

Leila G. Davis Elementary



2630 Landmark Drive
Clearwater, FL 33761
(727) 725-7972

December 18, 2020

Principal: William Durst
Assistant Principal:
Kathryn Gualtieri

Principal's Page

A Message from Mr. Durst

Happy Holidays Davis Families! As I reflect back on 2020 I am incredibly thankful for our Davis school community. Through these amazing times, you have been very supportive of our school, teachers, and most importantly your students. We have been through incredible highs and lows. Most importantly, we have made it to the end of this calendar year with the prospects of a brighter and hopeful 2021.

In the coming weeks and months we will continue to move our school community forward as we gradually return more and more students to our campus. With that said, our hope is that more of our MyPCS online students will return to Face-to-Face (F2F) instruction on our campus. While many students are succeeding with virtual learning, **many are struggling**. Our recent MAP assessment confirms that elementary aged students are far more successful with in-person teaching here in a classroom than at home. The performance difference between F2F students and virtual is quite compelling. For this reason, the governor has put in place provisions to encourage families to return to our school campuses statewide. If you are a MyPCS online family at Davis, please consider a return to F2F instruction beginning second semester on January 20. To reserve your seat back in one of our classrooms please visit our school website at <https://www.pcsb.org/davis-es> and select the "Change Your Student's Learning Option"! Continued...

Important January Dates:

- 12/21-1/1 Winter Holidays
- 1/4 - School Resumes
- 1/7 - Poblanos Mexican Grill Spirit Night
- 1/11 – Kindergarten Registration Begins
- 1/12 – Ready, Set,...Kindergarten (scheduled tours beginning at 5:30pm. Sign up will be posted soon)
- 1/13 – Read, Set,...Kindergarten Virtual Zoom Presentation 6:30PM
- 1/15 – End of First Semester
- 1/16 – All Pro Dad Meeting 9am
- 1/18 – No School Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
- 1/19 – No School Teacher Workday
- 1/21 Pizza Hut Spirit Night (use promo code: 1027)

Area 1 Associate Superintendent:
Mr. Ward Kennedy
(727) 588-5023



CONNECT WITH US

- Stay up to date by viewing our school website <http://pcsb.org/davis-es>
- Like us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/LeilaGDavisES/>
- Follow us on Twitter at https://twitter.com/LeilaGDavis_ES
- Join us on Remind to receive text messages. Text @leilad to 81010
- Sign up for Peachjar e-flyers at <https://www.peachjar.com>

Continued...

From there fill out the online form and submit. We ask that this form is completed by Sunday, January 3rd at 11:59pm so that we can adequately prepare our classrooms and instructional model for more students.

The good news to report is that our students have been making great academic and social-emotional progress this fall. A return to daily instruction and engagement in standards-based learning has produced tremendous growth. Please check back in our February edition of our newsletter for my "State of the School" report. Until then, continue to be safe this holiday season! Please enjoy yourselves and stay diligent in keeping our school community healthy and safe. Together we will come through on the other side stronger than ever!

Holiday Challenge



Enjoy the two week vacation with your family! During downtime and when your child says, "I'm bored!", have some fun with the Holiday Challenge. For every square completed and initialed by an adult, your child will earn 2 Bear Bucks! Your child will turn completed Holiday Challenge sheets to their teacher. All sheets are due by January 6th.



PBIS Rewards

As part of our School Improvement Plan, this system of rewards is designed for students to be recognized and rewarded for desirable student behavior. Students are rewarded **"Bear Bucks"**! Bear Bucks are rewarded in the classroom and school-wide.

Every student can be recognized by all staff. Bear Bucks can be redeemed in the class store or for school-wide events.

This PBIS initiative for our Face-to-Face and MyPCS students reaps big results for our students and us. The results can lead to improve attendance, positive behavior, and increased instructional time. Above all, moving our PBIS initiative forward will benefit our community at large over the long term. Strong, successful schools build strong, successful students. As a family, your commitment to PBIS this year can help our Bearcubs accomplish great things!

Teacher Spotlight



Happy Holidays! This is my 5th year at Leila Davis Elementary. I've been teaching Physical Education since 1990 in both Pinellas and Hillsborough County. I graduated from the University of Florida and

love the Gators!





I am so lucky to have the opportunity to teach at a wonderful school with an awesome staff and PE department. Teaching is a dream come true. I could not ask for a better job! I always wanted to do something with kids and sports. Nothing is more rewarding than being a teacher and getting to see the smiles on students' faces when they are having fun and/or learning something new out at PE.

When not teaching, I enjoy family time with my husband, two daughters and dog Kona. On the weekends we enjoy time outside walking, biking, golfing and going on JEEP rides to the beach or around town. I also like to watch a lot of sports on tv because I am a big sports fan, especially when it's football.

I would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy 2021! I am looking forward to the new year. Get outside and be active. The kids love to tell me when they get to spend time with their family!



Physical Education

Your PE Coaches
 Coach Daily
 Coach White
 Coach Stoll
 Coach Martinez

Super Sport Award

Students are chosen by PE coaches based on Good Sportsmanship, Attitude, Participation, Effort and Respect. Let's give a big shout out to these students!!!

December PE Super Sports

Pre-K - Dakota Willett
 Kindergarten - Xavier Combs
 1st Grade - Charlotte Harrigan
 2nd Grade - Lyla Poulter
 3rd Grade - Gabriella Royce
 4th Grade - Greyson Royce
 5th Grade - Alexis Moye

January PE Super Sports

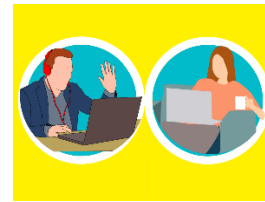
Pre-K - Thiago Olguin
 Kindergarten - Keegan Ray
 1st Grade - Drew Bell
 2nd Grade - Daniel Arroyo
 3rd Grade - Emma Ramirez
 4th Grade - Jax Willett
 5th Grade - Bryson Riggins

January 13th at 6:30PM there will be a virtual Zoom presentation for those that cannot make the tour or have additional questions. Here is the information to join the virtual meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting Here:

<https://zoom.us/j/99975828379>

Meeting ID: 999 7582 8379



Prekindergarten Application Opportunities

Pre-K 3 is for children who will be 3 years old on or before Sept. 1 of the school year they are participating. Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) is a free, state-funded program that prepares children for kindergarten. To participate, children must be 4 years old on or before Sept. 1 of the school year they are participating.

- *Applying for VPK for the 2020-2021 school year:* Beginning Jan. 4, Pinellas County Schools will offer free, full-day VPK at select locations throughout the county. This opportunity is only available for families who have not yet used their VPK Certificate of Eligibility (voucher) at a VPK program. Seats are available on a first come, first served basis. The district is accepting applications now.
- *Applying for next school year (2021-2022):* Families interested in Pre-K 3 or VPK for next school year will be able to apply Jan. 19 through Feb. 1. To participate in VPK, families should apply for a VPK Certificate of Eligibility (voucher) from the Early Learning Coalition beginning Jan. 1, 2021.

To learn about Prekindergarten opportunities, visit www.pcsb.org/early or call 588-6513.

Kindergarten registration for next school year begins Jan. 11

Registration for next school year begins Jan. 11. Families will have opportunities to meet teachers, register for school and learn how to get their children ready for kindergarten. Details to come. If you have questions, call Student Assignment at 727-588-6210.

Ready, Set...Kindergarten Orientation

January 12th from 5:30PM – 7PM we will be conducting tours for our new kindergarten families. Tours will rotate and they will be in small groups to adhere to the social distancing guidelines. A Sign Up Genius will be available to sign up for a specific time slot to take your tour. Each time slot is available for a family of 4 or less (includes children). Be on the look out for the Sign Up Genius.

All Family Members Welcomed

ALL PRO DAD
Online Virtual Meeting

SATURDAY JAN 16TH
9:00AM

TOPIC: SELF-DISCIPLINE

WHAT TO EXPECT

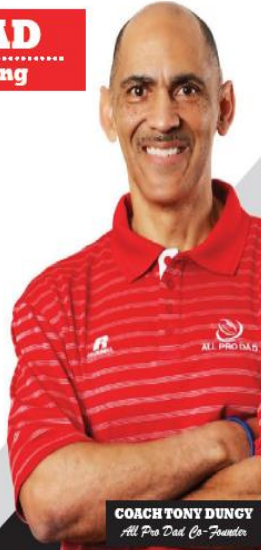
- 1 Online Breakfast | Bring Your Own Breakfast to enjoy
- 2 Pride Exercise | Tell your child why you are proud of them
- 3 Character Building Topic | Based on our monthly theme
- 4 Team Up Online | With other dads and kids
- 5 Discussion Time | Both group and family discussions
- 6 Pro Tips | Downloadable activity sheets to be posted
- 7 Game Time | Partake in an online game with the group

For more information email allpredad_leiladavis@aol.com

GOOGLE MEET LINK
meet.google.com/kao-ajjg-pfq

SCAN TO JOIN

COACH TONY DUNGY
All Pro Dad Co-Founder



Please Remember to Log In and Re-activate your Volunteer Status and update your e-mail so you can receive Volunteer and School Event Information.

- If you are a returning volunteer you do **NOT** need to complete a new volunteer registration form. Please log in to your profile and check to make sure all your information is up to date. Go to <https://focus.pcsb.org/volunteer>. Use your v.account information, username (v.last name first initial) example: v.smithd and password (first letter capitalized immediately followed by 4 digit birth year) example: Smith1975.
- If your child is attending a new school, please contact the Family & Community Liaison at the new school and ask to have your volunteer profile connected to the new school.

Level II Fingerprints



Have you gone for your fingerprints for your Level II volunteer status, but have not gotten your Level II badge? If so, contact Mrs. Reed at reeddom@pcsb.org so you can get your paperwork for your badge.

How do I become a volunteer? Log on to www.pcsb.org/volunteerregistration and fill out the online application. Put an up to date email on your application and you will receive a notice that you have been approved and it will include your username and password for your volunteer profile.



Adopt-A-Class & Program Sponsorship

Our students truly benefit from the sponsorships created for the school. With the additional funds provided through these relationships, our students are offered additional opportunities that may not have been otherwise possible without the assistance of our community members. There are continuing budget cuts which makes it imperative that we reach out to our families and community for support. If you are interested in sponsoring a class, please see the front office or your child's teacher for more details.

Davis Business Partner (\$350 and up)

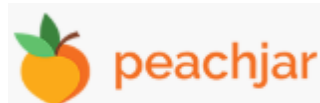
Davis Dreamers (\$300 and above)

Davis Partner (\$200-\$299)

Davis Friend (\$100-\$199)

Davis Associate (up to \$99)

In Kind Donations:



Events and information are posted on Peachjar. To register and receive all school e-flyers go to

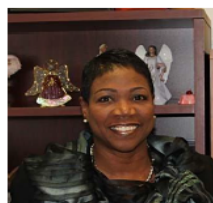
www.peachjar.com. If you are already signed up for Peachjar at another school, just add our school by going to your profile and clicking on "My Account," then click on notification preferences and choose our school.

Mentor Month

Thank you so much to our Lunch Pals who are mentoring our students via Microsoft Teams during the pandemic. We are so thankful for your flexibility as we work through this year. We wanted to give you all a big shout out to say THANK YOU!



Mentor Coffee Hour



Join our monthly Virtual Mentoring Coffee Hour, we will provide updates on virtual mentoring, and you can network with other mentors, share your experiences, and discuss best practices to drive the conversation.

Coffee Hour Topic:
The Gift of Transformation

Key Note: **Dr. Valerie Brimm, Director**
Office of Strategic Partnerships, Family & Community Relations

Join us Monday Morning - January 25th, 2021
11:30 to 12:30 P.M.

Register Here!

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMoc-quqDorHtf3fjoWomyblbtPhjSnZ81>

Lunch Pal



Mentors Needed

If you love children and want to make a difference in their lives, please come mentor students in need of a good role model to teach them how to succeed in life. It will only take 30 minutes of your time each week to make a difference with a child. *(We are currently only doing virtual mentoring until further notice.)* Here is a list of training workshops available:

Lunch Pal Training Dates

- 1/6/2021 - 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- 1/14/2021 - 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
- 1/27/2021 - 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
- 2/11/2021 - 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
- 2/16/2021 - 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
- 2/25/2021 - 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Sign up at <https://www.pcsb.org/lunchpals>

Business Partners

2020-2021



875 Cypress St, Tarpon Springs · (727) 938-5778



2680 Landmark Drive Clearwater, FL 33761



Kiwanis Club of Safety Harbor
P. O. BOX 312
Safety Harbor, FL 34695



2451 N. McMullen Booth Rd.

Clearwater, FL 33759



Counselor's Corner

Vanessa Lofstedt, M.A.

lofstedtv@pcsb.org

(727) 725-7972

Classroom Lessons

As a part of my comprehensive school counseling program, I visit classrooms approximately once every six weeks to provide direction instruction on a variety of topics. Classroom lessons fall into the academic, career, and/or personal-social domains and are aligned with the [Florida Standards, Florida School Counseling Framework](#), and the [American School Counseling Association mindsets and behaviors](#).

My November lesson topics included:

- Kindergarten** – Diversity
- 1st grade** – Tattling vs. reporting
- 2nd grade** – Career exploration
- 3rd grade** – Conflict resolution
- 4th grade** – Tolerance and giving compliments
- 5th grade** – Career exploration



Thank you to all the families and staff members who picked a star from our Holiday Giving Tree! With your support, we helped 32 children from 13 families have a merry Christmas!

Clothing Assistance

Clothes to Kids provides new and quality used clothing to low-income, school-age children in Pinellas County, free of charge.

Requirements for Shopping at Clothes To Kids

(1) You must live in Pinellas County. (2) Your child(ren) must be school-age (4 year old PreK-12th grade) and attend a Pinellas County school. (3) Your family must be considered to be in financial need of assistance.

If you receive free/reduced lunch, call Clothes to Kids at 441-5050 to schedule an appointment. You will need your free/reduced lunch letter to shop.

If you do not receive free/reduced lunch, but need assistance, you may be able to receive a referral to Clothes for Kids from Mrs. Lofstedt (school counselor) or Mrs. Cohen (the school social worker). Once you receive the referral, you can call Clothes to Kids to schedule your appointment. Eligible children may shop twice in a twelve-month period (a referral is needed each time).

REQUIRED CHILD TRAFFICKING PREVENTION EDUCATION

Florida requires that all students in Kindergarten through fifth grade receive [child trafficking prevention education](#). In Pinellas County these lessons are taught by school counselors. In my December and January lessons we focus on the Five Safety Rules from [Monique Burr's Child Safety Matters](#), a research based child safety curriculum, to help students identify red flags and what to do if they find themselves in an unsafe or uncomfortable situation. At the end of the lesson, students will complete an activity to identify safe adults they can talk to. Students will be asked to share this assignment with their families.



5 Safety Rules



Pack-A-Snack

We offer a weekend feeding program called Pack-A-Snack. Your child may be eligible to receive a bag with snacks in it every Friday. The food is provided to you at no cost.

If you choose to enroll your child, he/she will receive a bag with some snack sized items every Friday. All of the food is non-perishable.

If you would like to sign up for this program, please contact Vanessa Lofstedt, School Counselor at (727) 725-7972 or lofstedtv@pcsb.org.

Monitoring Your Child

Parenting is not an easy job, with responsibilities that seem to change every day. The daily tasks and roles you perform as a parent are bound to change as your child gets older. However, there is one task that is always important: monitoring your child's contact with his or her surrounding world. Parents need to be aware of their children's activities and interactions through every age and stage of growth. As a parent, you are the link between your child and the outside world. Research says that monitoring your child's activities is an important way to lower his or her chances of getting involved in situations you do not approve of, especially those that can be harmful. Not only does your involvement tell your child that he and his activities are worthwhile, it also makes you better able to see changes in your child that may indicate a problem. Monitoring who is in your child's life is especially critical to protecting them from harm or abuse. Children today are around more adults on a daily basis than ever before.

What does monitoring mean?

Monitoring means establishing firm guidelines and limits for your child to keep track of what is going on in his or her social world. Monitoring also means establishing clear expectations about what your child should always tell you AND that they can always talk to you about the things going on in their life.

How can parents monitor their children?

It is best to start monitoring your child early on, in ways that are age appropriate. This will help your child accept your involvement as a part of life. The earlier you begin monitoring, the easier it will be to continue this open communication as your child gets older. The following list can help in monitoring your child's activities:

- Know your child's friends (first and last names) and their home phone numbers.
- Know your child's friends' parents and their cell phone numbers, if possible.
- Insist that your child call and let you know where he or she is after school.
- Find out which adults are going to be home at any parties your child attends.
- Find out where your child is going and with whom. Find out how your child will get there and back home.
- Show up early to pick your child up so that you can observe his or her behavior.
- Make a list of your child's weekly activities and keep it in your day timer or on the refrigerator.
- Check up on your child occasionally to see that he or she is where they said they would be.

Careful monitoring does not require the ability to be with your child every minute of every day. Being a careful monitor combines asking questions and paying attention with regard to making decisions, setting limits, and encouraging your child's positive choices when you are not there. As your child gets older, monitoring may not seem as easy as it once was. Your child may begin to discover his or her own personality, which might clash with yours. The drive for independence during adolescent years can make communicating with—and monitoring—your child even more difficult. As a result, it can be very difficult to communicate. But being an active monitor can be as simple as asking some basic questions:

- Who is your child with?
- What do you know about the person(s) your child is with?
- Where is your child?
- What is your child doing?
- When will your child be leaving/returning home?

Why should parents monitor their children?

Parents should monitor their children for many reasons. However, the most important reason is to keep your child from being harmed. From teachers and coaches to babysitters to your own friends and family, your child comes in contact with more adults today than ever before. Monitoring their interaction with these people—as well as their own friends—is crucial to keeping your child safe. It's a sad truth that most cases of abuse (including sexual, physical, verbal and emotional) are inflicted by adults that a child already knows. 85-90% of child sexual abuse cases involve perpetrators known to the child, and in 35% of cases, a family member is the offender. Therefore, it is extremely important for parents to really know whom their child is spending time with.

Tools for Monitoring

- Teach children that respect does not always mean blind obedience to adults.
- Open the lines of communication when your child is young and keep those lines open.
- Take note if a child's behavior changes after being around specific adults.
- Work with the parents of your child's friends. Exchange each other's email addresses and phone numbers so that you can work together to monitor the kids as a group and help each other stay informed.
- Always check references of babysitters, counselors, etc. Many states have public registries that allow parents to screen individuals for prior criminal records and sex offenses. Once you have chosen the caregiver, drop in unexpectedly to see how your children are doing.
- Pay attention to patterns you see in adults. Is an adult paying special attention to your child or taking an uncomfortable interest in what your child is doing? Take the time to talk to your children about this person and find out why the person is acting in this way.

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION



DEC. 19
TO
JAN. 4



**Happy
Holidays!**

**Join in all the
Holly-Jolly FUN!**

WINTER HOLIDAY CHALLENGE



The Elementary Challenge can be found by going to clever.com/in/pcsb.org and logging in with your district username and password. Once you've logged into Clever, look for the snowman image and click on it. You may be prompted to log into Office 365. You will use your school email, that's your username plus @pcsb.org

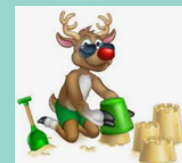
(Ex. Username r2.d2 so email is r2.d2@pcsb.org) and your password.



All students are encouraged to participate in the 2020-2021 Winter Challenge opportunities being offered in order to maintain learning gains over the winter break.

Winter Break Bingo Challenge!

Select your favorite choices from the Bingo board and challenge yourself to complete the reading, math, science, and enrichment activities showing your best efforts.



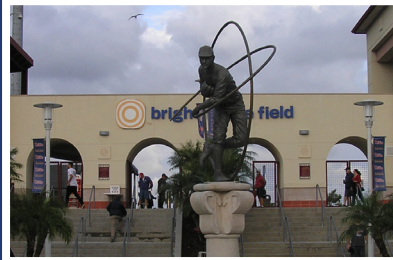
Complete as many learning activities as you can and return your evidence to your teacher after break.

myON Reading Challenge! 12/19-1/3
www.ReadonmyON.com

Participate in the 2020-2021 Winter myOn Reading Challenge and enjoy yourself reading your favorite books on myON.



<https://pinellas.renaissance.com/2020-winter-reading-challenge/>



SCAVENGER



Hunt

Clearwater

- Discover the quaint local "Nature Preserve" off Landmark Dr. Take a walk on the wooden boardwalk and witness various wild life within this freshwater lake.
- At Clearwater Fire Station 48 stands a Ladder Fire Memorial representing the sacrifices firefighters make to save our lives. A torch, made of a single flame crafted from iconic ladders, giving motion and life to the rigid frames.
- Take me out to the ballpark where the Threshers attack their foes and take a picture with "The Ace".
- Go where the sand and Gulf waters are plentiful, take a relaxing family walk along BeachWalk. Find the marker that can be used to tell time. Can you figure out the time using the sun?

General RULES

- Work Together as a Family.
- Cut out the Davis logo. Take it with You to Show Off Your School Spirit.
- Follow Social Distance Guidelines. Wear a Mask Where Required.
- Respect All Park/Facility Rules, Including Opening and Closing Times.
- Do Not Trespass.
- Leave Only Footprints, No Littering.
- Show Reverence At Historical Sites.
- Be Cautious of Weather.
- Social Media: #DAVIDSDISCOVERS
- Take Lots of Pictures and Enjoy!

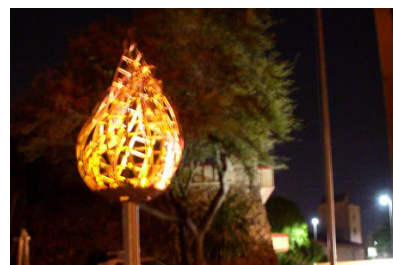


Upload Your Photos

<https://padlet.com/LGDavis/scavengerhunt>

Start Your ADVENTURE

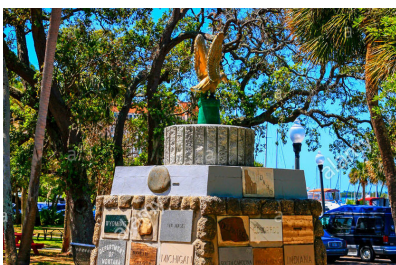
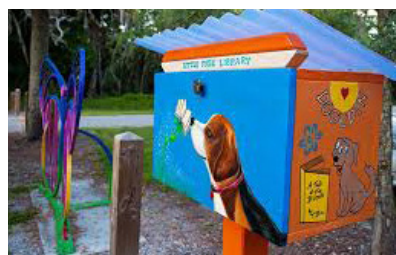
Grab your camera and solve the clues to explore our beautiful local community, discovering historical and hidden treasures. Take selfies in front of your findings. Enjoy!





Dunedin

- Enjoy the waterside view at this "linear park". See if you can locate the state you were born, on this "rocky" monument.
- Downtown Dunedin is know for its "painted oranges". Take a stroll up Main Street. Look high and low. How many oranges can you find?
- All Aboard! The train is leaving. Take a picture running with the others as they race for the train. BONUS: Find the Little Library box near the "trail". Take a book, Leave a Book.
- Butterflies fly freely behind this Historic Little White Church near Hammock Park. Hammock Park is also a great place to enjoy a picnic lunch. You may want to pack a snack.



Oldsmar

- Our Veterans are our heroes and protectors of Liberty. We honor their sacrifices in this beautiful "Memorial Park".
- Visit this park that was named after our nation's "200th Birthday", where zip-liners fly through the sky. Climb the decorated towers for a delightful view.
- Take the stage and perform a silly family show at this park that was named after the "founder of the town and the Oldsmobile brand".

Safety Harbor

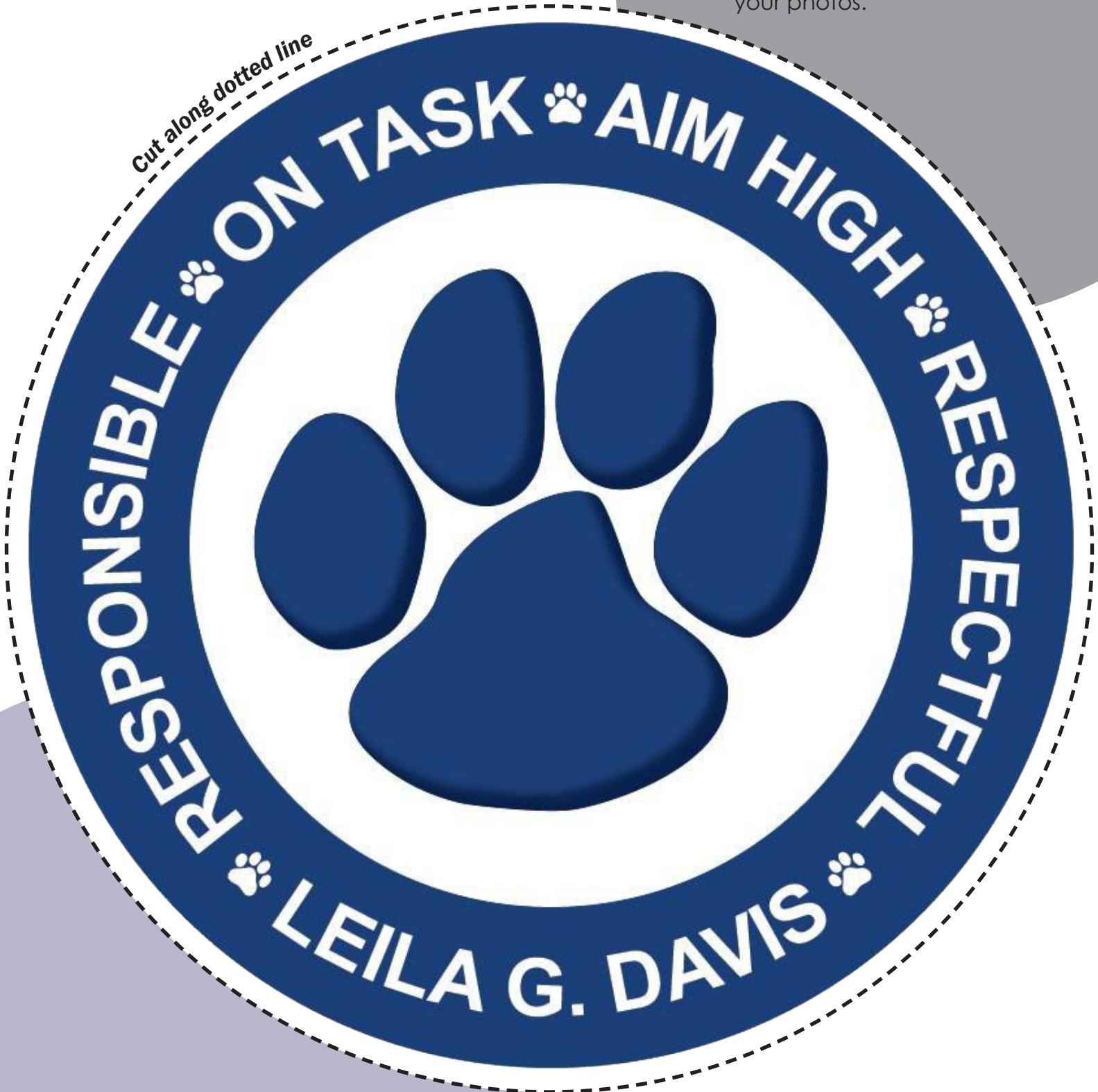
- This restful waterside park was named after the "Founder of Florida Grapefruits". Locate this park's dedication plaque across the street from where he lies.
- Time ticks by here where these birds can be found frozen in time cooling off. This fountain is truly majestic.
- The "heart" of Downtown Safety Harbor can be found near the "Oldest Living Oak in Pinellas County". This makes for a great family photo.
- This large pink pachyderm, "Flower Power Eliie", calls "SHAMC" her home. BONUS: Bowl on over to 3rd Ave for a visually colorful creative experience at Whimzeyland.

#DAVISDISCOVERS

DAVIS PRIDE

Cut out the below Davis Logo and show your school spirit in your photos.

Cut along dotted line

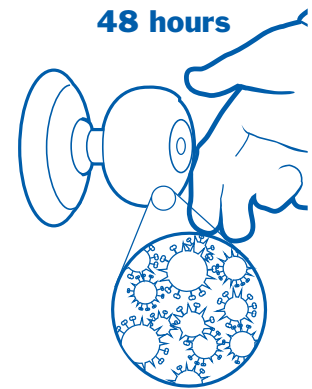


#DAVISDISCOVERS

Cleaning to Prevent the Flu

How long can the flu virus live on objects, such as doorknobs and tables?

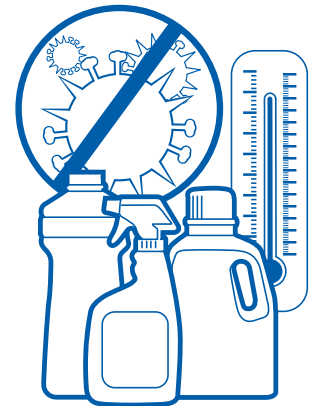
The flu virus can “live” on some surfaces for up to 48 hours. Routine cleaning of surfaces may reduce the spread of flu.



What kills flu viruses?

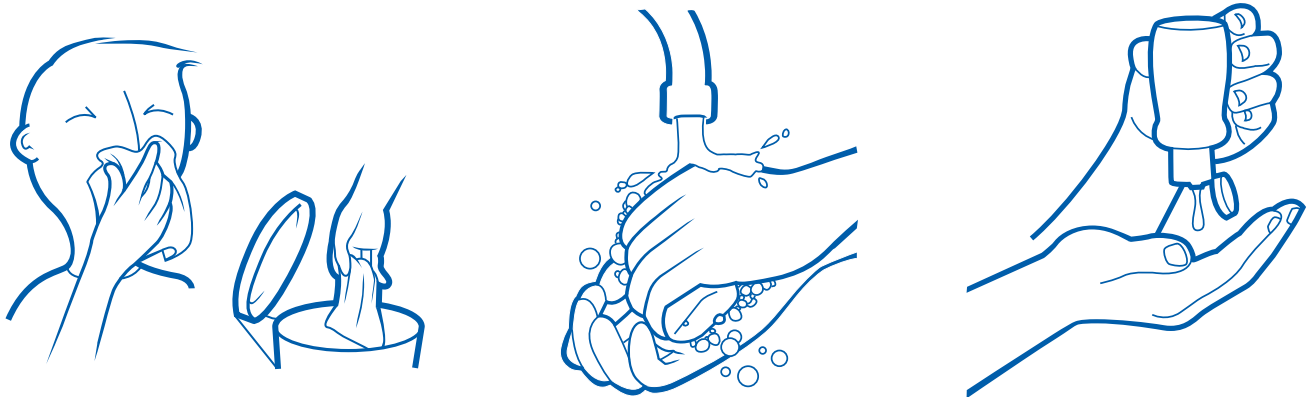
Flu viruses are killed by heat above 167° F [75° C]. Common household cleaning products can also kill the flu virus, including products containing:

- chlorine
- hydrogen peroxide
- detergents (soap)
- iodophors (iodine-based antiseptics)
- alcohols



How should a caregiver handle a sick person's tissues or other items?

Make sure to wash your hands after touching the sick person. Also wash after handling their tissues or laundry.



For more information call CDC info at 1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636) or go to www.cdc.gov/flu.