

Good Morning Chargers!

In the final week of February, and Black History Month, we are spending time with our students to talk about intentional ways to “Reflect on their learning opportunities to build trustworthiness,” including how not to judge a book by its cover, or how to stand up for what is right, even when it’s uncomfortable to do so. Every day is an opportunity for our Chargers to learn how to be more kind, how to choose their words wisely, and how to act in a challenging moment and we will continue to learn with our students. We are grateful for you and your family as you model what it means to be a “Good Charger!”

Come Charge Ahead with Us

C- *Come on time each day, ready to learn.* (August)

H- *Hold tight to kindness and caring.* (September)

A- *Anchor yourself in honesty and fairness.* (October)

R- *Rally around differences- celebrate/respect them.* (November)

G- *Greet each day with a positive attitude.* (December)

E- *Engage with your learning to show responsibility.* (January)

R- *Reflect on learning opportunities to build trustworthiness.* This week we will talk to our Chargers about the definition of the word “prejudice” or what it looks like to “pre-judge” someone based on their hair style, their glasses, the clothes they wear, or even the color of their skin. We are using the old “don’t judge a book by it’s cover,” metaphor and are challenging our Chargers this week to build trustworthiness by reflecting on what makes themselves special because by finding the worth in their own individuality is how we can celebrate the individuality of others.

School Safety Reminder & Updates

Our first and most critical priority at Patriot Oaks Academy safety of our students. We are proud of the work we do day in and day out to ensure every child is physically, academically, and emotionally safe here on campus. If you ever have a question or concern, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Chiodo directly at the contact information below.

The state of Florida and the SJCS D have developed intentional protocols and resources for if a perceived threat is made. It is our commitment to you, and your children, to follow these protocols with absolute fidelity. Please [click here for details and again](#), please reach out if there is anything you need.

Marine Science Camp Registration is now Open!

Are you a middle school family looking for an exciting and unique opportunity for your student this summer? [Please see the attached flyer for this year's Marine Science Camp!](#)

2024-2025 Kindergarten Registration opens Friday

It's already that time: 2024-2025 Kindergarten Registration opens on March 1st, 2024! We will send information out to everyone on Friday and will send confirmation emails to families upon the successful completion of registration. We look forward to welcoming our new students and families!

Elementary Field Day- Friday, March 8th

Our annual Field Day is Friday, March 8th! We are always in need of parent volunteers and if you are willing and able, [please click here to sign up to help](#).

Middle School Day of Service- Thursday, March 7th

We are excited to announce that on Thursday, March 7th during PE classes, every middle school student will participate in a Day of Service through the "Kids Against Hunger" program where we will package 25,000 meals for refugees and families impacted by the War in the Ukraine. This phenomenal opportunity would not have been possible without the support of Ms. Renata Russell (our Creative Arts teacher), The Players Championship, and the Jim Furyk foundation!

Middle School Dress Code Reminder

The purpose of our dress code is to help all students be modest and appropriately dressed for school. These guidelines pertain to school and all school sponsored functions, unless otherwise stated. At POA, there is a difference in dress code between

elementary and middle school students because elementary students participate in daily PE and recess activities outside in their daily school clothes. Middle school students change clothes for PE and are otherwise, not outside in the heat during the school day. Due to this significant difference, shorts can be shorter than fingertip length for elementary students if they are appropriate and modest.

2023-2024 SAC Survey is now Open!

Please click here to complete the [2023-2024 School Advisory Counsel \(SAC\) survey!](#) This survey is completely anonymous and helps us begin planning for next school year. Your feedback helped create our school goals and develop our programming and allocation of resources. Please complete the survey (just one per family) before March 31, 2024!

PTO Spotlight (patriotoakspto@gmail.com):

Feb 27 (5:30-7:30pm) - Chargers Charity event

We are excited to announce our second annual Chargers Charity event! We will be collecting a variety of donations to support youths in need in our own county the week of Feb. 20-27. **You may drop donation items throughout the week, or bring them to the event on Feb. 27.** Look for drop boxes in carlines and the front office. In order to spread the donations out, we have outlined items by grade which you can view here: <https://www.patriotoakspto.org/>. All items must be nut free. Families should plan to drop in anytime on Feb. 27 from 5:30-7:30 pm to help pack supplies. Please consider volunteering to help that evening. It's a great opportunity for teens to earn service hours www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A4BACAE2CA5FD0-47859981-chargers#/

March 2 (all day!) - Spirit Day at Tsaocaa St. Johns

Our next spirit night is Saturday, March 2 all day (11:30am-9pm) at Tsaocaa St. Johns (Bubble tea - friend chicken - egg waffle)

Please mention POA at checkout. Come support POA and 20% will go back to the school! Visit them at 1385 St Johns Pkwy. www.tsaocaaflorida.com

Spirit Stick Birthday Grams!

Just a friendly reminder about birthday grams! Send in your forms now, and we'll deliver a spirit stick to your student on their special day! We also have the option to order a class set, where everyone in their class gets a birthday stick - a perfect way to spread the birthday cheer to their classmates too! Download the order form here:

https://www.patriotoakspto.org/assets/07361/General/spirit_sticks_birthday_gram.pdf

Week at a Glance, Week of February 26th:

- Monday, February 26th:
 - PTO Meeting in Café @ 8:00 am
- Tuesday, February 27th:
 - SAC Meeting at 3:15 in Media Center
 - Basketball: POA @ LPA
 - PTO Service Project in the Café 5:30-7:30
- Thursday, February 29th:
 - Basketball: POA @ PIA
- Friday, March 1st:
 - 24-25 Kindergarten Registration opens!

That's all for now Chargers. Work Hard. Learn Something. Be Kind.

Respectfully,

Drew Chiodo, Principal

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