



355 Landrum Lane, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

Palms Post December 2024

Dear Otter Community,

The holiday season is in full swing, and we are overwhelmed with gratitude for the kindness and generosity of our Otter Raft! Your support for our Holiday Cheer for Otters and Holiday Meals for Otter Families initiatives has been truly inspiring, and it's heartwarming to see how our community comes together to brighten the holidays for those in need. If you'd still like to participate, there are just a few items left on the Holiday Cheer for Otters Amazon Wish List <https://www.amazon.com/registries/gf/guest-view/2C3C289CQFHD1>—a wonderful opportunity to bring even more cheer this season. Items will be sent directly to our school counselor for distribution, and all donations must be received by December 4, 2024. Don't miss out on this chance to make a difference!

As we continue spreading holiday joy, we are thrilled to share that the much-anticipated Parrish Storybook Path ribbon-cutting ceremony will take place on Wednesday, December 11. This meaningful project honors the legacy of Mr. Mike Parrish, Ocean Palms Elementary's beloved Principal from 1996 to 2011. The beautifully paved path on our back field will allow students to walk, run, and explore rotating storybook displays. The first station will feature a memorial sign and artwork celebrating Mr. Parrish's unwavering dedication to fostering a positive and personal school culture. We are excited to see this long-awaited tribute come to life and look forward to the joy it will bring to our students and school community.

Looking ahead, it's time to gear up for the CHARACTER COUNTS! Six Pillars 6K/3K Run/Walk on Saturday, February 1, 2025. For six consecutive years, Ocean Palms has been a finalist for participation, and we're aiming for the top spot this year! Whether you're a runner, a walker, or just looking for a fun way to connect, this event is a fantastic way to show your Otter pride while celebrating good character and fitness with our community. Let's make waves together!

And finally, don't forget to check out our calendar of festive dress-up days to help us all embrace the holiday spirit in style! From twinkling lights to cozy sweaters, there's something fun for everyone to enjoy as we sail into the season.

A quick reminder about dismissal times during this festive month:

- On Wednesday, December 4, 11, and 18, dismissal is at 2:30/2:45.
- On Friday, December 20, we will dismiss one hour early at 1:30/1:45.

Thank you for your unwavering support and enthusiasm—our Otter community truly makes this season brighter for everyone.

Warm holiday wishes,

Mrs. Tiffany Cantwell and Ms. Kim Bays
OPE Administration Team

December

Count Down to Cheer Holiday Dress Up Days Check Out - page 4

- 11 – PreK & Varying Exceptionalities (VE) Self-contained classes Celebrations
- 12 – First Grade Celebrations
- 12 – Third Gr. Music Performance at 6:00
- 13 – Kindergarten Celebrations
- 16 – Second Grade Celebrations
- 17 – Third Grade Celebrations
- 18 – Fourth Grade Celebrations
- 19 – Fifth Grade Celebrations
- 20 – Holiday Sing-along & Pajama Day
- 20 – Second Quarter/First Semester Ends

20 – Early Dismissal 1:30 PreK and 1:45 Grades K-5 before Winter Break

January

- 3 – Teacher Planning Day/No School
- 6 – Classes Resume
- 16 – Report Cards posted on (HAC)
- 20 – Martin Luther King Day/No School

Beaches Orthodontics

Dr. Shreena Patel



At Beaches Orthodontics, you may start as a patient, but by the time your initial consultation is done, you become a member of the family! We think orthodontic treatment should be as enjoyable as possible and do our best to keep everyone smiling and laughing throughout treatment! We cherish the relationships that develop with our patients and their families, and often stay connected long after treatment is finished.

We know that in orthodontic treatment, no two patients have the same needs! Beaches Orthodontics works hard to make sure each patient gets the individualized care they deserve.

We use state-of-the-art self ligating Damon braces, as well as iTero scanners and a 3D printer to reduce the need for uncomfortable impressions. Beaches Orthodontics is also the only Platinum + Invisalign Provider at the beaches!

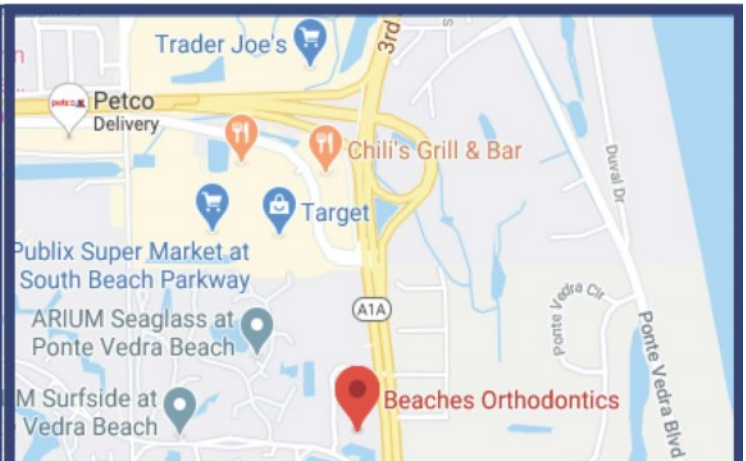
Experience the Beaches Orthodontics difference for yourself! Schedule your complimentary consultation at our office and get ready to smile!

Schedule your complimentary consultation today!

904-241-2471

150 Professional Drive, Suite 100 | Ponte Vedra Beach

www.patelbeachesorthodontics.com





2024-25 PARTNERS IN EDUCATION

Please support these amazing businesses that support our school!

GOLD Partners



THE MORRIS CENTER
Unlock Learning Potential



SILVER Partners






BRONZE Partners





Count Down to Cheer - Holiday Dress Up

| December 2024 | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|---|
| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| 2 Holiday Accessories Day - Wear holiday-themed accessories like a hat, reindeer antlers, socks, and jingle bells. | 3 Candy Cane Day Wear red and white stripes and a Santa hat or red and white hat.  | 4 Festive Outfit Day Wear your most festive holiday outfit and hat. | 5 Sparkle and Shine Day - Wear something glittery or sparkly and a glittery or shiny hat. | 6 Elf Day - Dress like an elf and wear an elf hat.  |
| 9 Holiday Accessories Day - Wear holiday-themed accessories like a hat, reindeer antlers, socks, and jingle bells. | 10 Winter Wonderland Day - Wear blue and silver and/or a winter-themed hat. | 11 Ugly Sweater Day Wear your ugliest holiday sweater and/or an ugly sweater-themed hat. | 12 Snowman Day Dress in white or wear snowman accessories. | 13 Wacky Holiday Hair Day - Style your hair in a fun, holiday-themed way and wear a wacky holiday hat. |
| 16 Holiday Accessories Day - Wear holiday-themed accessories like a hat, reindeer antlers, socks, and jingle bells. | 17 Red and Green Day Wear red and green and/or a red or green hat. | 18 Grinch Day - Dress like the Grinch or wear green.  | 19 Holiday Sweater Day Wear your favorite holiday sweater and/or a holiday hat. | 20 Pajama Day - Wear your favorite pajamas and a cozy holiday hat. |

Leonard's
YEARBOOK

YOUR OWN PERSONAL TIME CAPSULE

ORDER ONLINE TODAY
BuyTheYearbook.com
 School ID: 725774

Spotlight on CAAP Art: Creative Turkeys in Mrs. Sebestyen's Class



This month, Mrs. Sebestyen's class has been exploring creativity and tradition through their CAAP art project, guided by their amazing CAAP parent, Ms. Kim. Using Norman Rockwell's iconic painting of Thanksgiving dinner as inspiration, the students crafted vibrant and imaginative turkeys that reflect the spirit of the season.

Each turkey is a unique work of art, blending tradition with the students' own creative flair. Be sure to check out their masterpieces displayed in our school! Thank you, Ms. Kim and Mrs. Sebestyen, for making art come alive for our students.





Special Olympics
Florida

DECEMBER 3, 2024

ST JOHNS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION
PARENT ADVISORY

INVITES YOU TO JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL
PRESENTATION

FEATURING:

JANA ARNETTE, SENIOR DIRECTOR OF
UNIFIED CHAMPION SCHOOLS AND
DEVELOPMENTAL SPORTS PROGRAMS

TOPIC:

**Special Olympics
Florida: How to Get
Your Student Involved**

Join on your computer or mobile app via link below

[Join the meeting now](#)

Or call in (audio only) 904-420-0831

Phone Conference ID: 871 513 452#

**ST JOHNS COUNTY
SCHOOL DISTRICT**



JOIN US FOR AN
INFORMATIVE SESSION
THAT WILL HIGHLIGHT
FREE UNIFIED YOUTH
SPORTS LEAGUES –
BASKETBALL, SOCCER,
FLAG FOOTBALL, GOLF
– AND OTHER
COMMUNITY SPORTS
PROGRAMS THAT
PROVIDE INCLUSIVE
ENVIRONMENTS FOR
ATHLETES OF ALL AGES
AND ABILITIES

12/3/2024

This meeting will
be held via
Microsoft Teams
platform

6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

[CHARACTER COUNTS! in St. Johns County Six Pillars 6K/3K Run/Walk \(runsignup.com\)](https://runsignup.com)

Join the CHARACTER COUNTS! Steering Committee for its 12th Annual CHARACTER COUNTS! 6K/3K Run/Walk on Saturday, February 1 2025, at 9 a.m. The run/walk will begin and end at Palencia Elementary School, located at 355 Palencia Village Drive, St. Augustine.

Walkers and runners will enjoy a course running through the neighborhoods of Kensington and Las Calinas and can choose to participate in the 6K (3.73 miles) or 3K (1.86 miles) distance.

Registration fees are as follows:

6K Walk/Run

\$30 before January 1

\$35 January 1-February 1

\$40 on race day

3K Walk/Run

\$30 before January 1

\$35 January 1-February 1

\$40 on race day

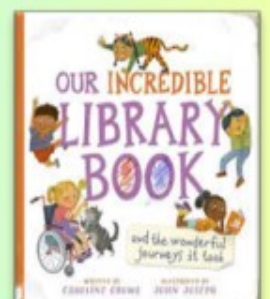
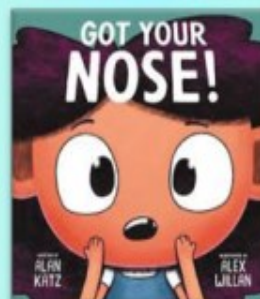
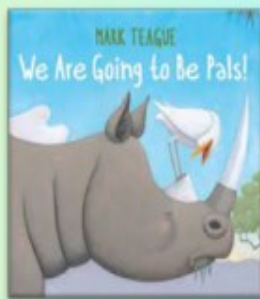
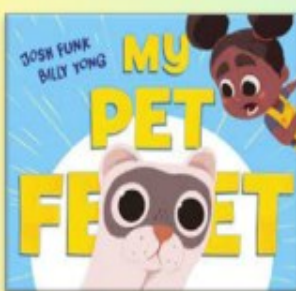
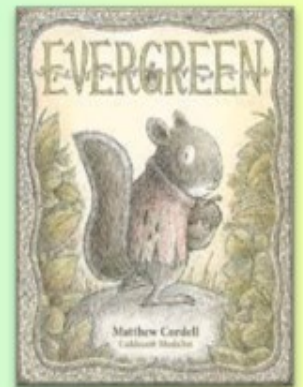
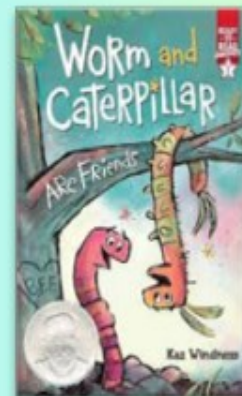
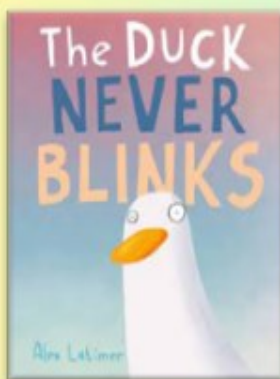
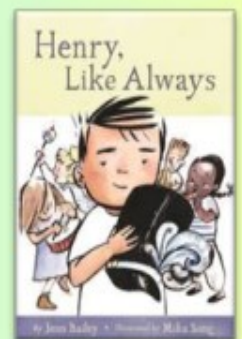
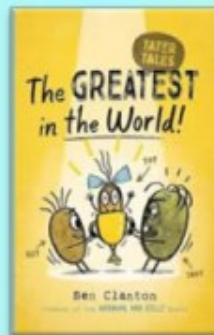
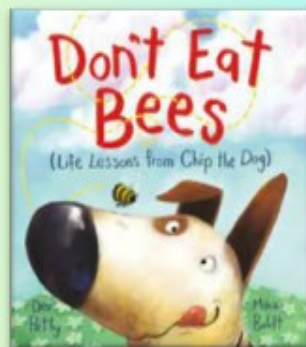
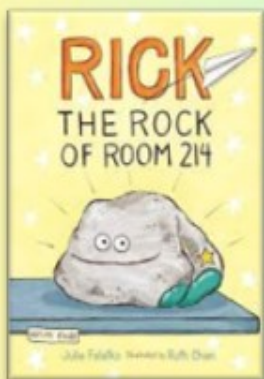
December's Lunch Menu

| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|---|--|--|--|---|
| December 2nd | December 3rd | December 4th | December 5th | December 6th |
| Chicken Slider Biscuit | Penne Pasta with Choice of Marinara Sauce OR | Homestyle Chicken Sandwich | Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza | Hamburger or Cheeseburger |
| French Toast sticks | Marinara sauce with Meatballs | BBQ Turkey Sandwich | Mini Corn Dogs | Max Cheese Sticks with choice of marinara dipping sauce |
| Tater Tots | Beef & Bean Chili with choice of cheese cup | Sweet Potato Fries & Baked Beans | Steamed Broccoli | Baked Potato Fries |
| Assorted Fresh Vegetables | Green Beans & Assorted Fresh Vegetables | Assorted Fresh Vegetables | Assorted Fresh Vegetables | Assorted Fresh Vegetables |
| Assorted Fruit | Assorted Fruit | Assorted Fruit | Assorted Fruit | Assorted Fruit & Choice of 100% Juice |
| ketchup, mustard, dipping sauce dunk cup, syrup | WG Garlic Ripstick | Ketchup, mustard, Mayo, dipping sauce dunk cup | Dipping sauce dunk cup, Ketchup, mustard | Ketchup, mustard, Mayo, dipping sauce dunk cup |
| December 9th | December 10th | December 11th | December 12th | December 13th |
| Chicken Nuggets & Choice of WG Garlic Ripstick | Hot Dog | Grilled Cheese Sandwich | Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza | Hamburger or Cheeseburger |
| Loaded Philly Tots | Mac & Cheese | BBQ Chicken Quesadilla | Mini Corn Dogs | Max Cheese Sticks with choice of marinara dipping sauce |
| Green Beans | Baked Beans | Sweet Potato Fries | Steamed Broccoli | Baked Potato Fries |
| Assorted Fresh Vegetables | Assorted Fresh Vegetables | Assorted Fresh Vegetables | Assorted Fresh Vegetables | Assorted Fresh Vegetables |
| Assorted Fruit | Assorted Fruit | Assorted Fruit | Assorted Fruit | Assorted Fruit & Choice of 100% Juice |
| Dipping sauce dunk cup, cheese cup | Ketchup, mustard, dipping sauce dunk cup | Ketchup, mustard, Mayo, dipping sauce dunk cup | Dipping sauce dunk cup, Ketchup, mustard | Ketchup, mustard, Mayo, dipping sauce dunk cup |
| December 16th | December 17th | December 18th | December 19th | December 20th |
| Chicken Slider Biscuit | Penne Pasta with Choice of Marinara Sauce OR | Homestyle Chicken Sandwich | Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza | Hamburger or Cheeseburger |
| French Toast sticks | Marinara sauce with Meatballs | BBQ Turkey Sandwich | Mini Corn Dogs | Max Cheese Sticks with choice of marinara dipping sauce |
| Tater Tots | Beef & Bean Chili with choice of cheese cup | Sweet Potato Fries & Baked Beans | Steamed Broccoli | Baked Potato Fries |
| Assorted Fresh Vegetables | Green Beans & Assorted Fresh Vegetables | Assorted Fresh Vegetables | Assorted Fresh Vegetables | Assorted Fresh Vegetables |
| Assorted Fruit | Assorted Fruit | Assorted Fruit | Assorted Fruit | Assorted Fruit & Choice of 100% Juice |
| ketchup, mustard, dipping sauce dunk cup, syrup | WG Garlic Ripstick | Ketchup, mustard, Mayo, dipping sauce dunk cup | Dipping sauce dunk cup, Ketchup, mustard | Ketchup, mustard, Mayo, dipping sauce dunk cup |

2024



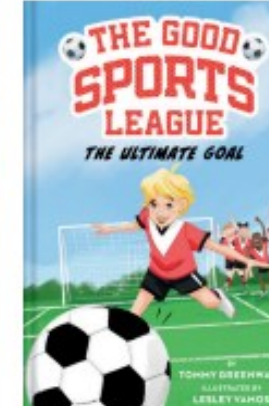
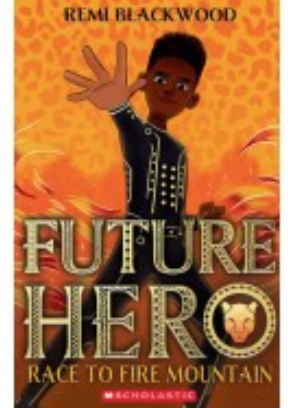
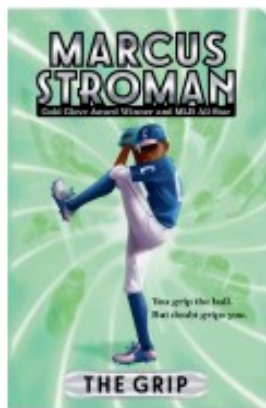
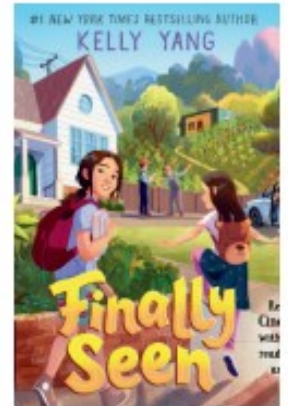
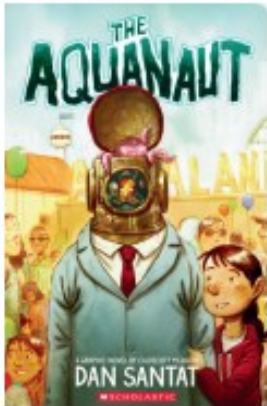
2025



Which will be your new favorite?



SSYRA Books 2024-25 Grades 3-5



How many will you read?

PAIN'T THE OTTER ROCK!

**CELEBRATE YOUR STUDENT
OR TEACHER WITH A
SPECIAL MESSAGE!**

3 Otter Rocks to choose from: one at each entrance!



SCAN NOW

or visit OPEPTO.com



How to Access the Family Portal



The Family Portal provides a central location for your student's assessment results.

The Family Portal can be used to:

- access your student's results for FAST Progress Monitoring testing, EOCs, Statewide Science, Retakes, the Florida Civic Literacy Exam, and the Florida Alternate Assessment.
- access prior statewide assessment results.
- print score reports.

How can I access the Family Portal?

- **At the Florida Statewide Assessments Portal:**
<https://ffast.org>
- **Or at the direct link:**
<https://fl-familyportal.cambiumast.com/>

What information do I need to log in to the Family Portal?

- Your student's unique 6-digit access code (found in HAC under the Registration tab).
- Your student's date of birth.
- Your student's first name as it appears on their official school record.

What information can I find on the Family Portal?

- Your student's results from Fall 2020 through present.
- Your student's Individual Student Reports with interpretative guides.
- Glossary
- FAQs
- Performance Levels

Where do I get the Access Code?

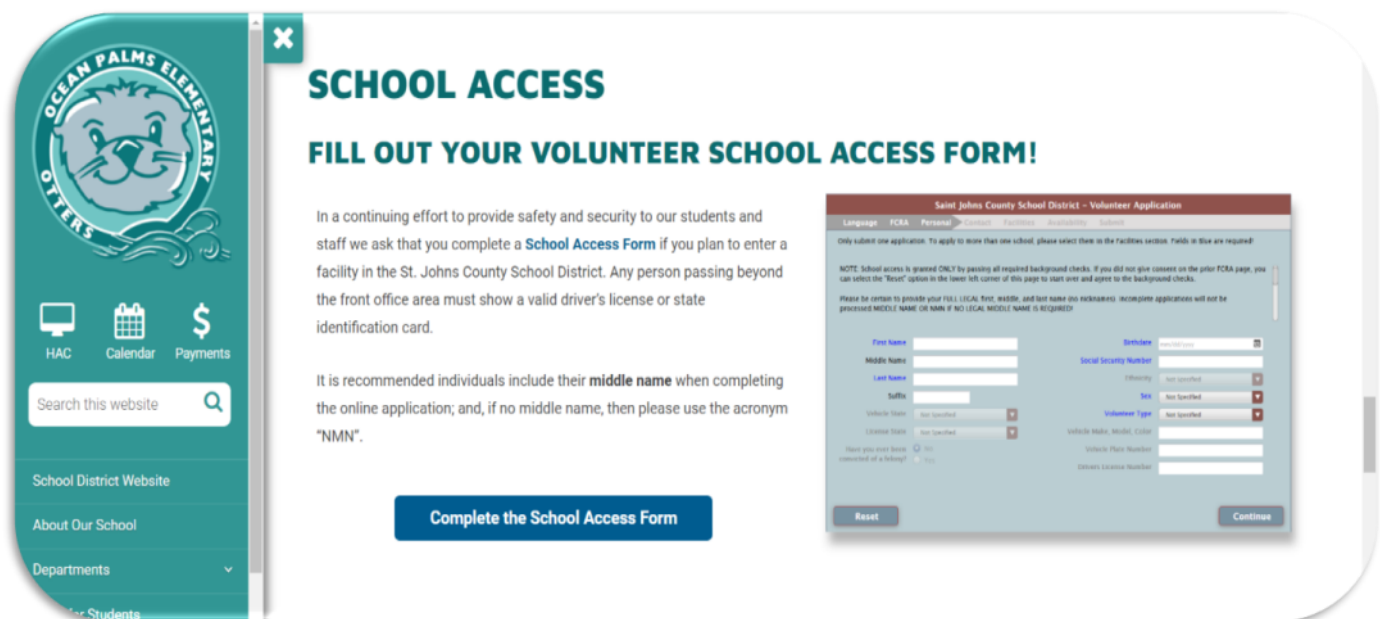
The code can be found in the Home Access Center (HAC) under the Registration tab. The code will be located on the right side of the page under Additional Information.

How Do I Get Approved to Access the School Building?

<https://stjohns.keepntrack.com/apply>

In an ongoing endeavor to provide safety and security for students and staff, school access is required for every individual that is not a staff member of the St. Johns County School District. Below are the steps every visitor must complete to access the building during school hours.

1. **Complete the School Access Form at <https://stjohns.keepntrack.com/apply>. Do not wait to complete your application because the process can potentially take up to two weeks to clear.**



The screenshot shows the Ocean Palms Elementary website interface. On the left is a teal sidebar with the school logo, navigation links (HAC, Calendar, Payments), a search bar, and a menu (School District Website, About Our School, Departments, For Students). The main content area is titled "SCHOOL ACCESS" and "FILL OUT YOUR VOLUNTEER SCHOOL ACCESS FORM!". It contains text explaining the need for the form and a "Complete the School Access Form" button. An inset image shows the "Saint Johns County School District - Volunteer Application" form, which includes fields for First Name, Middle Name, Last Name, Suffix, Birthdate, Social Security Number, Citizenship, Sex, Volunteer Type, Vehicle Year, Vehicle Make/Model/Color, and Vehicle Plate Number. A "Reset" button is at the bottom left of the form inset.

2. Bring your ID when you check in at the front office.

- Proper identification must be presented each time a person signs in at a school. The only forms of proper identification are the following:
 - Current state issued driver's license
 - Current state issued identification card (issued only by the DMV)
- If a person has a visa and/or does not have a social security number, the applicant must contact the Volunteer Services department right away for alternate steps.
- School access lasts for 3 year intervals. Upon approaching 3 years of access, it is the responsibility of the applicant to contact Volunteer Services and renew the form. To reduce duplication, do not complete a new form.

LEAVE A LEGACY AT OPE

Custom-engage a 4x8 paver with your child's name, a special message or a tribute to a favorite teacher!
Personalized pavers line the walkway to the front office.



SCAN TO PURCHASE
or visit OPEPTO.com

HELP US PAVE THE WAY



Paver price is \$75 each.
All proceeds fund PTO school projects and all purchases are tax deductible. For photos and info, visit OPEPTO.com and click "fundraising"



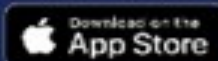
FORTIFYFL

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTING APP

FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows you to instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials.



#FORTIFYFL
GETFORTIFYFL.COM



DOWNLOAD
NOW



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoe.org

<https://getfortifyfl.com/>



FORTIFYFL HOME FEATURES HOW IT WORKS SCREENSHOTS ABOUT ESPAÑOL

Suspicious Activity Reporting App

FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows you to instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials.


Submit A Tip Online

Download On The App Store | Get It On Google Play



Anonymous or Non-Anonymous

You decide whether you want to include your name and contact information.



Convenient

Submitting a tip is quick and easy using our mobile app or website.



Include Photos and Video

You can also include photos or video with your tip report.



- **Your School Officials**
The tip report goes to your local school officials when submitted.
- **Local Law Enforcement**
Your local police department or sheriff office receive copies of your tips automatically.
- **State-Level Officials**
State-level officials also have access to your tips to make sure proper steps are taken.