

# THE FREEDOM POST

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



FEBRUARY 2024

# A note from Mr. Sabatino,



Dear Parents/Guardians:

Wow January was a busy month! We continue to move forward through this fast moving year. During the month, we had our STEM Night, the Third Grade Literacy Breakfast, field trips and all the daily classroom activities. We also completed the second round of our State Assessments.

Our STEM Night was a huge success thanks to all the staff and parental support. Our teachers created many different hands-on activities that the children had a chance to make and play before they were able to take them home. Everyone saw how a circuit worked by playing a guitar that need the circuit to be completed as well as how chemical changes occurred. Along with the Scientific activities there were many Mathematical games that were played.

Our Third Grade Literacy Breakfast saw many parents reading with their children and learning some vital ideas to use at home when they are reading together. We thank the Third Grade team and all the parents! We did not have a Family Fun Night in January, but there may be one coming up in February. Please look for more information about this event to so you can come out and enjoy with us.

Please remember to have your children at school prior to 8:00 since classes begin right at 8:00. By getting them here early, they can get breakfast if they need and settle themselves to be ready to learn. Also, if you are a car rider have your children ready to exit the car in the morning car line on the passenger side and quickly as possible once you stopped in front of the school. Also, at pick-up, please do not park in the bus loop area or on any neighboring properties. You can simply come in the main entrance and pick your child up in front of the school. This keeps all the children safe and our neighbors happy.

We have our SAC and PTO meetings usually on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 in the morning, so please keep this in mind and try to attend so you can get the latest information about the various on goings of our school. We welcome all parents to attend and share some ideas. Our next meeting is February 21 at 7:00 am in our Media Center.

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

Parents please take a few minutes to have your feedback about our school heard by completing this short survey:

<https://www.questionpro.com/a/TakeSurvey?tt=M6GCNlqHoIQECHrPeIW9eQ%3D%3D>

# 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:

February fees due in full on or before February 15, 2024 to avoid late payment fees.

Spring Break Camp information will be coming soon!



Humor Corner

What did the stamp say to the envelope on Valentine's Day?

A: I'm stuck on you!

How did the phone propose to his GF?

A: He gave her a ring.

What do you call a ghost's true love?

A: Their ghoul-friend.

What kind of flowers should you NOT give on Valentine's Day?

A: Cauliflowers!



# Counselor's Corner

Mrs. Heitz  
diana.heitz@palmbeachschools.org

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

**Hello Parents and  
Guardians!**

**If your staff or client's household income was \$75,000 or less in 2024, they can get their taxes filed for free!**

**United Way of Palm Beach County's Taxes Filed Free Campaign gives taxpayers with low-to-moderate incomes several in-person and online options to prepare and file their return for free. The campaign which will enter its twenty first year on January 18, 2024, is an invaluable service to the community. Visit [www.TaxesFiledFree.org](http://www.TaxesFiledFree.org) to learn more about the Taxes Filed Free Campaign, the services offered and where our sites are located throughout Palm Beach County. Site locations with days and times of operation can also be learned by calling 2-1-1.**

**Please help us promote this free tax service.**

**For your convenience, we have attached the promotional poster in English. We also created a webpage with free downloadable resources to make it easy for you to help United Way of Palm Beach County promote this FREE tax service.**

**I encourage you to view the resources available including:**

**[www.TaxesFiledFree.org](http://www.TaxesFiledFree.org)**

**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](mailto: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>.**

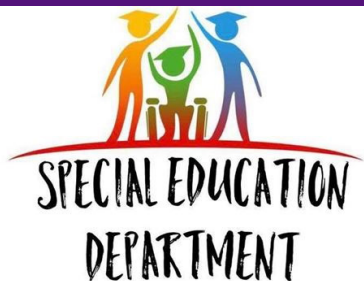


## **Child Find**

**\*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](mailto:sharrie.vereen-thomas@palmbeachschools.org)**



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



# Freedom Shores Elementary

## PTO & VOLUNTEER

Thank you to everyone that has volunteered and already completed their 10 Volunteer hours (you can still do more- we love the help!) We are always in need for more volunteers, see steps on how to sign up below:

- Have your ID scanned through the Raptor/VIPS system.
- Complete a volunteer application on the VIPS Count tracking system computer.
- Complete District Volunteer Training and Orientation(The Volunteer Coordinator will provide the training)

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

- February 15th- Kona Ice during recess
- February 21st- PTO/SAC Meeting at 7am
- February 29th- Friendship Dance

Friendship Dance Volunteer signup sheet



**FOR MORE PTO INFORMATION:**  
[freedomshorespto@gmail.com](mailto:freedomshorespto@gmail.com)

**FOR MORE VOLUNTEER INFORMATION:**  
[freedomshoresvolunteers@gmail.com](mailto: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



Parent Conferences- Teachers are scheduling 2nd semester parent conferences. If your phone number has changed, please send the updated number to your child's teacher.

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## ACCESS TESTING

ACCESS Testing- Testing continues this month. All ELL students K-5 will be taking the ACCESS test between January 22nd -March 15th. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Coffman- 804-3109.

**Istation Awards – We have begun recognizing students from K – 5 by featuring them on The Istation Board for their achievement. Students that were on Tier 1 or improved their tier during the month, received an award. Students that are below Tier 1 should be working on Istation at least 45 – 60 minutes a week, and this should be worked on at home in addition to the classroom.**

**Istation Parent Portal - Do you know what tier your child is on? If not, there are two easy ways to find out! First, ask your child's Spanish teacher or as a parent of a student in the Dual Language program, you have access to the online Istation Parent Portal!**

**To begin, go to <https://www.istation.com/istationhome> . The first time you log in, you will be prompted to select your student's school. Type in the school information. (This will only be done once.) Then, type in your student's login information as provided by your teacher and click Log In. This Login is different from the school district login. If you need help or have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask your child's Spanish teacher or Ms. Concepcion at [maibelis.concepcion@palmbeachschools.org](mailto:maibelis.concepcion@palmbeachschools.org).**



## Kindergarten:

Hooray, our fabulous kindergarteners are just over a 100 days SMARTER! As readers we are continuously practicing and using the skill of decoding to read words. This means that students are thinking about what they are reading and checking to make sure that what they read matches the words on the page. This also includes recognizing any errors made and fixing them right away when reading. When reading students are not only self-correcting but also making sense of and understanding the story. This month we will focus on learning new sounds to apply when reading. In writing our young authors are working to write about the texts we are reading. In math, we are continuing to practice our math facts, both subtraction and addition.

## First Grade:

First Grade Families...February may be short, but it is filled with topics and themes that will keep us busy all month long! Let's Stay Connected...check in with your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns. Remember to look in your child's communication folder every night and clean it out. In reading, we are focusing on Stories Teach Many Lessons (fiction stories). Please read every night for at least 30 minutes! In writing, we are focusing on writing about our opinions. In math, we will be learning how to plot, order, and compare 2-digit numbers. At home, practice counting forward and back, and 10 more/10 less on the 100 chart. In social studies, we will be learning about: American History. In science, the big idea is: Matter in Motion. The essential question is, "How do objects move?" At home, guess what objects may sink or float. SCIENCE NIGHT was a huge success, thank you for those that attended. Please continue to read with your child and ask them what they are learning.

## **Second Grade:**

**We cannot believe we are past the 100 day of school mark, we had so much fun celebrating becoming 100 days smarter. This month is black history month and we are so excited to learn about black culture and achievements made by important black individuals. In math this month we are learning about money and time, next time you pay for the groceries, ask your child to figure out the change! In reading, we are reading about different folk tales and how different cultures can teach us different lessons. Some important upcoming events this month include: 2/2 is our field trip to the Norton museum of art, 2/14 is our Valentine's day celebration so students are allowed to bring in cards or treats for the class to celebrate friendships they have made, and 2/19 there is no school. Please remember to continue checking your child's blue folder for important information! Thanks for all of your support!**

## **Third Grade:**

**We are excited to share updates on our progress in the new year. Students recently completed their second iReady Reading and Math Diagnostic. We are thrilled with the progress they have made! Our teachers will be utilizing this data to tailor their instruction and ensure that students are well-prepared for the end-of-the-year state assessment.**

**As February is Black History Month, we will be dedicating time to recognize and honor the achievements, contributions, and rich history of African American people from around the world. Students will have the opportunity to learn about the important role African Americans play in shaping the story of our country.**

**Our next Benchmark unit in reading is "Making Decisions." Throughout this unit, we will explore various character traits and draw conclusions about the lessons these characters learn and the themes we can infer. In math, over the next two units, students will be learning about fractions. By the end of the units, students should be able to identify, represent, and write fractions in multiple ways.**

**Please continue to monitor your child's homework completion and encourage them to read for at least 20 minutes each night. Furthermore, please mark your calendars as report cards will be available on SIS (Student Information System) on February 22.**

**Thank you for your unwavering support and collaboration in your child's education!**

## **Fourth Grade:**

**Hello again fabulous 4th grade parents! Upcoming this month is Black History Month, Yoga club every Tuesday morning 7-7:30 for 4th grade students, Thursday Feb 15th Kona Ice, Literacy Breakfast 7:15am for 4th grade, Thursday Feb 22nd report cards post to the gateway portal online, Friday Feb 23rd the Scholastic Book Fair begins, and Thursday Feb 29th is the Friendship dance! Thank you for continuing to communicate with your child's teacher, ensuring that your child is completing their homework daily and here on time each morning!**

## **Fifth Grade:**

**Thank you to all the families who came out to STEM night. It was a lot of fun as we went through the hands-on stations. It was nice to see so many families come out and have fun learning. We have been working on poetry during our reading block. In science we have been learning about force and motion. Math has been all about fractions. We are diving into dividing fractions.**

# School Info





**SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR**

**FEB 23- MARCH 1**

02

# FEBRUARY

2024

| Sunday                                                                            | Monday          | Tuesday | Wednesday                                                                            | Thursday                                                                           | Friday                                                                                | Saturday |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|---------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
|  |                 |         |                                                                                      | 1<br>First day of Black History Month<br>*Wear Clothing to represent your culture* | 2<br>2nd grade field trip- Norton Museum<br>9:30-12:30<br><br>National Wear Red Day   | 3        |
| 4<br>National School Counselor Week!                                              | 5               | 6       | 7                                                                                    | 8                                                                                  | 9                                                                                     | 10       |
| 11                                                                                | 12              | 13      | 14                                                                                   | 15<br>Kona Ice during recess                                                       | 16<br>7:15 am- 4th grade literacy breakfast                                           | 17       |
| 18                                                                                | 19<br>No School | 20      | 21<br>7:00 am- SAC/PTO Meeting                                                       | 22<br>Report cards posted<br><br>Bus driver appreciation                           | 23<br>First day of Book Fair                                                          | 24       |
| 25                                                                                | 26              | 27      | 28<br>7:15 am-Granola for Grandparents<br><br>Pink Shirt Day<br>"Lift Each Other Up" | 29<br>5:30pm- Friendship Dance                                                     |  |          |