

Sunset Hills Elementary School

November Newsletter

Message from Administration

Greetings Sunset Hills families,

It is hard to believe October is over and Fall is underway. In my opinion, this is the best time of the year for outdoor activities such as fishing, hiking, bicycle riding or just taking a brisk walk. It is also a busy time of year for schools. During the next two months, fall festivals and holiday concerts will take place all around this county, including here at Sunset Hills. On that note I want to thank PTA for organizing our first Trunk or Treat. I also, want to thank all of the parents that decorated their trucks with story book themes and gave out candy to the students. It was great interacting with students and their families in a less formal setting. I am looking forward to seeing all of you at our Fall Carnival this month.



We are approximately 60 days into the school year if we just count school days. Now is the time to take a look at our goals and assess what we need to do to accomplish them.

This year our School Improvement Plan consists of five major goals:

- **Increase Family Engagement and Communication with our Parents.**
- **Increase English/Language Arts (ELA) scores on the Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) from 66% to 73%**
- **Increase Math scores on the Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) from 73% to 78%**
- **Increase Science scores on the Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) from 72% to 77%**

Upcoming Events



- **Saturday, Nov 4th – Fall Carnival**
- **Thursday, Nov 9th - PICTURE DAY, Dress your best!**
- **Friday, Nov 10th – Goodies with Grandparents : 8-8:30am**
- **Friday, Nov 10th- Ray's Rally: 1:30-2:15pm**
- **Wednesday, Nov 15th – Great American Teach In – All Day**
- **Thanksgiving Break Nov 20th-24th.**



· Decrease the number of discipline referrals by 10%.

I believe your parental engagement is key to our success and we need your help to achieve one additional goal and that is to increase our attendance rate from 88 percent to 93 percent. Being in school and on time is essential for each student to reach their full potential.

Our after-school learning programs have gotten off to a

PTA News

PTA 1st General Meeting was a success! We had several new faces and lots of good discussion. Our budget and calendar were voted and passed.

Literary Trunk or Treat had over 250 attendees! We had tons of fun. The Trunks were fantastic. The costumes were awesome. The very best part was seeing the smiles on everyone's faces. Thank you to all who took the time to be part of the fun!

Otis Spunkmeyer Fundraiser was a success. We were very close to the same numbers as last year. We thank each and every one of you for helping

great start. We have approximately 230 students attending our enrichment and tutoring programs. We are providing enrichment programs such as Reading Club, Math Club, STEM Club, Coding Club, and Drama Club. We would like to start a Soccer and Chess Club, but we need volunteers. If you would like more information, please contact the front office and someone will direct you to the person in charge of our after-school programs. All of

to fund our work and mission at Sunset Hills Elementary. Product pick up will be scheduled before Thanksgiving Break. Look for announcements soon.

Astro Skate Party was so crazy fun. 160 of our favorite students danced, and skated away 2 hours. Please remember that you can always join us there and pay at the door if you don't get your bus ride slip turned in on time. If you do drop your child off, sign your child in and out with us so we can keep your children safe!

NEW ON THE CALENDAR:

these school activities help students connect with caring adults, enrich their learning experience and provide remediation.

Please peruse the entire newsletter and I will see you around campus.

Thank you for your support,
Principal Crawford III



FALL

CARNIVAL

SATURDAY Nov 4th 2017

5PM-8PM

We have worked incredibly hard this year to make it an even bigger success! All the money made from the event will be going to the teachers' classroom funds. THIS IS A HUGE CHANCE TO FUND YOUR KIDS CLASSES...INVITE YOUR FRIENDS, NEIGHBORS, and FAMILY!

Contact Abby Laatz-

If you'd like to donate or sponsor activities during the Carnival.

If you can volunteer at an activity during Fall Carnival.

If you want to be a vendor or service table during Fall Carnival.

Laatza@PCSB.ORG

GOODIES WITH GRANDPARENTS

November 10th 2017 8 AM to 8:35 AM

Join us in the Multi-purpose Room.

Volunteers & Business Partners



Volunteers are being placed daily! New volunteer needs come in daily as well. If you aren't already volunteering, please consider filling out the district volunteer form! There are tons of ways to help both on campus and off.

All volunteers on campus must be active in our district

Grandparents join students for a light snack before students head to class. All students must have a

Grandparent or Grand parent figure to attend. All unattended students must go to the cafeteria, where regular breakfast is provided. Coffee, Juice, Fruit and a pastry will be served. No RSVP needed. No Fee! Several serving stations will be running to make sure your students make it to class on time!

volunteer system. You must go through the office and sign in with an approved ID. If you have not yet activated your volunteer profile this year, please do so as soon as possible. If you need help in doing so contact

Abby Laatz
Family and Community Liaison
Laatza@pcsb.org
(727) 943-5523 ext- 2045

If you aren't yet volunteering but would like to, send Abby Laatz an email and she will send you a Volunteer registration form.

Mentor training and level 2 finger printing will be



SANTA BREAKFAST AND BIKE RIDE WITH SANTA

December 2nd, 8-10 AM

Breakfast is a limited seating event held at TSHS Culinary school. Invitations will be sent home. First come, First serve. Please do not RSVP and then not show up.

Any and all students may join us to ride bikes with Santa to Sunset Beach and return to TSHS. We will leave the High School 10 AM. We will meet in the TSHS Culinary school parking lot with our bikes at approximately 9:50.

scheduled soon for those who would like to pursue those volunteer opportunities. I apologize for the delay due to the hurricane.

Great American Teach In

November 15th 2017

Be sure to fill out an application and send it in by the 10th! We are beginning to schedule these speakers. This is a chance to share a hobby, talent or your job with children. The students LOVE this day. If you haven't already sent in a form, please do so ASAP.

Student Celebrations: The Rays Way
by Rich Smith



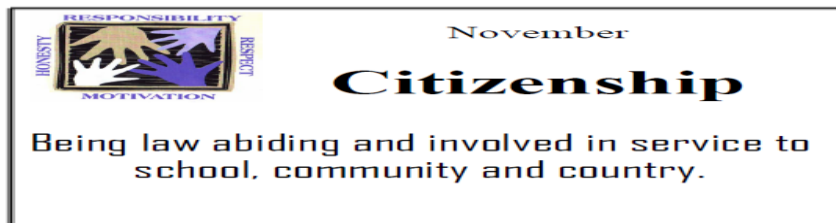
Sunset Hills Elementary Attendance

October Attendance = **89%** of all students have attended
90% of the school year.

Our Goal = 90% of all students attend 90% of the school year each month. Congratulations Stingrays, we have improved our school-wide attendance by 5%!

Sunset Hills Elementary is Committed 2 Character Education:

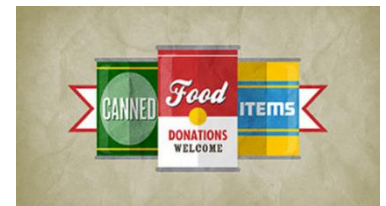
"I pledge myself to C2C, respect and responsibility. Honesty and motivation, too, I'll use these traits in all I do!"



Dinner Dilemmas		
To create family discussions that promotes Character Education in Pinellas County.		
<p>November</p> <p>Citizenship</p> <p>Being law abiding and involved in service to school, community and country.</p>	<p>Week 1</p> <p>Situation: Sam's class goes to lunch. When they sit down there is a mess under the table left from the previous class. The cafeteria monitor comes by and asks Sam to clean up the mess.</p> <p>Dilemma: On one hand Sam knows being a good citizen means keeping the school clean and safe. On the other hand Sam knows his class did not make the mess.</p> <p>Discussion: What advice do you have for Sam?</p>	<p>Week 2</p> <p>Situation: Sue, wanting to be a good citizen, was moving the neighbor's trash can back to her garage. The neighbor yelled at her, "Don't step on my flowers!"</p> <p>Dilemma: On one hand Sue wants to be a good citizen by helping a neighbor. On the other hand her neighbor never says, "Thank you," and often yells at her.</p> <p>Discussion: What advice do you have for Sue?</p>
	<p>Week 3</p> <p>Situation: Sam's class votes on a servicelearning project that Sam does not like, did not vote for, and does not want to do.</p> <p>Dilemma: On one hand Sam knows as a good citizen the majority rules. On the other hand Sam does not want to participate in the project he did not vote for.</p> <p>Discussion: What advice do you have for Sam?</p>	<p>Week 4</p> <p>Situation: Sue was chosen to be a safety patrol because she is a good citizen. She sees her best friend running down the hall.</p> <p>Dilemma: On one hand Sue knows she should write a referral on her friend. On the other hand Sue does not want to get her best friend in trouble.</p> <p>Discussion: What advice do you have for Sue?</p>

November's Canned Food Drive!!

Sunset Hills Elementary and the Tarpon Springs Fire Department will be collecting canned foods and non-perishable goods to benefit families in our community. Students will be allowed to bring in canned food to their classroom starting November 1st. The food drive will end on November 30th. Thanks in advance for your support and generosity.



After School at Sunset Hills



November 2017

Director: Alice Vokes

P: 727-943-7870

E: avokes@suncoastymca.org

A newsletter for the families and students of the afterschool program at Sunset Hills Elementary



Happenings...

Thanksgiving Break is November 20th - November 22nd, 2017. The host site is Ozona Elementary. Please ensure your child brings 2 healthy snacks and a lunch with them. No food is provided on these days. Hours of care are 6:30am - 6pm. Please be sure to register if you need care and are on the standard or 3 day plan. We will be closed for care on November 23rd and November 24th, 2017. Please enjoy your time with family and friends during this time.

Hot Topic...

Clubs began on October 6th and the children are thoroughly enjoying themselves. Science Club made volcanoes and playdoh. Outdoor sports played soccer and are learning new skills, Drama club is busy rehearsing for a presentation, and the Food Experience Club made dirt cups and spiders from pretzels and oreo cookies.

October 25th was National Bully Awareness Day. We discussed bullying prevention and also discussed what to do if they feel like they are being bullied.

October 26th was Nights on Afterschool. The children celebrated this event by coloring and decorating a light bulb.

Coming Soon...

We will soon be asking you to help support our Giving Tree. During the holiday season we invite you to participate in this project of love for children attending before and after school YMCA programs thorough out the community.

Stay Connected...

Do you want to keep up with what is going on with the Y and your child's before and after school program? Please check out and like our Facebook page, where you can stay up to date with our Y program and see postings of the fun that all our programs are having!

<https://www.facebook.com/PinellasSchoolAgeYMCA>

THIS MONTH...

★ Fall Break registration deadline

- Anyone on the Standard or 3-day plan can still register for Fall Break. The cost is \$63.00 (money order) and is due to Alice, with form, by November 13th.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

★ Please remember that you must bring a **PHOTO ID every time** you come to pick up your child as some staff may not be familiar with you

★ Please have your child arrive no later than **8:05am** if they plan to eat breakfast with us at the Y during morning care

★ If your child will **not** be attending afternoon care please **call** the site phone (727)943-7870 or send an **email** to Miss Alice at avokes@suncoastymca.org prior to dismissal. Ensuring every child's safety during dismissal is our main priority! We appreciate your cooperation.

