March 24th, 2024

Good Morning Chargers!

As we head in to the home stretch of the school year, we wanted to pause and say: thank you! The work that your children have put in has been unmatched and we know that, though this time of the year can feel a little stressful with all the testing and school happenings, we know that they are ready to conquer any challenge in front of them. We are “Committed to Every Student, Every Day,” and will meet every student where they are at. Make it a great week everyone!

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. (February)

S- Strive to do your best so you can grow. This week we are helping our students slow down to make choices…. They can choose to do the right thing, or they can choose to do the wrong thing (either way they’re going to learn a lesson). However, we are pushing our kiddos to choose to do the right thing…. Even when no one is looking. This mindset will put our students in the right position to help them strive to be their best so they can grow. It’s going to be a great week!

It's time for our Spring Book Fair!

We are excited for our Literati Spring Book Fair which starts next week and runs March 25-April 5. Elementary school classrooms will visit the fair during their regularly scheduled Media 1 resource time. Middle school students will have the opportunity to shop each morning between 8:00-8:20. For all shoppers, please send in cash or check (made out to POA PTO) with your children on their respective shopping days. For younger shoppers, we find it helpful to put cash in a labeled Ziploc bag.

NEW THIS SPRING – ONLINE SHOPPING & GIFT CARDS

We are offering an online book fair to accompany our in-person book fair. This is a great way to share the book fair with friends, family, loved ones and anyone who may want to support our fair through an online purchase. All books ordered online will be shipped to the school at the close of the fair and will be distributed to families through homeroom teachers, approximately 10 days after the end of the fair.

Also new this year, you have the opportunity to purchase a gift card through the Literati website for your child to bring into the fair. Please note, if your child is attending the fair the first week (March 25-March 28), please have your gift card purchased by Sunday, March 24. If your child is attending the fair the second week (April 1-5), please have your gift card purchased by Sunday, March 31. This will allow us to prepare accordingly.

If you are interested in shopping online or buying gift cards, click HERE and you will be taken to the site.

EVENING FAMILY SHOPPING EVENT

Bring your family and join us Monday, March 25 from 6:00-8:00 pm. Families can enter through the gym (trophy) door to get to the media center. In addition to books, we will be offering a selection of posters, journals, bookmarks and more! The book fair will be open this evening in conjunction with our PTO Night of the Arts event! So, if you are coming for Night of the Arts, feel free to stop in and visit the book fair as well!

PLEASE NOTE: The materials available for purchase at the Book Fair were not selected by the St. Johns County School District. We encourage parents to review their child’s wish list and have a conversation about what they are allowed to purchase at the book fair before sending money to make any purchases. By sending money in with students, you agree to the list of books being provided. Families can choose to shop together at the evening event, or online, if preferred.

If you'd like to volunteer to help with book fair you can sign up here - LINK

FREE Summer STEAM & Robotics Camp Hosted Here at Patriot Oaks!

Are you or anyone you know interested in Science, Technology, Arts, Mathematics (STEAM) or Robotics? The SJCSD has received a grant to offer this free opportunity for families! Please click here for a flyer and use the sign-up link below to register today!

[Click here to register for the FREE STEAM & Robotics Camp!](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Ftrack.spe.schoolmessenger.com%2Ff%2Fa%2FnMc7JtfodYNxn5WDHq2txg~~%2FAAAAAQA~%2FRgRn4WWGP0RzaHR0cHM6Ly9maXJzdGNvYXN0Lm15cm9ib3RoaW5rLmNvbS9ldmVudC9zamNzZC1wYXRyaW90LW9ha3MtYWNhZGVteS1zdW1tZXItY2FtcC0yMDI0LTA3LTIyLTIwMjQtMDctMjUtMTkzMS9yZWdpc3RlclcHc2Nob29sbUIKZfsGMgBmGcoD_VIgTGVpZ2guU2Nob3Vlc3RAc3Rqb2hucy5rMTIuZmwudXNYBAAAAAE~&data=05%7C02%7CLeigh.Schouest%40stjohns.k12.fl.us%7C742be28aee6d4842bc3d08dc4c0ac9e0%7Cb3b3d057fc124f3f92f472be6e844351%7C0%7C0%7C638468856444253449%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=RinWX0cAYEexGD%2FTZyWlYWKPlEBncFkiAyATeX3ViVQ%3D&reserved=0)

School Advisory Council (SAC) Meeting this Tuesday

Our monthly School Advisory Council (SAC) meeting is this Tuesday, March 26th at 3:30 in our media center. We will have representatives from the school district present to talk about the changes to school funding and how we as a school system are responding. The door is always open; please check in the front office before proceeding to the media center.

Revised Grading, Reteaching, and Resting Policy for Families

To best serve our students and school community support the implantation of the B.E.S.T. standards, provide a guaranteed and viable curriculum for all students, and align with research-based best practices, we developed a summary of Patriot Oaks Academy’s grading, reteaching, retesting, and homework policies.

These policies were revised in alignment with our district policies and with collaboration among all teachers and team leaders on campus. Policies are designed vertically to ensure student success at POA and beyond. At Patriot Oaks Academy, we are “committed to every student, every day,” and these policies are our commitment to our students.

There is nothing exceptionally new, however, we are committed to these policies and for consistency for our children and families.

Parent Teacher Input Form 2024-2025

We spend a lot of time creating elementary classes & middle school master schedules for our students. We truly believe that finding that right match and creating the opportunity for a solid relationship between a student and a teacher is the basis for a successful school year. We want you to know that throughout the process, we discuss each child individually and strive to make that best match. We cannot promise that we do not make any mistakes, but we do want you to know that many hours are spent on this process and we do our very best for each of your children.

Please know, we do not take teacher requests. However, if you would like the opportunity to share your child’s specific needs and the type of teacher that you feel they need, please complete this form by the last day of school, Friday, May 24th.

We welcome your thoughts and respect that you know your child best. If you have multiple children, please fill out this form for each student.

Please click here to provide your input for your student’s 2024-2025 teacher!

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 SJCSD 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.

Middle School Expectation Chit-Chats

Our Middle School Team will be meeting with middle school students over the next week weeks to informally remind students of our expectations to finish out the year. We’ve had a great year so far and appreciate your continued support!

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 created 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):

Night of the Arts (March 25, 6:00-8:00 pm).

LAST CHANCE TO RSVP! This event will celebrate the creativity of our student artists and will include performances from the POA Elementary Chorus and MS Jazz Band, displayed art from all POA elementary students and MS art students, book fair shopping opportunity in the Media Center, plus interactive, hands-on creative activities for families to complete and enjoy together. We ask for a donation of $10/family for this event. All funds raised will go directly to POA resource classes. Sweet treats will be available to purchase from Mister Softee and DonutNV food trucks during the event. Families may drop in at any time during their selected signup time. RSVP is required for capacity purposes at this SUG link. Volunteers needed - including lots of opportunities for teens to earn hours - click here to sign up.

Spring Book Fair Starts Monday (March 25-April 5)

Elementary classrooms will visit the fair during their regularly scheduled Media 1 resource time. MS students will have the opportunity to shop each morning between 8:00-8:20. For all shoppers, please send in cash or check (made out to POA PTO) with your children on their respective shopping days. For younger shoppers, we find it helpful to put cash in a labeled Ziploc bag. Please note: The materials available for purchase at the Book Fair were not selected by the St. Johns County School District. We encourage parents to review their child’s wish list and have a conversation about what they are allowed to purchase at the Book Fair before sending money to make any purchases. By sending money in with your students, you agree to the list of books being provided. Families can choose to shop together online or at the March 25 evening event, if preferred. Full details on evening and online shopping, gift cards, book selections and more can be found at www.patriotoakspto.org/. If you'd like to volunteer to help with book fair you can sign up here - LINK

Month of the Military Child

April is Month of the Military Child, and we want to celebrate the children of military members serving at home and overseas. On Monday, April 1 we are asking Chargers to wear purple as we celebrate our military children with special recognition. Our military children are also invited to share their experiences as children of active duty or retired military members. Please click HERE to read the details and find the template for your child to complete, if they wish. We would love our military children to share a picture of themselves and/or their military parents along with a little of their experience as a military child. If your child chooses to participate, please send in the picture and write-up to your child’s teacher anytime the first week of April (April 1-5). Please include your child’s teacher and grade on the back. The photo and write-up will be displayed for all to see on our Month of the Military Child bulletin board and we will return the item at the end of the month along with a certificate honoring your student as a military child.

Week at a Glance, Week of March 25th:

• Monday, March 25:

o ES Book fair

o 6th Grade in-House Zoo Field Study

o Night of the Arts @ POA 6-8 pm

o Shopping Night for Book Fair

• Tuesday, March 26:

o ES Book fair

o 6th Grade 4H Speeches

o 4th Grade Field Study to Agricultural Center Day 2

o SAC Meeting 3:30-4:30 in Media Center

• Wednesday, March 27:

o ES Book fair

o MS Science in House Field Study

o 4th Grade 4H Speeches

• Thursday, March 28:

o ES Book fair

• Friday, March 29:

o No School

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

Respectfully,

Drew Chiodo, Principal

drew.chiodo@stjohns.k12.fl.us

(904) 547-4053