

355 Landrum Lane, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL· 32082

Palms Post Issue 1 Vol·23-2020

Dear Ocean Palms Families,

On behalf of the entire school staff, I would like to welcome you and your children to the 2020-2021 school year. As we enter a new year of learning and growing together, we are enthusiastic about continuing the standard of excellence that has been established at Ocean Palms. Ocean Palms is a school where every child's academic, social, and emotional growth are priorities, each and every day. Building relationships, cultivating student leaders, and offering curriculum to meet the needs of each student form the foundation of our school's mission and vision. We currently have 668 students enrolled and our numbers are growing daily with 25% of our student population committed to nine weeks of distance learning. Distance learning will mirror the instruction of brick and mortar so students are academically prepared to transition back to brick and mortar when the time comes. To learn more about the expectations for distance learning please visit the district <a href="https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/online-learning/">https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/online-learning/</a>.

The summer has brought new families, new employees, and improvements to our facility, along with months of careful planning and preparation. I am extremely grateful to the dedicated staff, parents, PTO and community partners who have already invested time, effort, and expertise to set the stage for what will surely prove to be a successful school year. Ocean Palms Elementary is committed to providing an enriching, rigorous, and equitable learning environment for our students. Over the next year, with the generous support of our PTO and our business partners we will begin to increase and enhance the technology infrastructure. This will be a phased project that will mirror the St. Johns County model for integrating technology equipment into the classroom. As we strive to create sustainable learning environments where technology devices are utilized as a tool for instruction, professional development for our teachers will also be a priority.

We are excited to announce the grand opening of our new playground, The Otter Park! The playground has been installed and is ready for students. We are especially grateful to have been able to complete this project during a pandemic. A ribbon cutting ceremony will be scheduled in the near future. Thank you again to everyone who supported our fundraising efforts. This project would not have been possible without the determination and dedication of many individuals! A special thank you to third grader, Landon Hunter, who delivered a proposal to his family to make a very generous donation through their family fund. Thank you Stacy Rendzio and Jennifer Werba for the countless hours they dedicated to organizing this project. Thank you to our business sponsors who helped us complete the playground and bring this project to fruition.

### Ocean Palms Otter Park Sponsors:

"Flagship Sponsor"
Flagler Hospital
St. Augustine

"Otter Float Sponsor"

JT Townsend Foundation

Brown & Brown Insurance,

John Merrill Homes,

Memorial Hospital &

AR Homes by Arthur Rutenberg

The Kneeland Hunter Family Fund,

<u>Training For Warriors</u>

<u>Ponte Vedra Beach</u>.

## Welcome school

The first day of school is Monday, August 31 for all 1st through 5th graders. School hours will remain the same. Supervision at parent drop off and buses begins at 8:05. Please do not release your child in the car line until there are adults present to receive them. The school day begins at 8:25 a.m. and ends at 2:45 p.m. Remember, every Wednesday is early release at 1:45 and PreK dismissal begins at 2:30 daily and at 1:30 on Wednesdays.

Please visit our webpage and review our Parent Handbook for more details regarding OPE policies and procedures <a href="https://www-ope.stjohns.k12.fl.us/">https://www-ope.stjohns.k12.fl.us/</a>. If your child needs to arrive prior to 8:05 a.m. they may participate in our early morning care provided through our extended day program. If your child is a bus rider, you can access your child's bus route through our Home Access Center (HAC).

We want to remind kindergarten parents that the first day for all kindergarten students is Friday, September 4. We will implement a flexible first week schedule for kindergarten, as approved by the School Board. Every kindergarten student was assigned a staggered start day. Parents of brick and mortar Kindergarten students should arrive between (8:45-9:00) on their designated staggered start day. Kindergarten parents, we ask that you park in our visitor parking lot and walk your child to our main entrance area where your child's teacher will be waiting for you. At 9:00 a.m. kindergarten teachers will escort students to their classrooms to start their day.

On the first day of school, we are asking all car riders to use their old car tag or to post a sign on their dashboard with their child's full name and grade level to assist with our dismissal process. Par-

Ocean Palms
Elementary School

4<sup>th</sup> grade

Tom Smith

&
Mary Smith

ents who do not have signage or old car tags will be asked to stay in the car line until they reach the ID check point at the front of the line. On the first day of school, all brick and mortar students will come home with a blue communication folder containing this year's car tag. Car tags are required and must be displayed during Parent Pick-up (PPU). Please hang or place the tag where it can be easily seen from a distance. We ask that you print the grade level (of the youngest student if siblings) at the top and the student name(s) underneath. Older siblings will wait with younger siblings in the younger sibling's grade level area during dismissal. For safety, students may only enter the car on the passenger side of the vehicle.

We encourage parents to join PTO and to follow us on Instagram and FaceBook. Check out PTO's

webpage for more details https://www.opepto.com/. If you are interested in joining our School Advisory Council (SAC) please contact the main office at 547-3760 for more information. Special Thank you to our PTO for providing our teachers with gift cards and our staff with Otter masks. We also want to thank Trasca & Co. Eatery for providing our staff with a delicious breakfast this week. Thank you in advance for supporting our students, our staff, and our school. It is a true honor to partner with you as leaders and learners at this amazing school.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Tiffany Cantwell

Principal





# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

















Ocean Palms Elementary School was presented at the May 12<sup>th</sup> SJCSD Board Meeting with the Family and Community Involvement Award in the Elementary School Category for the 2019-2020 school at the District Level. But the good news does not stop there!

On August 4th, Superintendent Tim Forson announced the State of Florida's Region 2 Family and Community Involvement Award winner in

this category as Ocean Palms. This is the highest Award presented by the State Department of Education. These annual Awards highlight exemplary school programs and practices that meaningfully engage families and the community to enhance student success. Winning programs serve to highlight and promote innovative school practices that increase and sustain family and community involvement.

The Award recognizes Be The Change, an environmental partnership between Ocean Palms Elementary School and Beaches Go Green,

a nonprofit led by former Ocean Palms' parent Anne Marie Moquin. Beaches Go Green aims to create awareness and education around the detrimental impact of single-use plastic waste and how it impacts our planet. Anne Marie is a local champion who has worked tirelessly putting together a team of parents, students, schools, businesses, corporations and public employees who live and work at the beach and care about our oceans.



The Beaches Go Green Ponte Vedra High School club provided STEM education to our fifth grade students focused on natural science, along with mentoring, environmental guidance and school-wide signage. Beaches Go Green also provided reusable stainless steel water bottles for all our fifth grade students, their teachers, resource teachers and front office staff to put the Refuse, Reduce and Reuse lesson into practice. All materials supplied by Beaches Go Green were at no cost to Ocean Palms. Beaches Go Green high school volunteers taught fifth grade students, through presentations and workshops, how to educate our community on taking small steps to reduce single-use plastics. These Ocean Palms students then led our school-wide Be The Change project with a focus on practicing the 4Rs: refuse, reduce, reuse and recycle.

What makes Beaches Go Green's environmental education so successful with our elementary students is the non-lecture format, engaging students of different ages and their contagious resolve to inspire our community. This persistence and creativity has initiated long lasting changes. Students enjoy the hands on education provided through Beaches Go Green, as well as arts and crafts projects made from repurposed materials.

Ocean Palms most prolific community educational project was a collaborative building of the 8' tall light-up Otter art installation made from collected egg cartons, leftover construction materials and hurricane sandbags. This creation



was hosted in the Beaches Go Green Octopus Garden at Deck the Chairs 2019 from Thanksgiving through New Years. Our Ambassador Students were inspired to change their annual service projects to incorporate recycled or repurposed materials, including their Thank You Project for almost 100 local First Responders, and projects for a local nursing home, pet shelter, etc.

Be The Change continues this school year. A formal Beaches Go Green Be The Change Club will be included for our fifth grade Student Ambassadors, with virtual presentations, workshops and education provided through Beaches Go Green high school volunteers. This education al-



lows our Ambassadors a continued opportunity to change our local culture by promoting the 4Rs to our school, families and community through service projects, fun arts, crafts and education.



August 25, 2020

Dear SJCSD Parents and Guardians,

In an effort to provide you with information and guidance on COVID-19 and being healthy and safe at school, our Health Services Department has provided a <u>Student Health Screening Entry Form</u> (see attached). This health screening form will help you to assess your child daily for a variety of symptoms and to ask answer questions about contact your child may have had.

A second document is the <u>Student Symptom Criteria Checklist</u> (see attached). This document will be used by the school nurse at your child's school to determine symptoms that he/she may be experiencing and will require a medical evaluation and instructions for returning to school.

Lastly, we have included a presentation, the SJCSD Student Day with PPE video, showing some of the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) that will be used throughout the school day. All forms and videos are located on the district's website <a href="https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/">https://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/</a>.

Thank you for your continued support as we work to keep our students and staff safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

Kyle Dresback Associate Superintendent of Student Support Services St. Johns County School District

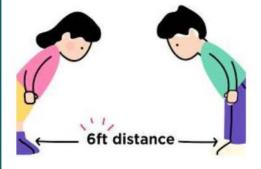
## Remember the 3 W's



# Wear Your Mask



# Wash Your Hands



# Watch Your Distance

## ST. JOHNS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT HEALTH SERVICES STUDENT SYMPTOM CRITERIA CHECKLIST

Due to the nature of communicable illnesses and during this time of COVID-19
Pandemic, in addition to symptoms of commonly occurring illnesses, any student presenting with the following symptoms will be sent to the school nurse for assessment. Parents will be contacted regarding student pick-up.

Symptom criteria from the Florida Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics states students who meet the screening criteria below should be sent home for further medical evaluation.

#### TWO OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- Chills
- Muscle aches
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New decrease in smell or taste

#### OR ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- Fever of 100.4 or higher
- Uncontrolled cough
- Shortness of breath
- Vomiting and/or diarrhea

Your child must be evaluated by a healthcare provider and must present a clearance note to return to school. Contact your healthcare provider or the Department of Health regarding your child's symptoms.

Per CDC and AAP guidelines, if your child is not medically evaluated, he/she must remain at home for at least 10 days from the first day symptoms appeared AND 24 hours fever free without fever-reducing medications AND improvement of symptoms.

If you decide to not have your child medically evaluated and choose to keep him/her home for the 10 day recommendation, you must send a written note stating such with your child upon their return to school.

For any additional questions about your child's care contact Department of Health, St. Johns at (904) 209-3250.



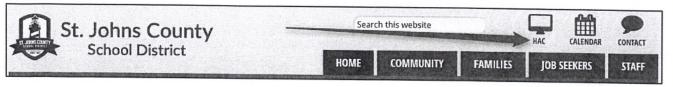
### St. Johns County School District

### Parents: New Home Access Center Account "HAC"

Last Modified 5/31/2018

To register for a Home Access Center Account, "HAC", please follow the below instructions. Please note, only the **Parent or Legal Guardian** of the student can register for a HAC account and the student must be in compliance with Immunizations and Registration requirements as per District Policy. Only one account is needed per family.

Navigate to the St. Johns County School District website at <a href="http://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/">http://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/</a>. Across the top of the homepage, you will see the HAC Icon. Click to enter HAC.



On this page you will find an overview of the Home Access Center, FAQ's and the log in prompt. To login, click the blue "Login to Home Access Center" box.

Home Access Center

If you already have an account, you can log in using your user name and password. If you need to register for a HAC account, "Click here to register for HAC".

Please enter your Center.	account information for Home Access
User Name:	
Password:	

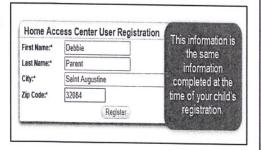
Fill in all fields completely:

**First Name and Last Name:** Enter the information that was given at the time of your child's registration. If your first name is Elizabeth and you wrote down "Liz", use "Liz".

<u>City:</u> Be sure to completely spell out the City such as "Saint Augustine", "Saint Johns", "Hastings", etc. (Do not abbreviate)

**<u>Zip Code:</u>** Use the 5 digit Zip code for your home address

After entering the above information, select the "Register" button



Once your account has been located, please create a user name. It is recommended that you <u>use your current email address as your user name.</u> Next, create challenge questions and answers, finally click "finish". Your account is now ready for use.

sername:   llovekids@xxx com ×	Enter your current email	has on record for you with further instruction on creating your new Home Access Pass	
Compose 2 challenge questions and provide appropriate answers	address as your Username.		
Ouestions My Favorite Vacation Spot?	Create challenge questions	Answers	
	and answers.	Jamaica	
Color of my first vehicle?	Click the finish button.	Blue	



### The DEN-Morning and Extended Day Program 2020-2021 Kim LaMondie, Coordinator 904-547-4150

- © Registration Fee \$75 (non-refundable)
- © Before (7:00am-8:00am) \$100/month
- $\circledcirc$  After (dismissal-6:00pm) \$250/month
- © Before and After \$300/month
- © Wednesday Only \$60/month

(Prices subject to District Approval)

Start Date	
Reg Fee	
Program	
Check #	

Child's name:		First	Nickname
MaleFemaleBirthdate	Grade_	Teacher	Bus#
Sibling's name:			
Last		First	Nickname
MaleFemaleBirthdate	Grade_	Teacher	Bus#
Child(ren) Resides with: Mother	Father	_BothOther_	Relationship
Mother/Guardian's name		Mother's e	email*
Mother's address			
Mother's Phone HM			
Father/Guardian's name		Father's e	nail*
Father's address_		Employer	
Father's Phone HM	Cell_		WK
CUSTODIAL RIGHTS: Parent per Mother:YesNo Father:Yes	esNo Step	omother:Yes	
Child's Physician		Phone	
ALTERNATIVE CHILD PICKUF I hereby give Ocean Palms permissi			
Name			
Name			
Name	Relationsh	ip	Phone
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS AND	OR MEDICA	AL CONDITIONS	S:
Data	Parent Signs	ature	

### **Training For Warriors Afterschool Workout Program**





### Join us for a fun afterschool workout!

TFW's afterschool program encompasses signature warmups, speed training, strength training, endurance training, flexibility work, nutrition education and games specifically for kids in an outdoor setting.

TFW helps improve confidence and self esteem while having fun!

Each class will be one hour in length and there will be a total of 12 classes each session.

Cost is \$200 per child per session

In the event of closure, all sessions purchased will be prorated.

### **TFW Registration Form**

Return to the OPE Front Office by Thursday, September 10th

	& Wed. 2-3pm 3/1/21-4/12/21 (no class 3/17)
The same of the sa	n & Wed. 2-3pm 1/4/21-2/22/21 (no class 1/18, 1/29 & 2/15)
[1] - [1] [1] [1] - [1] [1] [1] [1] [1] [1] [1] [1] [1] [1]	n & Wed. 2-3pm 10/26/20-12/9/20 (no class 11/11 & 11/25)
☐ 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade GIRLS Mon. 3-4pn	n & Wed. 2-3pm 9/14/20-10/21/20
Check the box to indicate whi	ch session you are signing up for below.
My child's medical concerns:	
Emergency Contacts Name and Cell Filone.	
Emergency Contact's Name and Cell Phone:	
Child's Name:	Gr:Teacher:
Parent's Name:	Cell Phone:

Make checks payable to TFW PVB
Drop off form & payment at Ocean Palms Elem.
Attn: Phil Squatrito
355 Landrum Lane, PVB, FL 32082

Questions?
Reach out to Phil Squatrito
973-723-7388
www.tfwpontevedrabeach.com



# PAINT THE OTTER ROCKS!



For a reservation of \$30, congratulate your favorite student, wish them a happy birthday (or "half" birthday), show appreciation to your favorite teacher or staff member, or just let everyone know how much you love Ocean Palms Elementary School!

### HOW DO I SIGN UP?

All reservations are made online via the SignUp Genius link. *Please select carefully as we have two rocks available - one at the Bus Loop and one at the Car Loop.* Some school dates are not listed as the rocks will be decorated for school events. Payment can be made through SignUp Genius or by sending in a check to Ocean Palms Elementary PTO. Please keep in mind that your date is not confirmed unless we have received your payment.

Reservations are processed on a first come, first serve basis. The earlier you make your reservation, the more likely you are to secure your desired date(s). Additionally, remember that there are approximately 180 school days per year, and that OPE has over 600 students registered. Please understand if the date you requested is unavailable.

#### WHEN CAN I PAINT THE ROCKS?

You may paint your designated rock from 3:30-6pm on the day you have reserved. When booking your date please keep in mind the day that you paint will be the day before the event you're celebrating. For example, if your child's birthday is Tuesday, September 22, then you would reserve Monday, September 21<sup>st</sup> to paint. If you would like your message visible on a Monday, you would need to paint on Friday.

#### ARE THERE ANY RESTRICTIONS ON DECORATIONS?

What is painted on an Otter Rock MUST be in good taste and MAY NOT contain any foul language, discriminatory, religious, and/or political statements/symbols. Profanity and obscenities are not permitted. You may only promote a business if they are a Corporate Partner with OPE.

Character Counts here in St. Johns County. All messages should be affirming! Designs should have a caring and nurturing message. All wording and symbols must be positive.

### WHAT SUPPLIES DO I NEED TO PAINT THE ROCK?

You may use spray paint or regular paint – it's up to you! You will need to use your own paint brushes. Painting tip: Bring a piece of chalk to write any letters/words before painting! An Otter Rock Borrow Bin is available in the school building with a selection of paint. Help yourself to what's in the bin or feel free to donate any leftover paint you may have for the next person. You will be able to enter the school and the employee at the Front Desk will be able to retrieve it for you. We recommend purchasing spray paint to do a base coat and then paint for the letters and details.

Families, groups or organizations must furnish their own labor, paint and supplies to paint a rock. Any paintbrushes used must be washed at home.

ONLY the rock can be painted. Painting on sidewalks, driveways, fences, etc. is prohibited. Any damage or destruction to the surrounding areas or buildings will deem the family, group or organization financially responsible for cleaning and repair costs. This means that ALL PAINT SUPPLIES MUST STAY NEAR THE OTTER ROCKS. We recommend using plastic drop cloths to protect the mulch, stones, driveway and curb while you are painting.

Bring a large trash bag to take home all items/supplies after the painting is complete. You will not have access to water on site to rinse off brushes. You will need to properly discard all painting supplies at home and not on school grounds. Used paint cans are not to be placed in campus trash bins or dumpsters. Please dispose of paint cans properly off campus.

### WHAT IF IT'S RAINING WHEN IT'S TIME FOR ME TO PAINT?

There will be no refunds, even due to the weather. Unfortunately you may have to hold an umbrella if it is raining. If you are unable to paint the rock on schedule according to your reservation (due to a conflict in your schedule, forgetfulness, weather, school closure, etc.), please contact Stephanie Marciani (<a href="mailto:shmorse@yahoo.com">shmorse@yahoo.com</a>) to see about switching to a new date. Please MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

### SHOW OFF YOUR ARTWORK!

Make sure to email a picture of your painted rock art to <a href="mailto:shmorse@yahoo.com">shmorse@yahoo.com</a>.
Your photo will be added to our "Rock Collection" gallery! By emailing a photo that includes children, parents must understand that they are giving their permission for the photo to be posted on the PTO website and/or on social media sites.

We look forward to seeing all the creative Otter Rock decorating, and we thank you for your support of the OPE PTO!

For any questions, please email Stephanie Marciani at <a href="mailto:shmorse@yahoo.com">shmorse@yahoo.com</a>.



LIVE BAND - FOOD TASTINGS - AUCTION



sponsored by:

















You're invited!

# ROBOT Building Party

Bring a friend, make new ones, and build a **ROBOT** with

GIRL SCOUTS—it's all FREE!

Thursday, September 10 7 p.m. EDT/6 p.m. CDT

Virtual

robotbuilding9-10.eventbrite.com



Parents & Caregivers, you're invited too! Get more information and RSVP at bit.ly/3hWxvzR or call 877-764-5237.



Snap a picture to see more upcoming events!

Find more events and register through Eventbrite





ICKET!

# FREE Robot Building Party

September 10 7pm/6pm CDT Virtual TICKET!



877-764-5237 www.joingsgc.org



## WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR A GIRL LIKE YOU!

JOIN US TODAY!

## Why Girl Scouts?

At Girl Scouts, we're passionate about helping families raise strong, confident, independent girls who grow into innovative leaders. We have a rich history of providing girls with the resources to discover their true passion and understand their self-worth. And we have FUN doing it!

### What's new?

We know times have changed - so we have, too. We're proud to still operate by the same basic principles on which we were founded while constantly adapting to the world around us. Today, Girl Scouts offers exciting new opportunities like STEM programming, virtual activities, girl-led troops and leadership roles for our older girls.

## I'm ready!

Becoming a Girl Scout has never been easier!
Visit our website at www.joingsgc.org
or call us at 877-764-5237 to complete your
registration. Interested in becoming a volunteer?
Visit our site or call for more information on how you
can help change the world for the better.



# THANK YOU TO OUR 2020-21 BUSINESS PARTNERS!











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Marsh Landing Parkway







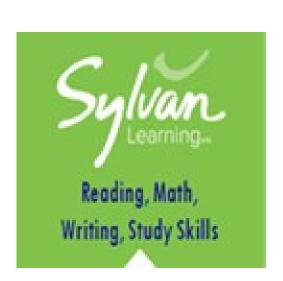














Jax Beach • Ponte Vedra

