October 27, 2024

Good Morning Chargers!

It is the final week of October and we couldn’t be more excited to finish it out in the best way possible!  We look forward to celebrations on Halloween, and for beginning the season of Thanksgiving with you all.  Please do not hesitate to reach out if there is ever anything you need.

**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.”*How exactly can you “anchor yourself?”  Talk to your Charger this week about not swaying away from good decisions.  Every season brings it’s challenges and, together, you can remained committed to being honest and fair in all you do.

**We are ready to celebrate Halloween at Patriot Oaks!**

Patriot Oaks Academy is gearing up for the Annual Halloween Parade- a parade as part of our fall celebrations for our elementary grades.

Our Halloween parade and class activities will be on Thursday, October 31st. The parade will begin at 8:45am and will conclude by about 9:15. Parents are welcome to watch the parade and are asked to gather in the drop off/pick up loops as all students will pass this way. No sign in at the office will be necessary. In case of inclement weather, we will have parents in the gym to watch. Classroom activities will begin after the parade and be completed before lunch unless otherwise communicated by your child’s teacher.

Parents who do not want their children to participate may bring children to school after the parade and parties are over, approximately 10:30am. Children will not be counted tardy, but we would ask that parents notify the office if this will be the case.

Elementary students may come dressed in a costume, but it is completely optional. Students must be able to maneuver safely in the classroom and not interfere with other's space. Costumes need to be non-violent and adhere to the school dress code. Costumes must be worn **OVER** school clothes so they can be removed and placed in a sack or backpack once the celebrations are over.

The following will NOT be allowed:

* face make-up
* dyed hair
* depiction of blood or guts
* masks (sports helmets are ok)
* racist or promiscuous dress
* weapons or facsimile of weapons (plastic swords, knives, guns, etc.)

A costume deemed inappropriate by a teacher or administrator will result in having the student remove the costume.

Middle School Students will have a “spirit day,” with details to follow.  They will also be able to cash in their PBIS points to attend the parade!

We are excited to continue this tradition with our students. We believe whole-heartedly that school is a place to learn, grow and celebrate being young! This will be a fun day for kids that I think they will remember for years to come.

See you at the parade!

**NJHS Applications are now Available**

If you are a 7th or 8th Grade Student, you may now apply for our National Junior Honors Society.  [Please click here for information and to begin your application, today](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Ftrack.spe.schoolmessenger.com%2Ff%2Fa%2Fie6gK_HsC4S1OvaB8MXkRA~~%2FAAAAAQA~%2FRgRo_3sDP0R1aHR0cHM6Ly9tc2cuc2Nob29sbWVzc2VuZ2VyLmNvbS9tLz9zPVJhSDFpUDc2NmRVJm1hbD0wYTk3MDMwNmU2MGUyMTAyZWMzMDUzY2NlMDU5ZTAyYWUxNmNlNWIwZDViNjE1YjNmODgzNjQwNTUxNzU2MTAyVwdzY2hvb2xtQgpnGINHHmf7fxLxUiBMZWlnaC5TY2hvdWVzdEBzdGpvaG5zLmsxMi5mbC51c1gEAAAAAQ~~&data=05%7C02%7CLeigh.Schouest%40stjohns.k12.fl.us%7Ceb1c447361c24c85563008dcf68fbaf8%7Cb3b3d057fc124f3f92f472be6e844351%7C0%7C0%7C638656344413157549%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=S%2FmNc4L6JL7R15i8%2BNemM5z9bdpd4dHfvz2a4h%2BHCPE%3D&reserved=0) .  If you have any questions, please see Ms. Campbell.

**A note for 8th Grade Families**

Parents of 8th grade students: Be sure to check out the updated information with dates and informational links for all things high school academy related on our 8th Grade Parent Information webpage: [https://www-poa.stjohns.k12.fl.us/8th-grade-parent-information/](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Ftrack.spe.schoolmessenger.com%2Ff%2Fa%2FRRqKZmsBOOXdpmvLSP1elw~~%2FAAAAAQA~%2FRgRo_~~&data=05%7C02%7CLeigh.Schouest%40stjohns.k12.fl.us%7Ceb1c447361c24c85563008dcf68fbaf8%7Cb3b3d057fc124f3f92f472be6e844351%7C0%7C0%7C638656344413182643%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Ky5TrcQ41qv3uJ6TCONH368GT2TqsWSY9bZZj%2FzevzY%3D&reserved=0)

**Brave Buddies Group**

POA school counselors will soon begin the Brave Buddies Group. The group aims to create a sense of community and belonging for children, helping them navigate the joys and challenges of having a military parent/s while having fun and making lasting friendships. This group will provide a space where children can connect with others who share similar experiences. If you are interested in having your child participate you can email one of the POA school counselors.

**Honoring our Veterans & Families at POA**

Dear Patriot Oaks Families,

As we approach Veterans Day, we would love to honor and recognize the veterans in our school community.  If you have a veteran in your family, we invite you to share their photo with us.  Please include the following information:

*Name of Veteran*

*Name of student or faculty (relation to the veteran)*

*Branch of service*

 Please send pictures by November 5 to our PTO at [patriotoakspto@gmail.com](mailto:patriotoakspto@gmail.com).

Thank you for helping us pay tribute to those who have served!

**A Note from our PTO (**[**patriooakspto@gmail.com**](mailto:patriooakspto@gmail.com)**)**

* 8th Grade Families
  + PTO will be covering the cost of several items for your 8th grade student! This includes a class shirt, a class photo, and class treats at least six times throughout the school year. This is due to the generosity of our families and business partners each year through their support of our initiatives such as ChargerTHON and PTO membership, to name a few.  The first 8th grade class treat was offered in October.  The next treat will be in November.
  + *8th grade Yearbook Ads*: A new tradition begins!  POA is excited to announce the addition 8th grade tribute ads in the yearbook.  It is the perfect way to celebrate your child’s milestone of finishing middle school and heading to high school.  Please visit [www.yearbookordercenter.com](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Ftrack.spe.schoolmessenger.com%2Ff%2Fa%2FfbxiCkmlBqiEYvZv7rZytA~~%2FAAAAAQA~%2FRgRo__t_EvFSIExlaWdoLlNjaG91ZXN0QHN0am9obnMuazEyLmZsLnVzWAQAAAAB&data=05%7C02%7CLeigh.Schouest%40stjohns.k12.fl.us%7Ceb1c447361c24c85563008dcf68fbaf8%7Cb3b3d057fc124f3f92f472be6e844351%7C0%7C0%7C638656344413204241%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=HWnkPq%2FSD%2BeRz0EJqrYQC22xLPHrzeo6Ughkcb75%2FqE%3D&reserved=0) and use the school code 14848.  Yearbook ads will be featured on the top right of your screen.  The deadline for ads is December 1.
  + *Please note*: The PTO will be hosting a semi-formal 8th grade dance. It will be held on April 13, 2025 and will be an off-site dance.  The cost of the dance will not be covered by the PTO.  Tickets will be sold.

**Week at a Glance, Week of October 28:**

* *Monday, October 28:*
  + MS Career Planning Lessons with Ms. Giannotta
  + VBall After School

* *Tuesday, October 29:*
  + MS Career Planning Lessons with Ms. Giannotta
  + 5th Grade Marine Bioscience Research Center Field Trip
  + VBall Practice after school
  + TCA @ POA VBall

* *Wednesday, October 30:*
  + Counselor’s Off Campus in PD
  + VBall Practice after school
  + Make-up VBall Game from Hurricane Helene

* *Thursday, October 31:*
  + Halloween!! Parade begins at 8:40
  + VBall Practice After School!

* *Friday, November 1*
  + MOSH- LEDI Exhibition @ Beachside
  + VBall Practice After School

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

Respectfully,

A close up of a signature

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Drew Chiodo, Principal

[drew.chiodo@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:drew.chiodo@stjohns.k12.fl.us)

(904) 547-4053