

# THE FREEDOM POST

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



MARCH 2024

# A note from Mr. Sabatino,



Dear Parents/Guardians:

We are moving into March and Spring Break is rapidly approaching, which is much needed for our students and teachers since they are all working so hard! Through February, we had our ACCESS testing for our English Language Learners continue, Kona Ice and our Ice Cream Truck as well as the SECME competition.

Our ACCESS testing is a State Test for our ELL students to show their growth and proficiency. Our ESOL team worked diligently through February completing this test. We know that our students will do the best they can.

Through our PTO, Kona Ice and was on campus again and the students were all able to purchase an ice during their recess time. This is another great fundraiser spearheaded by our fantastic PTO. An Ice Cream Truck will be coming in March. If you are interested in joining our PTO, you can just show up to our monthly meeting on the third Wednesday of the month or contact Samantha O'Brien.

Our SECME team had their annual competition in February and all the students had lots of fun competing against the other schools. They have been practicing hard and building various items such as Mouse Trap Cars and Water Bottle Rockets to represent our school. This is a fun and exciting event every year and our students always do their very best to place in the competition. We are still anxiously waiting for the results to see how our children did and what trophies they will be receiving for our school.

Our trimester came to an end and we are tallying the House points to see which House will win with the most points for the trimester. Throughout February Nukumori has been in the lead, but Protos, Isibindi and Alturismo are not giving up and will try to make a late push to catch them. We'll see who wins this trimester.

We have our SAC and PTO meetings usually on the third Wednesday of each month, 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. Also, try to send in only healthy snacks for your children and no drinks other than water. Finally, please do not park in our bus loop or neighbor's property during drop-off or pick-up times. You need to go through the car line and drop-off or pick-up your child. This line does not take very long and is safer for you and your children.

Please be on the lookout for information about a Family Fun Night that is coming in April. These are always fun nights where you get to eat some great food and interact with others from our school.

Thanks for all your continued support!

# 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:

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

Spring Break Camp Flyers Went Home.

\$190 for the week. Includes; breakfast, lunch, and 2 snacks.



## Humor Corner

What's the leprechaun community's answer to Comic-Con?

A: Lepre-Con.

What kind of spells do leprechauns use?

A: Lucky Charms!

How did leprechauns get to the moon?

A: In a sham-rocket.



# Counselor's Corner

Mrs. Heitz  
diana.heitz@palmbeachschools.org

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

## **Hello Parents and Guardians!**

**Is your family living with another family, or living in temporary shelter? If so, the district has a program called McKinney-Vento that will provide your family with resources and assistance. Contact the school counselors to start the process.**

**If your child is in need of clothes or uniforms, please let us know. We have a limited number of uniforms available for our students. Also, we have a resource called the Giving Closet and they provide clothing for students in need.**

**We finally received our Book Vending Machine! Students will be able to earn a golden coin each month from their homeroom teacher. Teachers will reward a student with a golden coin each month when showing positive behaviors. What an amazing way to promote positive behavior and literacy!! :)**

**Our Multicultural Breakfast Club will begin in March! It will be held every Thursday morning from 7:30-7:55am. Students will be able to eat breakfast and enjoy presentations about different cultures from our Freedom Shores staff and District personnel. Open to all students KG-5th graders. Club Shirts will also be given to members! Please help us promote this free tax service.**

**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>.**

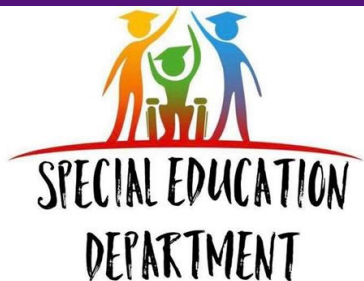


## **Child Find**

**\*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**



March is Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month.

Information from informing families

- Watch the videos I Dream of a World, Everyone Wins When Everyone's Included, and Just Like You.
- Check out the DD Awareness Month Resource Guide with tips and resources to help everyone celebrate the month. This guide will be updated weekly throughout the end of March as new resources are submitted. Check out the NACDD website throughout the month.

## 5 IMPORTANT FACTS ABOUT DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

### 1. When does it begin?

Most developmental disabilities begin before a baby is born, but some can happen after birth because of injury, infection, or other factors.

### 2. What causes it?

Most developmental disabilities are thought to be caused by a complex mix of factors including genetics, parental health and behaviors (such as smoking and drinking) during pregnancy, birth complications, infections, and exposure to high levels of environmental toxins, such as lead during pregnancy.

### 3. Over one billion

About 15% of the world's population live with a disability.

### 4. The numbers are increasing substantially

More and more people are living with disabilities due to demographic change including population aging and the global increase in chronic health conditions.

### 5. Inadequate healthcare

Half of the people with disability cannot afford healthcare, compared to a third of people without disabilities.



# 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

March 13th - PTO/SAC Meeting at 7am

March 15th - Ice Cream Truck (Field Day)



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

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





Hi all,

Our Freedom Shores Family did it again!! We pulled off another great event and I just wanted to take a moment to thank each and every one of you who volunteered your time and efforts to make the Friendship Dance such a success. The smiles and laughter of the children during the dance was a reminder of the positive impact that we can have on their lives. It was so awesome to see the students having fun!!

Again, I am truly grateful for everything that you do. Your dedication and hard work did not go unnoticed.

**HUGE SHOUTOUT:**

Daliana, Audra, Ms. Fuller, Ms. Castro, Ms. Szachor, Carol Balet, Lindsay Keyser, Cindy Dube, Ms. Tringali, Ms. Zdieba, Ms. Roseman, Ms. Morrin and daughter, Ms. Salley, Ms. Contreras, Eve Philistin, Ms. Puente, Rommy, Ms. Klisiak, Ms. DeRojas, Ms. Bergeron, Ms. Quinn, Ms. Karpman, Ana, Ms. Dery, Ms. Tejada , Gabe and friend, Mr. Abbott, Mr. Sabatino, Officer Tom and our Custodial Staff. (If I missed you I truly am sorry and just know that you are appreciated.. I couldn't have done it alone!!)



BACK TO  
School

SCAN FOR HELPFUL PARENT LINKS

S.O.A.R



Will be updated as information comes out



# Dual Language & Esol



## ACCESS TESTING

ACCESS Testing- Testing will be completed this month for our K-5 ELL students. Individual student reports will be sent home in the Fall.

Parent Conferences- It is important that you know how your child is doing academically. Teachers are scheduling second parent conferences. If you haven't had a conference, please contact your child's teacher.

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**Supporting learning in the language opposite of your home language:** This can be extremely challenging if your child is the only bilingual family member. The truth is, language development takes hard work in the classroom, too! Students are engaged in language production with scaffolds and support provided by the teacher, and with plenty of talk time and opportunities to interact with others using those supports. Confidence is built through these supports, and thus language eventually flows. Things you can do at home to help your child Engage in language fun! Watch favorite movies in the target language, listen to audiobooks, or create family flashcards where everyone is practicing vocabulary and learning the target language. Find ways to infuse language learning in your home or daily routine so that language exposure is not just provided by the teacher. While these extra steps do take time, they are worth the effort to instill a positive attitude and mindset around language learning

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**We look forward to seeing all of you at our Dual Language Series 2: Bilingualism and Biliteracy. Happening on Mar 28, 2024 in the afternoon..**

**Dual language parent engagement workshops intend to empower parents with a clear and interactive understanding of dual language education to thrive and be able to help their children thrive and reach their full bilingual, biliterate, and socio-cultural potential.**



## Kindergarten:

We are certainly marching on this semester! Three months into the New Year! Time surely flies when we are learning and having fun! Many exciting things are going on this month as well as many great learning opportunities. In reading, your Kindergartener is using many different strategies during the reading process! The students have been working very hard to decode text and comprehend what they are reading. They are also learning to re-read the text until it sounds nice and smooth. It is very important to support your child in reading at home and read to them daily or have them read to you. After reading, ask your child about the characters in their book. Discuss with them what the character did (their actions) throughout the book and how this made the character feel. Ask your child to use the pictures or specific parts of the text to support what they tell you about their characters. In math, students practice counting and recognizing numbers up to 100. Also, we are working on multiple strategies to add & subtract, problem-solve, and increase fact fluency within 20! We appreciate the extra help you are giving your child on basic math facts, in addition to adding and subtracting within 20.

## First Grade:

First Grade Families...Can you believe it is March already!! It's great to see the amount of growth your child has made. Thank you for all the efforts you have put in at home to help your child here at school! Here are some helpful hints to support your child at home: read or listen to books (fiction and nonfiction), review telling time (o'clock and half past) and the value of coins (penny, nickel, dime, quarter), talk about the past/present/future, and discuss natural resources. A few reminders: check your child's folder every night, ask them how their day was, and encourage them to find a cozy spot and read for at least 20 minutes every day! Look on your child's portal and check their SIS cube...you will find their grades, progress reports, and report cards. Continue to go on Benchmark to increase reading skills and Reflex Math to increase fact fluency! Our focus this month is women in history. At home, discuss women in history...who they are and why they are important. Let's keep up the good work! Hope everyone has a safe and healthy spring break! We all deserve it!

## **Second Grade:**

**We can't wait to celebrate Dr. Seuss week the first week of March! Look at the school calendar or our blue folders to see what the dress up days are! This month in math we are learning all about adding and subtracting three digit numbers. We have learned many strategies that help us learn. This unit in reading is all about investigating the past and how understanding the past helps shape our future. In science, we have been learning about forces around us. Please remember spring break starts March 18th and field day is March 15th. Thank you for your constant support!!**

## **Third Grade:**

**As we transition into the spring season, here are some important dates and celebrations to keep in mind: March is Women's History Month, a time to celebrate and honor the contributions and achievements of women throughout history. We will learn about some inspiring women who have made significant impacts in various fields and industries.**

**Keep an eye out for our Recognition Awards Assembly date where we will celebrate the achievements and efforts of our students throughout the second trimester. More details will be provided soon, so stay tuned!**

**Spring Break is approaching! Students will be off from March 18 to March 25. We hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable time off. It's an excellent opportunity for our students to rest, rejuvenate, and spend quality time with family and friends. Whether you're traveling or enjoying a staycation, we wish you a safe and enjoyable break!**

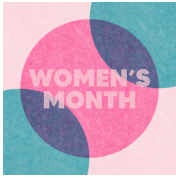
**Please take a moment to review the details on the school calendar for upcoming events and important dates. Remember to help your child prepare for the F.A.S.T. by reading nightly and completing homework assignments. Consistent practice is key to success! Thank you for your continued partnership and support. Together, we can help our students thrive and succeed.**

## **Fourth Grade:**

**Look what's coming up in 4th grade!! March is Women's History Month, the 10th is daylight savings, the 14th we will have an ice cream truck during recess, the 15th is field day, the 17th is St. Patrick's Day, March 18 - 25th is Spring Break, and March 26th St. Augustine field trip for those who are paid and confirmed!!! Homework should still be done daily. Thank you for all your support and communication!!**

## **Fifth Grade:**

**Happy Spring! We have been busy learning lots in 5th grade. In ELA we have been working on a unit on Survival. The students are reviewing all reading concepts to get prepared for our state testing later this spring. Science we are going into learning all about the solar system. Math we are learning about geometric concepts and then we will be moving into interpreting data. In the upcoming months, we will be taking state assessments in Reading, Writing, Math and Science. Be on the lookout for the school to send home dates of the tests. We hope everyone has a great spring break.**



# MARCH 2024



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31					1 Maintenance Worker Appreciation Day Last day of book fair Dollar, No Collar	2 Read across America Day
3 National School Breakfast Week	4 Come decked out in your house colors Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss- Crazy Sock Day	5 Green Eggs and Ham Day, Wear Green Common Sense Parenting 5:30pm- 7:30pm	6 Wacky Wednesday (Wear mismatched clothes/shoes)	7 Crazy Hair/Pajama Day	8 7:15am- 5th grade literacy breakfast International Women's Day Character Day- Dress up as any Dr. Seuss Character	9
10 Daylight Savings "Spring Forward" 	11 Come decked out in your house colors Recognition Ceremonies 4th Grade: 8:15am - 8:55am 3rd Grade: 9:05am - 9:45am	12 Recognition Ceremonies Kindergarten: 8:15am - 8:55am 1st Grade: 9:05am - 9:45am Common Sense Parenting 5:30pm- 7:30pm	13 7am- SAC/PTO Mtg in Media Center Recognition Ceremonies 2nd Grade: 8:15am - 8:55am 5th Grade: 9:05am - 9:45am	14	15 Ice Cream Truck Field Day	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Spring Break- Be Safe!! Read 30 minutes daily! 3/18 to 3/22						
24	25 Teacher Work Day- No School	26 Students Return! 4th grade trip to St. Augustine Common Sense Parenting 5:30pm- 7:30pm	27	28 Dual Language Parent Series - Pt 2 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm Cafeteria	29 No School	30
Safety Patrols in DC ---3/26 to 3/29						