

EWSFLASH ... THIS JUST IN ... HOT OFF THE PRESS ... NEWSFLASH ... NEWSFLASH ... THIS JUST IN ... HOT OFF THE PRESS ... NEWSFLASH.

Dear Parents and Families,

On behalf of the entire staff we welcome you to the 2016-2017 school year! We are excited about all the learning that this school year will bring. As always, we begin the year by celebrating the growth that our students made last year. On the SAT – 10 test, our first graders showed an increase of 2 percentage points and second graders increased by 5 percentage points in reading. Both grade levels out-performing district averages! Third grade students performing successfully on FSA for reading increased by 12 percentage points and increased in math by 10 percentage points! Fourth grade increased in reading by 9 points and in math by 18 points!! Based on Florida's Department of Education grading system, and despite our amazing increases in scores, our school maintained a school grade of B this year, only 3 points from an A! I am very proud of our students and teachers for their amazing efforts and accomplishments! We truly have the Best School Ever!! Congratulations and thank you for all of your support!

As you are your child's first teacher, we continue to encourage you to work in partnership by maintaining open lines of communication with your child's teacher, volunteering and participating in school events sponsored by our very active PTA (Parent Teacher Association) and SAC (School Advisory Council), and the many other programs offered at SHES. Parent involvement and academic support is vital to student success and we welcome you any time you are able to join in these activities.

In addition to our Parent/Student handbook found in the front of each child's agenda book following, are a few reminders for the beginning of the school year to ensure a smooth opening:

- As student safety is our main priority, all visitors who have school related business, must visit the front office in the main building to sign in. Interruptions to the classroom day will not occur unless previously arranged by the classroom teacher and are related to academic classroom activities. All visitors must have a photo ID to enter the campus and all visitors are required to wear a visitor badge while on campus.
- Our school hours are from 8:35am-2:35pm. Students may not arrive on campus until 8:05 unless they are registered in the YMCA before care program. The first bell rings at 8:25am. Please be sure your child is at school each day and is on time so learning is not interrupted in the classroom.
- All students are eligible to participate in the free breakfast program. Breakfast is served from 8:05am-8:25am each morning in the cafeteria. Students should arrive in plenty of time to each breakfast or they will be marked tardy.

Just a gentle reminder for arrival and dismissal at the beginning of the school year.....please bring your patience, especially the first few days. Timing always improves by the second week of school. Student safety is our first priority during these extremely busy times on campus. It is important for everyone to follow vehicle and pedestrian traffic processes and utilize the existing crossing guards to safely cross at the appropriate locations. Please do not use the north parking lot as a drop off or pick up location for your child's safety.

Thank you to PTA for making our staff's first week back a special one! Your generosity is greatly appreciated. I look forward to seeing all the familiar faces and meeting our new Sea Turtles! Have a wonderful week, a most successful school year and I'll see you around campus!

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Sincerely, Cecilia Palmer, Principal ビンジン

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<u>Mark Your Calendar</u>

8/16 - SAC Meeting - 6 pm

8/23 - Kindergarten Open House - 5:15 pm

8/25 - SHES Family Social & Dinner / PTA General Meeting - 5:45 pm

8/26 - Sea Turtle Character Assembly - 8:35 am

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8/30 - Volunteer Orientation 8:45 am



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Thank You Classroom Partners!

Centerpointe Realty, Inc. Michael A. Gamble Lynn A. O'Neill



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August Commitment to Character:

RESPECT

Respect is thinking & acting in a positive way about yourself or others.

Respect is thinking & acting in a way that shows others you care about their feelings & their well-being.

ASH... THIS JUST IN ... HOT OFF THE PRESS... NEWSFLASH... KIWANIS CORNER

The Kiwanis Club of Safety Harbor welcomes back all the wonderful teachers, staff and students of Safety Harbor Elementary. We are excited to once again partner with SHES on a variety of levels, from class sponsorships to book donations to hands on work with students. As in years past, we will be sponsoring K Kids, a student led service and leadership club. We are excited to introduce to SHES staff and students the new Kiwanis leader of K Kids: Janine Brown. Ms. Brown is a retired elementary school teacher who taught in Pinellas County for 38 years. She was a new teacher mentor and also was on the team that developed and implemented character education in the county's elementary schools. She is very excited about returning to school and working with young students again.

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Last year, K Kids participated in several events including: collecting money for two book fairs to ensure that children in need could buy at least one book; adopting 10 families from the Mattie Williams Neighborhood Family Center for Christmas; collecting food and other pet supplies for and donating \$130 to an animal shelter; holding a campus cleanup with PMAC and the Keep Pinellas Beautiful organization; making tissue paper flowers for the residents of the local nursing home and handdelivering them. They also ran the school store three days a week with the help of parents and made enough money to contribute \$120 to the book fair money drive (they also collected \$900 during that drive), and contributed \$600 to Kiwanis of Safety Harbor's "Christmas in July" event to purchase gift cards for shoes for 26 homeless children. We are looking forward to another fun and productive year with our K Kids.

Any parents who are interested in working with K Kids or any other Kiwanis activity (we run or contribute to many good programs and endeavors in the community), please contact Kiwanis President Charrie Moscardini, charrie-m@live.com.

