

THE FREEDOM POST

A Monthly Publication of Freedom shores
Elementary School
3400 Hypoluxo Road, FL 33436 (561) 804-3100



DECEMBER 2023/JANUARY 2024

A note from Mr. Sabatino,



Dear Parents/Guardians:

Well the Holiday Season is here – Thanksgiving brings the sprint to all the other holidays. Time truly seems to go faster and faster every day!! Many exciting events occurred at Freedom Shores. We had our ESOL Parent Night, Literacy Night, the First Grade Literacy Breakfast and the Coral Reef Scavenger Hunt for our Pre-K children. We then transitioned into our second round of State Testing.

During our ESOL Parent Night, many families came out to our school in order to develop a better understanding of the services that their children are receiving during the day at school. Our ESOL team presented all the various strategies and skills that are covered during their day in school. At our Literacy Night, each grade level presented activities that could be taken home that night and utilized to work at home on the children's reading skills. Our First Grade team conducted the second Literacy Breakfast of the year. They presented skills that could be used while reading at home with your children. Everyone who attended also receive a copy of the book that was modeled. Our VPK classroom hosted a Coral Reef Scavenger Hunt, which had the children giving hints to the adults about various creatures that live in coral reefs. The coral reef was built by the students and displayed in the hallway.

In our classrooms, many engaging lessons took place on the carpets and projects were being completed in small groups to give the students the most effective instruction possible. Our teachers were best preparing the students for the upcoming second State Assessment.

During morning drop-off, please remember to have your children ready to exit the car on the passenger side of the car, when you pull up in front of the school. By doing this and by pulling up as far as you can on the curb we will continue to make our drop-off procedure faster. As long as you are in the school gates by 8:00 your child is not late. If you come in after 8:00, you will need to park and sign your child in. Also, please refrain from dropping your children off in the bus loop or anywhere else but the car line since this is very dangerous and causes many problems. We need to all work together and respect our neighbors.

Please do not send your children to school with soda as a drink for their lunch. We would appreciate non-carbonated drinks and drinks without sugar. Also, please try to send healthier snacks.

Thank you all for your support and cooperation every day. We are all working together to raise the future leaders of our world.

After School Program

Registration is Ongoing.....Registration Fee: \$25 per child

2023-2024 afterschool registration is now available online. <https://palmbeachcountyschools.reg.eleyo.com/> pick 2023-2024 school year and don't forget to choose Freedom Shores Elementary.

Tuition:

December 1st installment or total due December 1st

December 2nd installment or total due December 15th

January 1st installment or total due January 9th

January 2nd installment or total due January 22nd



Winter Humor

Why do birds fly south for the winter?

A: It's too far to walk

What do snowmen eat for breakfast?

A:Frosted Flakes

What kind of bird can write?

A: Pen-guin

Which burns longer a red candle of a green candle?

A: Neither they both burn shorter



Counselor's Corner

Mrs. Heitz
diana.heitz@palmbeachschools.org

Mrs. Briceno
vanessa.serrano-briceno@palmbeachschools.org

**Hello Parents and
Guardians!**

We are so thankful for all the donations from the Giving Tree that brought joy during this holiday season. The children were so happy and grateful!!

The deadline is rapidly approaching for students and parents who would like to apply for choice programs. Once the application window closes, it's closed. There is no second chance.

For students hoping to attend schools with auditions such as Bak, the application deadline is December 8th. For all other choice programs, the application deadline is January 26th. School counselors can answer questions concerning eligibility and requirements. Go to MyPBchoiceApp.com for more information.

In the new year, we would like to start the New Year by encouraging our students to set goals to come to school everyday and on time.

Also, we will be starting another rotation of our Common Sense Parenting Classes soon. The classes will be given to our English and Creole speaking parents. So far we have no more seats available. If you turned in a form previously, Mrs. Briceno will contact you via text and email with the start date.

**Your School Counselors,
Mrs. Heitz and Mrs. Briceno**





****Learning Disabilities and Dyslexia Awareness - Resources can be found here: <https://fndusa.org/> or <https://www.understood.org/en>.**



The Parent As Liaison (Pal)

***The Parent As Liaison (Pal) is Ms. Mary Black, you can reach her at: mary.black.c@palmbeachschools.org for assistance navigating during the ESE process. More information on Pals can be found here <https://www.fdlrsalpha.org/parent-services>.**

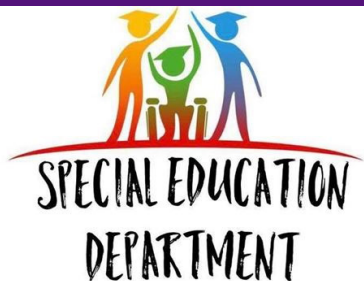


Child Find

***Child Find offers information and FREE SCREENINGS for children 3-5 years of age who may have difficulty with learning, speaking, playing, seeing, walking, and/or hearing. To begin the process, please call staff at: (561) 434-7337.**



If you have a concern or would like to share new information with the ESE team please contact Dr. Sharrié Vereen, ESE Coordinator at 561-804-3110 or sharrie.vereen-thomas@palmbeachschools.org



















**CONTACT:
Dr. Sharrié Vereen, ESE Coordinator
sharrie.vereen-thomas@palmbeachschools.org
561-804-3110**

ZONES

The Zones of Regulation is a complete social-emotional learning curriculum, created to teach children self-regulation and emotional control. At Freedom Shores we utilize this curriculum in our Emotional Behavioral classroom but it can be used anywhere including home! The most important component of this unit is teaching students to recognize what they are feeling and how to cope with those feelings (develop a plan to move to another zone). We often tell students- Feelings ARE OKAY! It is what you do with them that matters.

What Zone Are You In?

Blue Zone	Green Zone	Orange Zone	Red Zone
 SAD	 HAPPY	 SURPRISED	 ANGRY
 HURT	 FOCUSED	 CONFUSED	 RAGING
 SICK	 CALM	 WORRIED	 TERRIFIED
 TIRED	 EXCITED	 SILLY	 ANNOYED
What can I do?	What can I do?	What can I do?	What can I do?
REST	GO	SLOW DOWN	STOP
Take a break Ask for help Talk to someone Jump up and down 5 x I can also.....?	Think happy thoughts Finish my work Help others Share ideas I can also.....?	Take deep breaths Talk to someone Go for a short walk Count to ten I can also.....?	Take a time out Run a lap Squeeze a stress ball Drink water I can also.....?



Freedom Shores Elementary

PTO & VOLUNTEER

Your Freedom Shores PTO would like to wish everyone a Happy and Healthy holiday season and New Year!

Thank you to everyone that has volunteered and already completed their 10 Volunteer hours (you can still do more- we love the help!)

REMINDER- You can NOT volunteer in your own Child's classroom. Also, 10 volunteer hours are REQUIRED prior to chaperoning a field trip or helping with field day.

You must complete the volunteer orientation prior to volunteering on any district campus!

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 14th- Kona Ice during recess
December 20th- SAC/PTO Meeting @ 7am
January 17th - SAC/PTO Meeting @7am
January 18th- Ice Cream truck during recess
January 25th- Start planning Friendship dance (This will be on February 29th)



FOR MORE PTO INFORMATION:
freedomshorespto@gmail.com

FOR MORE VOLUNTEER INFORMATION:
freedomshoresvolunteers@gmail.com

BACK TO
School

SCAN FOR HELPFUL PARENT LINKS

S.O.A.R



Will be updated as information comes out

Dual Language & Esol



Last month the ESOL Team held the first Parent Leadership Council Meeting for this school year. Many parents attended and benefited from a variety of information about the ESOL/Dual Language Program, parent/student resources and Choice Programs. They were also given homework, study tips and literacy activities to do at home with their child.

ACCESS TESTING

The testing window for ACCESS begins on January 22nd and ends on March 15th. All ELL K-5 students will take the ACCESS language proficiency test during this time period. The test measures the student's progress in listening, speaking, reading and writing. Individual student report scores will be sent home at a later date. More information will be coming soon.

DL parent's please join us to our first in house District Dual Language Parent Series workshop on December, 7 starting promptly at 8:30 am-10:00 am.

The District Dual Language Team is pleased to announce its ongoing commitment to engaging parents through a comprehensive four-part series of workshops. The first workshop, centered around providing parents with foundational knowledge about Dual Language Immersion, is already underway. Our second installment in the series will concentrate on the topics of bilingualism and biliteracy, and further details about this session will be unveiled in January.

Enjoy your holiday break with your family! Make memories and have fun!

CHOICE PROGRAM

The Choice Program is a specialized educational program that enables students to take advantage of additional sources and instruction that focus on the child's individual talent or interest. Some of these schools offer instruction in the area of technology, healthcare, dual language, art, drama, music, dance etc. If your child has a special interest or skill, your child may be a good candidate to attend the schools offering the Choice Program. The applications are available in English, Spanish, Creole and Portuguese on the District website. The deadline to apply is December 8, 2023 for BAK Middle School and January 26, 2024 for all other schools. Talk with your fifth grader about the Choice Programs. If you need more information or assistance, please contact Ms. Coffman or Ms. Briceño.



Please remember to keep up with your Spanish practice! Istation is a great way to stay on top of it! All DL students have access to books and reading lessons online through their portal. Even just an hour a week would help avoid backtracking in their language progress. ¡Felices fiestas y próspero año Nuevo! Happy Holidays and happy new year!

Kindergarten:

At school, your child is engaging in Heggerty Phonemic Awareness lessons. Your child has worked with larger parts of words (compound words, syllables, and onset-rime), and now over the next couple of weeks our lessons will shift to listening for individual sounds, or phonemes. Phonemic awareness teaches students to hear individual sounds in words, and this supports the development of strong reading and writing skills. “Phonemic awareness has been shown to be a very powerful predictor of later reading achievement. Here are some fun activities to do together:

- Can you blend (put together) two sounds to make a word? For example, m - ē » me. ă - t » at. n - ō » no
- Guess Who Game (from Phonemic Awareness in Young Children). Say, “Guess whose name I am going to say” and then say just the first sound of the name. Have your child guess the name based on that first sound. ■ Example: “Guess whose name I am going to say... /d/, /d/, /d/...” and they would say “dad!”
- When you say a word, you can add a sound to a word part to make a new word. Tell your child: “say -ate, add /g/ to the beginning and the word is...” and your child would say: “gate”. Other words to use: ■ -eep, add /k/ to the beginning » keep ■ -et, add /j/ to the beginning » jet
- When you say a word, you can also delete (or take away) the first sound. Say, “ gate; without /g/, what’s left is?” and your child would say: “ate”
- Books to read and enjoy together Chicka Chicka Boom Boom by Bill Martin Jr and J. Archambault and One Duck Stuck by Phyllis Root

First Grade:

Hello 1st Grade Families! December is here and 2023 is quickly coming to a close!! Have your child read every night and review the high frequency words! Please check your child's folder every day /night to see if there is any important information you need to know. In reading, we will be starting Unit 4: Stories Have A Narrator. Our focus will be on fiction stories. We will be writing our opinions about a topic with a sense of closure. At home after reading, describe the main story elements, ask questions and create mental images. Then, we will begin Unit 5: Technology and Society: Technology at Work. At home, read fiction/nonfiction texts. Ask your child questions about what they've read. In math, we are in Unit 6: Representing and Interpreting Data. and then quickly moving onto Unit 7: Extend the Counting Sequence. At home, review how to fluently add and subtract within 20, and count by 2's, 5's and 10's up to 100. In science, we will be focusing on Life Cycles, then Matter and Its Properties. Be on the lookout for STEM night! At home, describe how things are alike/different. Also, observe, describe and identify different objects. In social studies, we will be learning about holidays around the world. Then, we will be in Unit 3: Geography. At home, talk about maps, globes, and where they are from. If you ever have any questions or concerns, please reach out to us. We are here for you! Thank you for all your support! We want to send warm holiday wishes to you and your family. Have a happy, healthy, and safe new year! See you in 2024!!!

Second Grade:

Happy new year from second grade! We hope everyone had a relaxing break and a happy holiday! We had so much fun on our field trip to the Kravis Center to see the Nutcracker, the kids absolutely loved the performance. Right before break, we completed our second round of iReady diagnostics as well as our second round of FAST tests. We have loved seeing how much our scores have improved! Everyone has been tracking their results and setting goals to improve. We can't wait to jump into 2024 to grow even more as learners!

Third Grade:

Hello, 3rd Grade families! We just started our new reading unit called “Comparing Points of Views.” Students are reading to answer the essential question “What makes people view the same experience differently?”. They are learning how the narrator and the characters in a story have different perspectives or ways of looking at the story’s events. Please continue encouraging your child to read every night as they will be using their skills when they take the F.A.S.T. ELA PM2 on Friday, December 8.

In math, students are learning how to Add Multi-Digit Whole Numbers. Please continue to monitor their homework and tests, as these skills will be assessed on their F.A.S.T. PM2 on Wednesday, December 13.

Lastly, please check your child’s communication folder and agenda nightly. As the winter break quickly approaches, we would like to wish everyone a wonderful holiday season and a happy and healthy New Year.

Fourth Grade:

Big updates before our next big break!! Take a look at what's coming up this December/January. December 1st, field trip to the Kravis Center to watch the Nutcracker, House meeting December 4th, FAST ELA test December 12, FAST Math test December 14th, iReady ELA Diagnostic December 18 and 19, iReady Diagnostic December 20 and 21, Winter Break December 25- January 8, No school January 15, STEM Night January 17. Busy busy!!! Thank you for your continued support with making sure homework is done and with parent-teacher communication.

Fifth Grade:

Happy December! Thank you to all the parents who came out for our Literacy night, it was a lot of fun. In the classroom we have been working on getting ready for our second round of FAST testing. We will also be taking a science diagnostic to help the teachers know what concepts have been mastered and what needs to be retaught. On Friday, December 15 we will be having a Chuck E. Cheese night, hope to see everyone there.

Coming up on Wednesday, January 17 we will be having our STEM night, stay tuned for more information to come home. Please do not forget about our dress down Fridays. Your child can dress down and donate a \$1.00. The proceeds go to help fund our 5th grade end of year activities. If you have not already had a parent conference with your child's teacher, please reach out to them to set one up. We hope everyone has a great winter break and see you all back in 2024.

Please give a HUGE thank you to
The Boynton Beach Calvary Chapel
for donating 25 Thanksgiving Meals
to our families. Thanks!



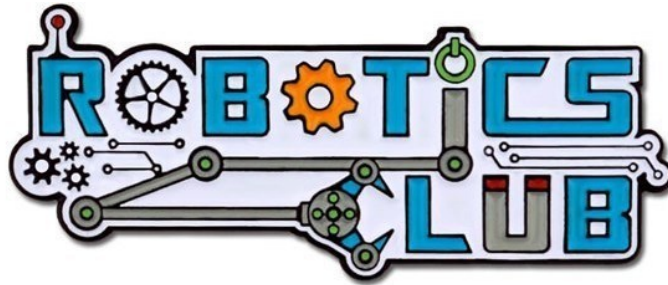
Dec/Jan Newsletter

Garden Club News

We have been working hard in our garden by mulching, cleaning up and replanting. We have also been enjoying watching all the vegetables grow! We have carrots, radishes, tomatoes, kale, bib lettuce, pumpkin and luffa gourds currently growing. It's always a good "THYME" in Garden Club!

Nouvèl sou Garden Club

Nou te travay di nan jaden an pa payaj, netwayaj, ak replante. Nou te pran plezi you gade tout legim yo grandi! Nou gen kawòt, radi, tomat, chou frize, leti bib, joumou ak goud luffa kap grandi kounye a. Li toujou yon bon "THYME" nan GardenClub la!



Attention 4th & 5th grade students: Are you interested in building and programming Lego robots?

Please join us Wednesday afternoons 2:30-3:30pm.

In this 6 week club we will:


- Build and program robots
- Practice engineering and critical thinking skills
- Develop problem solving and creative thinking skills
- Have fun!!

Space is limited but we will have two sessions. You may only join one session so that we can accommodate more students.

Session 1 (starting January 24 - February 28)

Session 2 (starting March 6 - April 17)

Be on the lookout for fliers in your child's backpack!



Please celebrate with us

12/18- Monday

Deck the Halls-
Come decked out in
your house color

12/19- Tuesday

Toasty Tuesday-
wear your favorite
ugly holiday
sweater/t-shirt

12/20- Wednesday

Disney on Ice-
Dress as your
favorite Disney
Character

12/21- Thursday

Winter Wonderland-
Wear white and
sparkle!

12/22- Friday

Wear your favorite Holiday PJ's

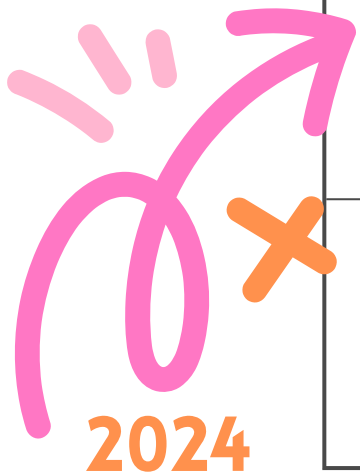
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DECEMBER

2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				1 2nd & 4th grade field trip	2	3
4	5 K-2 FAST Early Literacy / Reading	6 K-2 FAST Math	7 8-10 am Dual Language Parent Series	8 3rd FAST ELA	9	10
11 K-5 FAST Make ups 2nd grade I-ready Reading 1st grade I-ready Math	12 4th & 5th FAST ELA	13 3rd FAST Math 2nd grade I-ready Math	14 Kona Ice at Recess 4th & 5th FAST Math	15 7:15am - 2nd grade literacy breakfast K-5 FAST Make ups 4-9 Chuckie Cheese	16	17
18 Come decked out in your house colors! K-5 FAST Make ups 1st grade I-ready Reading 4th grade I-ready Reading	19 Wear your favorite ugly sweater/shirt. K-5 FAST Make ups; Class pictures & make up 1st grade I-ready Reading 4th grade I-ready Reading	20 7am- PTO/SAC- Media Center Dress as your favorite disney character. 5th Science Diagnostics; K-5 FAST Make ups 4th grade I-ready Math	21 Wear white and sparkle. K-5 FAST Make ups	22 Wear your favorite holiday pajamas. K-5 FAST Make ups Progress reports post to portal	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
<h2>Winter Break</h2>						

JANUARY



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 No School	9 Students return to school	10 5th grade I-ready Reading	11	12	13
14	15 No School	16 3rd grade I-ready Reading KG grade I-ready Reading	17 7am- SAC/PTO Meeting in Media Center	18 Ice Cream Truck during recess	19 7:15 am-3rd grade literacy breakfast	20
21	22	23 KG grade I-ready Math 3rd grade I-ready Math 5th grade I-ready Math	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3



ADVERTISE IN OUR NEWSLETTER! If you have a business and would like to advertise in our newsletter or have a banner on campus, Call or Email Audra at (561) 804-3114 audra.spurlin@palmbeachschools.org

A HUGE THANK YOU

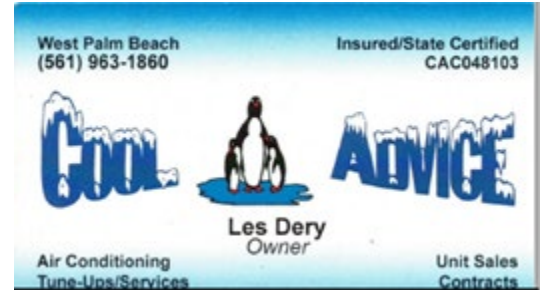
TO:



WHO ADOPTED MS. HOWARD'S AND MS. ALLEGRO'S CLASSES!!!!

A HUGE THANK YOU

TO:



WHO ADOPTED MS. BERGERON'S CLASS!!!!

Thank you for being a GREAT



Business Partner!!!!

Thank you for being a GREAT



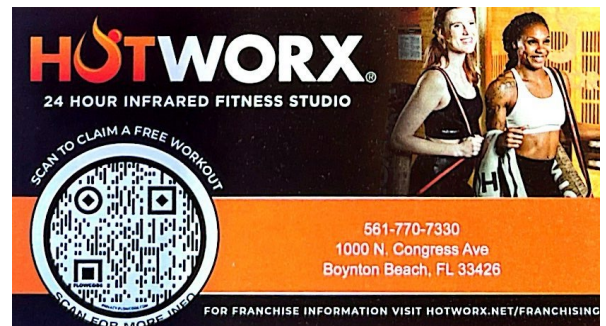
Business Partner!!!!

Thank you for being a GREAT



Business Partner!!!!

Thank you for being a GREAT



Business Partner!!!!

<https://www.hotworx.net/blog/its-all-about-the-results-for-fitness-customers>