upcoming activities include Fall games for all grade levels. Grades K-2 will be working with the parachute. Grades 3-5 will be learning football variations.

## Candy Drive

Just as a reminder...we are collecting candy through **November 6th**. We will be taking the candy to Dr. Kochenour's office and he is, once again, going to donate \$1.00 per pound of candy then send the candy overseas to the troops!!!

**Please put all candy in gallon Ziploc baggies.**





PTA Connection  
presents

# COUGARS' ROAR

Curtis Fundamental  
Elementary  
**PTA**  
everychild.one voice.

November 2018

Mr. Richard Knight  
Principal

Laura Daniels

**PTA President**

Amber Warren

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

Marley Lindlay

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

Sherri Amato

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

Char Leininger

**Treasurer**

Anne-Maire Nurnberger

**Recording Secretary**

Brittany Maglio

**Corresponding Secretary**

Cynthia Weclaw

**SAC Liaison**

**Like us on Facebook:**

[www.facebook.com/  
CurtisFundamentalElementary](http://www.facebook.com/CurtisFundamentalElementary)

**CONTACT US:**

**Curtis T-Shirts:**

[janacurtisshirts@gmail.com](mailto:janacurtisshirts@gmail.com)

**Yearbook:**

[curtisyearbook513@gmail.com](mailto:curtisyearbook513@gmail.com)

**All other PTA questions/  
comments:**

[curtiscougarspta@gmail.com](mailto:curtiscougarspta@gmail.com)

## A Message From Your PTA

The PTA would like to thank all families who donated to and in Trunk or Treat. The event was a success! Please join us for the next PTA meeting on Monday 11/12 for Reading Under the Stars.

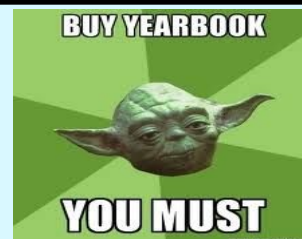


## Great American Teach In

Do you have a career, hobby, or interest that you'd love to share with our students? Parents are invited to join our school in celebrating the 23rd annual Duke Energy Great American Teach-In at Curtis Fundamental Elementary School on Wednesday, November 14, 2017. This is a great opportunity to volunteer at our school and a chance to share and interact with the students. Volunteers may speak to a single class, multiple classes, or stay for a full day. Presentations can involve sharing information about a career, hobby or personal experience, organizing an activity, reading a story or even teaching a class. Scheduling speakers has begun and your student's classroom mom should be reaching out to you to schedule your time to come and speak if you indicated an interest already. If you have any questions or would like additional information please contact Amber Warren at [ambermeganwarren@gmail.com](mailto:ambermeganwarren@gmail.com).



# Yearbook News



**ORDER YOUR YEARBOOK ONLINE AND SAVE!**

1. Login to <https://commpe.pictavo.com/> (new users search for Curtis then create a username and password) School ID: 77995
2. Click **Shop My School** and choose from the following items: yearbook, recognition ads \$15, sponsor page \$10, and well wishes \$7

\*Email your sponsor page and well wish sayings to [curtisyearbook513@gmail.com](mailto:curtisyearbook513@gmail.com)  
You can also upload pictures for consideration in the yearbook! Just select Upload Photos.

Don't hesitate to email the yearbook team at [curtisyearbook513@gmail.com](mailto:curtisyearbook513@gmail.com) with questions.

## Box Tops for Education



Thank you to all that donated box tops. Submissions came out to a total of \$540.90 for Curtis!

Congratulations to Mrs. McElveens 5th grade class.

They were the winners of the box top pizza lunch with Mr. Knight. We ask that you continue to save and clip those box tops; the next contest will be this winter!

### Volunteers!

Don't forget to log your volunteer hours!  
Visit <https://www.pcsb.org/domain/2080>  
and scroll to the bottom for a link and directions. Curtis loves volunteers!



### Yearbook Pictures

Do you have some great candid photos from some of the fun events so far this year?

If so, upload them to [commpe.pictavo.com](https://commpe.pictavo.com/) for consideration in the yearbook!

# Family Fun Night Planning

Want to help with Family Fun Night but not sure what to do?

The Family Fun Night Committee will be having a planning meeting on Monday, November 12th at 6:30 pm prior to the PTA Meeting scheduled that evening. We will discuss the multiple positions that need to be filled to make this a successful event for Curtis including: Volunteer Coordinator, Hospitality, Media Chair, T-Shirt Coordinator, Sponsorship Chair, Donation Coordinator, Games & Activities Coordinator, Food & Drink Coordinator, and Community Partner Coordinator.

## Help Wanted!

PTA is in search of someone interested in coordinating the Daddy Daughter Dance which will be held in February.

If you are interested, please contact Nicole Delfino at [nmdelfino@yahoo.com](mailto:nmdelfino@yahoo.com).

