

355 Landrum Lane, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL· 32082

Palms Post May 2025

Dear Otter Families,

It's hard to believe how quickly the days are flying by it feels like only yesterday we were welcoming students back for the first day of school! Now, with the final weeks upon us, we find ourselves busy wrapping up the year with state assessments, classroom projects, and much anticipated end-of-year (EOY) celebrations. As we approach the close of a truly wonderful school year, my heart is filled with appreciation and gratitude for the incredible support, energy, and spirit that define our Ocean Palms community. Whether attending events, volunteering your time and talents, or making generous donations, your dedication has helped create the warm and welcoming atmosphere that makes OPE so special and for that, we are deeply thankful.

One of the highlights this spring was our recent Spring Family Night. Your enthusiastic participation truly made it a night to remember, and we are so grateful for the way you continue to show up for our students and staff. Looking ahead, we hope you'll join us for even more hands-on family fun at our Annual STEM Night and Art Show! Be sure to stop by the Kitchen Resource Room across from the cafeteria to see what our sponsor, Code Ninja, has in store for us. There will also be poetry readings in the library, and our Student Ambassadors will be accepting cash donations for refreshments and snacks, with all proceeds benefiting Blessings in a Backpack a program championed by our very own Mrs. Sharon Kehoe, last year's District Senior Volunteer of the Year.

It is also with great pride that we recognize Mrs. Lisa Farese as our Adult Volunteer of the Year and celebrate her incredible achievement as the overall District Adult Volunteer of the Year! Mrs. Farese's tireless dedication, kindness, and service to Ocean Palms have left a lasting impact on our students and staff. We were thrilled to honor her at the district banquet and could not be prouder to have her as a cherished part of our Otter family. Congratulations, Mrs. Farese!

This year has been filled with tremendous success, joyful celebrations, and so much growth for our students. We are incredibly proud of their academic achievements and their development as kind, responsible citizens. To keep the learning momentum going over the summer, we invite all students to participate in our Annual Summer Reading and Writing BINGO Challenge (attached). For those eager to dive into their summer reading early, the Sunshine State Young Reader Award (SSYRA) titles have been released.

As we prepare to set sail into summer, I want to extend my sincere thanks to every teacher, student, staff member, family, business partner, community partner, PTO member, SAC member, and volunteer who helped make this year such a success. Each child and adult who crosses the threshold of Ocean Palms Elementary is given the opportunity to learn and lead with pride and excellence and that is exactly what has happened this year. It is truly an honor and privilege to serve as your Principal.

With heartfelt appreciation, Mrs. Cantwell

May

- 13 Kindergarten EOY Party
- 14 PreK & VE EOY Party
- 15 (K-5) STEM Night and Art Show (5:00-7:30)
- 19 First Grade EOY Party
- 20 Third Grade EOY Party
- 21 Second Grade EOY Party
- 22 Fourth Grade EOY Party
- 22 Water Balloon Bonanza
- 23 Fifth Grade Talent Show (9:00-10:00) and Fifth Grade Fun Day (10:00-1:00)
- 26 Memorial Day / No School
- 29 Promotion Ceremonies (9:15-10:45) Conroy, Flowers, and Sweeney (11:30-1:00) Nannetti and McVeigh
- 30 Last Day of School

Fifth Grade Clap Out (1:20-1:45)

Early Dismissal the last day of school

30 – Fourth Quarter Ends/Report Cards posted on Home Access Center (HAC)



2024-25 PARTNERS IN EDUCATION

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Character Counts Recognition



Trust	Trustworthiness		
Kindergarten	Cameron Happel and Charlie Rasmussen		
1st Grade	Hudson Felts, Lilah Knisely and Emma Work		
2 nd Grade	Mika Baker-Dewey, Finn Boyce and Oscar Jamieson		
3 rd Grade	Savannah Crownover, Christian Leepart and Hunter Simpson		
4 th Grade	Kendall Alcombright, James Hilley, Everett McMillen and Astrid Yaney		
5 th Grade	Anastasia Alonzo, Reid Hilbert, Capri Maughan and Annabel Yang		

Citizo	Citizenship		
Kindergarten	Ammy Churchill and Kathrine Hilbert		
1st Grade	Natalie Conte, Zeke Contreras and Solomia Tsabak		
2 nd Grade	Amelia Alonzo, Brooklyn Laing and Owen Socwell		
3 rd Grade	Aedan Fish, Drew Hickey and Cole Veenstra		
4 th Grade	Olivia Dalton, Blaze Lickliter, Reese Mayer and Rocky Woeppel		
5 th Grade	Mak Akai, Autumn Fenn, Declan Flood and Ethan Guo		

All Pillars		
Kindergarten	Maximus Jamieson and Maddie Snyder	
1st Grade	Ava Alonzo, Karsten Jacobson, Maverick McMillen and Cogan Potts	
2 nd Grade	Maycee Bush, Shelby Campbell and Campbell Morgan	
3 rd Grade	Esme Connelly, Ricky Diaz and Emily Sargeant	
4 th Grade	Annalise Bridges, Julianna Lobos, Leia Sy and Maddox Whitelaw	
5 th Grade	Adelyn Cowart, Sophia Frecks, Zoey Jamieson and Andrew Mutai	

Controlled Open **Enrollment**

ST. JOHNS COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS. THE NUMBER ONE CHOICE

Application Window 3 April 28-May 15

Controlled Open Enrollment (COE) is a statewide school choice option, available to all Florida residents. COE allows families to choose schools outside of their district assigned attendance boundary, based on availability.



Schools with COE availability

Elementary Schools

- Hickory Creek
- James A. Webster
- John A. Crookshank
- Ketterlinus
- Ocean Palms
- Osceola
- PVPV/ Rawlings
- Timberlin Creek
- W.D. Hartley

Middle Schools

- Alice B. Landrum
- · R.J. Murray
- Sebastian



Key Benefits

- Flexible Options Choose a school near work or childcare.
- Various Opportunities Enroll in a school that best fits your child's needs and interests.
- Long-Term Placement Remain until the highest grade level has been reached with good attendance and behavior.



Lottery Process

- Applications are randomly selected after the application period ends.
- In-county residents are given priority.
- Out-of-county residents are considered only if open seats remain.
- *Students with IEPs may not be eligible if services cannot be provided at the requested school.



How it Works

- · Parents are notified by email during the week of May 19th, and must respond within 5 workdays.
- Only one school seat can be accepted per student; declined seats go to waitlisted students.
- Waitlists carry between windows, but a new application is needed during each window
- *Transportation is not provided by the district.



Enrollment Priorities

- · Students of active-duty military who moved due to orders.
- Students who relocated due to foster care placement.
- Students who moved due to custody changes, serious illness, or death of a parent.
- · District residents and siblings of current or applying students.





Visit: www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/coe/ For applications, deadlines, and additional information.



Director of Guidance and Choice Kelly Foss, (904) 547-7754

Connect With Us



A-Z Count Down to Summer Vacation!

Monday 28 "C" - Color Day Wear your favorite color from head to toe and a matching hat. 5 "H" - Hat Day Wear a fun, silly, or stylish hat. Wear mismatched clothes and a silly hat. 12 "M" - Mismatch Day Wear mismatched clothes and a silly hat. 19 "R" - Rockstar Day Dress like a rockstar and wear a cool hat or bandana.	Tuesday 22 29 "D" - Dinosaur Day Dress up as a dinosaur or wear a dinosaur-themed shirt and hat. 6 "I" - Inside Out Day Wear your clothes inside out and a backwards hat. 13 "N" - Neon Day Wear bright neon colors and a neon hat. 20 "S" - Superhero Day Dress as your favorite superhero - NO MASKS	Wednesday 23 30 "E" - Emoji Day Dress up as your favorite emoji or wear clothing with emojis and a fun hat. 7 "J" - Jersey Day Wear your favorite sports team's jersey and a matching hat. 21 "T" - Team Spirit Day Wear your school's colors or team spirit wear and a matching hat.	Thursday 24 "A" - Adventure Day Dress like an explorer or adventurer and wear a safari hat or explorer cap. 1 "F" - Favorite Character Dress up as your favorite book or movie character. 8 "K" - Kindness Day Wear a shirt with a positive message and a hat that spreads kindness. 15 "P" - Pajama Day Wear your favorite pajamas and a cozy hat.	ay Friday re Day Wear your clothes backwards and a backwards hat. Bay P as your Bay P as your Bay P as your Bay P as your Bay P as your Bay P as your Bay P as your Bay P as your Bay P as your Bay
26 Memorial Day No School	27 " W" - Western Day Dress like a cowboy or cowgirl and wear a cowboy hat.	28 "X" - Xtra Fun Day Wear something fun and silly that makes you happy, and a fun hat.	29 "Y" - Yellow Day Wear all yellow and a yellow hat.	30 "Z" - Zoo Day Dress as your favorite zoo animal or wear an animal print hat.

(K-5) STEM NIGHT AND ART SHOW

Thursday, May 15

5:00 pm - 7:30 pm



SPONSORED BY



CODENINJAS

Ocean Palms STEM Night





May's Lunch Menu

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
			May 1st	May 2nd
			Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza Hot Dog or Chili Dog Steamed Broccoli Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit	Hamburger or Cheeseburger Max Cheese Sticks with choice of marinara dipping sauce Baked Potato Fries Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit & Choice of 100% Juice
May 5th	May 6th	May 7th	May 8th	May 9th
Chicken Slider Biscuit French Toast sticks	Penne Pasta with Choice of Marinara Sauce OR Marinara sauce with Meatballs	Homestyle Chicken Sandwich BBQ Turkey Sandwich	Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza Hot Dog or Chii Dog	Hamburger or Cheeseburger Max Cheese Sticks with choice of marinara dipping sauce
Tater Tots	Pepperoni Calzone	Sweet Potato Fries & Baked Beans	Steamed Broccoli	Baked Potato Fries
Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit	Green Beans & Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit and Garlic Sticks	Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit	Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit	Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit & Choice of 100% Juice
May 12th	May 13th	May 14th	May 15th	May 16th
Chicken Nuggets & Choice of WG Garlic RipStick	Mini Corn Dogs	Grilled Cheese Sandwich	Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza	Hamburger or Cheeseburger
Philly Steak Sandwich	Mac & Cheese	BBQ Chicken Quesadilla	Hot Dog or Chili Dog	Max Cheese Sticks with choice of marinara dipping sauce
Green Beans or Tater Tots	Baked Beans	Sweet Potato Fries	Steamed Broccoli	Baked Potato Fries
Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit	Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit	Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit	Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit	Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit & Choice of 100% Juice
May 19th	May 20th	May 21st	May 22nd	May 23rd
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	Hot Dog or Chili Dog	Max Cheese Sticks with choice of marinara dipping sauce
Tater Tots	Pepperoni Calzone	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
May 26th	May 27th	May 28th	May 29th	May 30th
	Mini Corn Dogs	Grilled Cheese Sandwich	Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza	Hamburger or Cheeseburger
Memorial Day	Mac & Cheese	BBQ Chicken Quesadilla	Hot Dog or Chili Dog	Max Cheese Sticks with choice of marinara dipping sauce
	Baked Beans	Sweet Potato Fries	Steamed Broccoli	Baked Potato Fries
	Assorted Fresh Vegetables	Assorted Fresh Vegetables	Assorted Fresh Vegetables	Assorted Fresh Vegetables
	Assorted Fruit	Assorted Fruit	Assorted Fruit	Assorted Fruit & Choice of 100% Juice

News from the OPE Clinic



As we near the end of the school year, I would like to remind you that your child's medication should be picked up from the clinic by 3:15 pm on the last day of school Friday, May 30.

School policy does not allow for medication to remain in the school over the summer. It will be important for you to make arrangements to pick

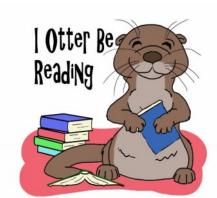
up your child's medication since medications may not go home with the student. Any medication left in the clinic after Friday, May 30 at 3:15 pm will be discarded according to policy.

As you clean out your closets or do back to school shopping over the summer, the clinic is always in need of clothing donations. Shorts, pants, socks and new underwear are greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact the school clinic at 547-3766. Have a safe and healthy summer!

Congratulations to our Sunshine State Readers!

We are incredibly proud of the students who took on the challenge and read all of the Sunshine State Young Reader Award (SSYRA) books for their grade level! These outstanding Otters set a goal for themselves, stayed committed, and saw it through a true example of hard work, perseverance, and a love of learning. In recognition of their accomplish-

ment, these students have been inducted into our Otter Wall of Fame and will celebrate with a special end-of-year BINGO Party, where exciting prizes await. We couldn't be prouder of our readers for dreaming big, diving into new adventures through books, and showing that with dedication, anything is possible!



Otter Wall of Famel

Grade	Students	Grade	Students
K	Amethyst Churchill	1	Georgia Doumas
K	Andrew Socwell	1	Josie Menne
K	Brayden Laing	1	Lilah Knisely
K	Cameron Happel	1	Lily Hopkins
K	Cecilia Pezak	1	Miles Webster
K	Dominic Dipola	1	Rowan Dugan
K	Emma Kuhl	1	Ryan Piltin
K	Emme Lawrence	1	Sawyer Barker
K	Hannah Diaz	1	Tyler Mann
K	Logan Kelly	1	Victoria Genebriera
K	Max Jamieson	1	Zac Baumgartner
1	Adaline Rivera	2	Addison Terwilliger
1	Adeline Ludwick	2	Asher Krainin
1	Ava DeFazio	2	Baird Snider
1	Baker Schaal	2	Brooklyn Laing
1	Cali Middleton	2	Brynn Rasmussen
1	Carter Jones	2	Campbell Morgan
1	Eleni Leininger	2	Caroline Hanback
1	Elijah Genebriera	2	Eli Lawrence
1	Emersyn Smith	2	Ella DeFazio
1	Emma Work		

Otter Wall of Fame!

Grade	Students	Grade	Students
2	Finn Boyce	3	Olivia Piltin
2	George Carletta	3	Ricky Diaz
2	Joseph Carletta	4	Annalise Bridges
2	Joseph Perry	4	Blaze Lickliter
2	Kate MacGilvray	4	Blix Lickliter
2	Kenzie Smith	4	Penny Rosetti
2	Laney Tant	4	Scarlette Thompson
2	Logan Rodriguez	4	Virginia Hilley
2	Luke Borchers	5	Case McHale
2	Lyla Jones	5	Eliana Feldman
2	Michael Westrip	5	Ella Scarborough
2	Mika Baker-Dewey	5	Evan Kul
2	Oscar Jamieson	5	Gavin Pacifico
2	Owen Socwell	5	Kelsea Mauricio
2	Roman Fitzpatrick	5	Mackenzie Mann
2	Wells Barnes	5	Maria Dumitrascu
3	Cashen Kul	5	Owen Koppenhafer
3	Isaac Meene	5	Rhys Kelly

Dear Fifth Grade Students,

It's hard to believe that in just a few short weeks, you'll be setting sail from the shores of Ocean Palms, ready to embark on the exciting adventure that awaits you in middle school.

As you prepare to take this next big step, we want to pause and celebrate all that you have accomplished. Your hard work, your determination, and your willingness to grow have brought you to this incredible milestone and we could not be prouder.



While you may be ready to spread your wings, know that you carry with you everything you have built here: the friendships that made you smile, the teachers who believed in you, the lessons that shaped your heart as much as your mind. These are your anchors, and they will steady you as you set off into new waters.

Middle school will bring new challenges, new adventures, and new dreams. Embrace them with the same courage, curiosity, and kindness you have shown here. Remember that every new beginning is a chance to discover more about who you are and who you are becoming.

Congratulations, Fifth Graders! You have left your mark on Ocean Palms, and we cannot wait to see the waves you will make as you journey onward. Always know that no matter how far you go, you will forever be part of our Otter Family.

With pride, excitement, and heartfelt congratulations, Your Ocean Palms Family!

Fifth Grade Clap Out - Friday, May 30th

We are excited to celebrate our fifth-grade students with our annual Fifth Grade Clap-Out!

Students in grades K-4, along with our staff, will line the halls as our fifth graders take one final walk through the building, a special moment to honor their journey as Ocean Palms Otters.

We also invite family members who will be utilizing parent pick-up that day to join in the celebration! Feel free to decorate your cars, make some noise, and cheer loudly as you drive through the car line to help us send our fifth graders off in style.

Please remember, the last day of school is an early dismissal day for all students.

Pre-Order School Supplies NOW!



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Pre-Kindergarten

- 2 boxes, jumbo crayons, 8 ct.
- 1 box, jumbo, colored pencils, 8 ct.
- 2 primary journals, draw top-lines bottom
- 2 boxes, washable markers, classic colors, 8 ct.
- 2 black dry erase expo markers
- 1 old t-shirt for art class
- 2 watercolor paint pallet sets 8 colors
- 1 scissor, 5 inch blunt
- 1 bottle Elmer's glue, 4 oz.
- 8 glue sticks
- 1 set of multicolor bingo dotters/daubers (non-toxic)
- 1 pencil pouch
- 1 box of tissues
- 1 pair of headphones

If your child is in diapers, please supply:

- 2 pkgs. Baby wipes, unscented
- 1 box disposable gloves, latex free size medium

Kindergarten

- #2 pencils, sharpened, 40 ct.
- 4 primary journals, draw top-lines bottom
- 5 boxes, crayons, 24 ct.
- 1 scissor, 5 inch blunt
- 8 dry erase expo markers, fine tip, black
- 24 glue sticks, washable purple
- 2 pkgs. washable markers, thick 8 ct.
- 1 red plastic folders with pockets & prongs
- 1 large plastic envelope, Velcro / side load
- 1 box of tissues
- 1 large sturdy zipper pencil pouch must hold all art supplies
- 1 pair of headphones preferably sturdy design (no ear buds) with USB-C connection

Ocean Palms Elementary School Supply List 2025-2026



First Grade

- #2 pencils, sharpened, 40 ct.
- 1 pencil pouch
- 2 composition primary journals
- 3 boxes, crayons, 24 ct.
- 8 dry erase expo markers, fine tip, black
- 1 plastic folder with pockets & prongs, red
- 6 large washable glue sticks, purple
- 1 scissor, 5 inch blunt
- 1 clear cover white binder, 1 inch 3 ring
- 1 bottle Elmer's glue
- 2 black sharpies
- 2 boxes, washable markers, assorted colors,
- 10 ct.
- 2 large erasers
- 1 box of tissues
- 1 container Clorox wipes
- 1 pair of headphones preferably sturdy design (no ear buds) with USB-C connection

Second Grade

- #2 pencils, sharpened, 50 ct.
- 2 boxes, colored pencils, 12 ct.
- 1 black composition book, wide ruled
- 2 boxes, crayons, 24 ct.
- 2 large erasers
- 10 black dry erase expo markers
- Plastic folders with pockets
- 1 each: purple, red, yellow
- 5 glue sticks
- 1 large, sturdy pencil pouch
- 1 scissor, 5 inch blunt
- 1 pkg. lined paper
- 1 box of tissues
- 1 pair of headphones preferably sturdy design (no ear buds) with USB-C connection

(K-2) Varying Exceptionalities

- 1 pkg. beginner pencils, 12ct. sharpened
- 3 composition books, wide ruled
- 2 box crayons, 24 ct.
- 4 dry erase markers, color set, chisel
- 1 box, washable markers, 8 ct.
- 2 highlighters
- 12 large washable glue sticks, purple
- 1 scissor, 5 inch blunt
- 1 box of tissues
- 1 pair of headphones preferably sturdy
- design (no ear buds) with USB-C connection
- If your child is in diapers, please supply:
- 2 pkgs. Baby wipes, unscented
- 1 box disposable gloves, latex free

Ocean Palms Elementary School Supply List

2025-2026

Third Grade

- #2 pencils, sharpened, 40 ct.
- 1 large eraser
- 8 dry erase expo markers, colored, chisel tip
- 6 large washable glue sticks
- 1 scissor, 6 inch pointed
- 5 highlighters, any color
- 1 box, colored pencils, 12 ct.
- Plastic folders w/ pockets & prongs 1 each:
- yellow, green, black, red
- 1 pkg. wide ruled filler paper, 150 ct.
- Composition notebooks, wide ruled
- 1 each: yellow, green, red, black
- 1 clear cover white binder, 1 inch, 3 ring
- 1 pkg. post-It notes, 3 x 3, 100 pk.
- 1 small 8x5 pencil box
- 1 pair of headphones preferably sturdy design (no ear buds) with USB-C connection



Fourth Grade

- #2 pencils, sharpened, 50 ct.
- 1 large eraser
- 1 large eraser
- 1 scissor, 6 inch pointed 1 box, washable markers, 10 ct.
- 1 box, colored pencils, 12 ct.
- 6 black dry erase markers
- 12 glue sticks
- 1 pk of 4 highlighters (multi color)
- 1 pack of index cards, 3x5 100 ct.
- 6 composition books, wide ruled/ 100 sheets
- 1 clear cover white binders, 1.5 inch, 3 ring
- 2 pkgs. wide ruled notebook paper, 150 sheets Plastic folders with pockets & prongs 1 each:
- blue, green, orange, purple, red, yellow
- 1 plastic pencil pouch no boxes please
- 1 clear protractor
- 1 box of tissues 1 pencil sharpener
- 1 Accordion Folder- 7 pocket
- 1 pair of headphones preferably sturdy design (no ear buds) with USB-C connection

Fifth Grade

- #2 pencils, sharpened, 24 ct.
- 1 box, markers, 10 ct.
- 1 box, colored pencils, 12 ct.
- 8 dry erase markers, color, fine tip
- 6 washable glue sticks

2 yellow highlighters

- 1 pair scissors, 6 inch pointed
- 1 zippered pencil pouch 3-hole
- 4 post-It notes, 3 x 3, 50 ct. per pack
- 1 clear cover white binder, 1.5 inch
- 1 pkg. of dividers, multi-color- 5 tabs
- 7 composition books, wide ruled Plastic folders with pockets & prongs 1 each:
- blue, green, orange, red, yellow
- 1 pkg. wide ruled filler paper, 175 ct.
- 1 box tissues
- 1 pair of headphones preferably sturdy design (no ear buds) with USB-C connection

(3-5) Varying Exceptionalities

- #2 pencils, sharpened, 48 ct.
- 1 hard plastic pencil case
- 1 box large markers 8 ct., classic
- 12 large washable glue sticks
- 1 scissor, 5 inch blunt
- 6 composition books, wide ruled
- 1 box, colored pencils, 12 ct.
- 4 highlighters
- 4 pocket folders
- 2 boxes of tissues
- 1 pair of headphones preferably sturdy design (no ear buds) with USB-C connection









The Sunshine State Young Readers Award Junior Books 2025-2026

Picture Books:



The Fastest Tortoise in Town written by Howard Calvert and illustrated by Karen Obuhanych Barbara Hendricks, a tortoise, has entered a road race, but what was she thinking? With only a week to go before the big day, she worries that she doesn't stand a chance against the other animals competing. Barbara's friend and owner, Lorraine, inspires her to train a little bit more each day and coaxes her out of her shell when the race day arrives. How intimidating to line up next to the slow loris, the snail, the sloth, and the walrus! But Barbara realizes that if she just tries her best, she's already won.



The Quacken written by Justin Colon and Pablo Pino

Lurking in the lake at Cucumonga Campground is a fearsome and frightening creature. Legend says that it swallows kids, canoes, and even whales whole. But all Hector sees are cute, cuddly, quacking ducks. Until he breaks the campground's most important rule--Don't Feed the Ducks--and releases...the Quacken.



Squirrel-ish written and illustrated by Bambi Edlund

At the park, people give squirrels free peanuts. And nobody screams when a squirrel crosses their path. But for Rat, it's all screams and no nuts ... until he comes up with a plan: be more like a squirrel--squirrel-ish!



We are Definitely Human written and illustrated by X Fang

When three mysterious visitors from "Europe" crash-land in Mr. Li's field, he does what any good host would: he invites them back to his farmhouse and offers to help fix up their "car". No, there's nothing strange about these guests at all. Just like other humans, they "make business", "play sportsball" and "wear hat". As the townsfolk also come to the aid of the visitors and the gathering turns into a little party, interplanetary relations reach an all-time high.



Mavis the Bravest written by Lu Fraser and illustrated by Sarah Warburton

Mavis is not like her adventurous friend Marge. Mavis is a chicken who finds EVERYTHING scary (night-time and daytime and anything hairy!). So when the slumbering peace of their cozy barn is disturbed by someone trying to steal their friend Sandra the sheep, will Mavis be able to find her bright spark of braveness and save Sandra?



Penny Lu Porcupine written by Katie Gilstrap and illustrated by Maribel Lechuga

Like all porcupines, Penny Lu is nearsighted. So while her incredible sense of smell leads her to all sorts of yummy food, predators can be hard to spot. Thankfully, her pointy quills make her look powerful. But sometimes Penny Lu doesn't feel powerful. And she wonders what she'd do if she came face-to-face with the predator she fears the most-THE BEAR!

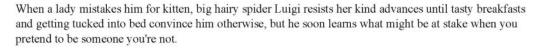


How This Book Got Red written by Margaret Chiu Greanias and illustrated by Melissa Iwai

When Red discovers a new book about pandas, she can't wait to read it! Except it's about only one kind of panda, and red pandas are completely left out. Red never gets to read stories about pandas like herself! So she decides to take matters into her own paws and write her own book.



Lugi, the Spider Who Wanted to be a Kitten written by Michelle Knudsen and illustrated by Kevin Hankes





The Spotless Giraffe written by Peter Millett and illustrated by Alison Hawkins

In this funny and heartwarming picture book, meet a shy little giraffe named Kipekee. She's a bit different from the other giraffes--she was born with no spots.



The Man Who Didn't Like Animals written by Deborah Underwood and illustrated by LeUyen Pham

There once was a man who loved his tidy home and who didn't like animals. Then one day, a cat appeared. The man and the cat both liked napping and watching the rain and eating dinner precisely at six. Well, maybe this one animal could stay. Next came a dog . . .

Independent Readers:



Orris and Timble: The Beginning written by Kate DiCamillo and illustrated by Carmen Mok Orris the rat lives alone in an old barn surrounded by his treasures, until the day his solitude is disrupted by a sudden flutter of wings and a loud screech. A small owl has gotten caught in a trap in the barn. Can Orris 'make the good and noble choice' and rescue the owl, despite the fact that owls and rats are natural enemies? And if he does, will he be ready for the consequences?



Scare School Diaries: Welcome to Scare School written and illustrated by Jarrett Lerner Bash is a young ghost who has never been good at scaring people is nervous about his first day at scare school, where he will learn to master the necessary skills to become a successful ghost.



Kwame's Magic Quest: Rise of the Green Flame written by Bernard Mensah and illustrated by Natasha Nayo Eight-year-old Kwame is eager to start Juju School and learn calabash magic, yet none of the teachers can figure out what kind of magic is in his gourd. When one of Kwame's new friends is possessed by an evil magic, its power is revealed.



Disaster Squad: Wildfire Rescue written by Rekha Rajan and illustrated by Courtney Lovett The Jackson family, including eight-year-old Jaden and his sister Leela, travel the United States responding to disasters, helping people and rescuing animals--but they have never responded to a wildfire like the one raging in Northern California.



George the Flybot and the Lost Camera on Mount Everest by Nessa Bellido Schwarz

Meet George the flybot, a one-of-a-kind robotic fly on his first secret mission! With instructions from Darcy Luna, his boss at Fly on the Wall Inc., George zips off to the Himalayas to search for a camera that went missing during George Mallory's ill-fated 1924 Mount Everest summit attempt. George understands that he might change history by discovering who really conquered Mount Everest. But George has another mission of his own: to learn more about how humans act and feel, and maybe--just maybe--find a friend.





2025-2026 SSYRA 3-5



The Adventures of Invisible Boy by Doogie Horner

On his first day at a new school, Stanley wishes he could disappear. Then, after a big spill at the science fair, POOF! Stanley is invisible! It's awesome! He can do anything he wants, and no one will know! Except for one person—the inventor of the ruined project. And he plans to take his anger out on kids all over town, including Stanley. Get ready for a battle of the ages!



Always, Clementine by Carlie Sorosiak

Clementine is brilliant lab mouse who impresses all the scientists. When she finds herself suddenly freed, she discovers the joys of freedom. She finds a new home with a boy named Gus and his Pop who teaches her chess and encourages her to use her greatness for good. This story is told in narrated letters from Clementine to her friend, Rosie, still in captivity. It is about the journey of friendship, advocating for what you believe in, and using your talents for good.



The Amazon by Roland Smith

Asia and Ring Wilde are on a trip with their conservation biologist mother in the Amazon rainforest. Dr. Wilde is on a mission to reintroduce the golden lion tamarin monkey when she disappears. The children set off to find their mother. Will they have the skills to track her down and solve the mystery of what happened to her?



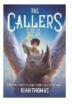
Battle for the Park by H.D. Hunter

In the year 2048, Cameron lives with his parents in Futureland, a traveling theme park that hovers above the cities it visits. Now in Atlanta, the family intends on staying, giving Cameron the chance to attend Middle School and make friends. The AI robots called 'revs' that run the park are starting to act strangely and Cameron even starts suspecting that something is wrong with his parents. Will Cameron and his new friends be able solve the mystery in time to save Futureland?



Benny Ramirez and the Nearly Departed by Jose Pablo Iriarte

When the great Ignacio Ramirez is banned from the afterlife, he discovers one person on Earth can still see him – his grandson Benny. Benny feels like he has enough problems without having to deal with the ghost of his Abuelo. However, with the clock ticking down for the late celebrity to earn his place in the afterlife party, the two must work together whether they like it or not.



The Callers by Kiah Thomas

In the world of Elipsom, callers have the ability to summon objects. Unfortunately, Quin doesn't have the gift like the rest of his family. Quin discovers that called items are not created, but actually stolen from another world, and his mother knows about it. Now he has to decide whether he will side with his family or betray them and save the other world.



Clementine Fox and the Great Island Adventure by Leigh Luna

Clementine is on her way to school but decides she is not in the mood for math tests and tutors so she convinces her friends Nubbins Squirrel and Penelope Rabbit to skip school with her. The friends meets up with Jesse Otter who is preparing to go to a mysterious island on his giant turtle, Annabelle. Ready for adventure Clementine and her friends stowaway.



Dogtown by Katherine Applegate and Gennifer Choldenko

Dogtown is a shelter for all types of dogs. When Metal Head, a robot dog, decides to escape and try and go back home, Chance decides to go along for support. The two dogs embark on an adventure to find their forever homes. Along the way, there is danger, cheese sandwiches, a charging station, and some unexpected kindnesses.



The Guardian Test by Christina Soontornvat

Plum leaves home to enroll at the prestigious Guardian Academy on Lotus Island where students are trained by Guardian Masters to harness their inner power and defend the defenseless. Plum struggles to keep up with her classmates and is unable to discover her inner animal form. Will Plum find the strength, determination, and self-discovery needed to unlock her true potential?



Lightningborn by Julie Kagawa

In a world of floating islands, pirates, and danger, Remi discovers a baby dragon and forms an unbreakable bond. Meanwhile a princess learns that the islands are sinking, and only a "True Dragon" has the power to save them all. The boy and princess must put aside their differences and join forces to save their homes and protect the future of their world.



The Lost Library by Rebecca Stead and Wendy Mass

The Lost Library is a captivating mystery that follows two boys who stumble upon a secret involving a mysterious free little library and a library that was tragically destroyed by fire years earlier. As the boys dig deeper into the mystery, they unravel clues that lead them toward uncovering the library's hidden past.



The Mystery of Locked Rooms by Lindsay Currie

This is a fast-paced mystery in which best friends tackle the most epic funhouse in history. The Deltas, as they call themselves, enter an abandoned 1950's funhouse to seek the treasure of town legend, supposedly left behind by three triplets. Mystery, adventure, and more than a few puzzles follow as the trio tackle hidden passages and elaborate challenges in order to win the ultimate prize.



Peril at Price Manor by Laura Parnum

Halle dreams of becoming a scream queen. She practices her loudest scream every day and has learned a lot from studying the horror movies of her favorite director, Maximus Price who lives just outside town. When the chance to go to his home arises, Halle grabs it with both hands. She doesn't realize that real life horrors await her at Price Manor.



Trex by Christyne Morrell

Trex has a brain implant that saved his life but it has a side effect. Now he shocks everything he touches. In a new town, his overprotected mom finally agrees to let him go to a real school and Trex can't wait, but he doesn't count on Mellie, the town spy. She is convinced she saw lightning coming from Trex's fingers, and she's not going to stop spying until she gets the truth.



The Wild Journey of Juniper Berry by Chad Morris and Shelly Brown

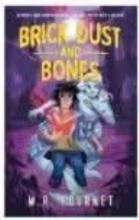
Eleven-year-old Juniper Berry lives with her family deep in the wild woods. Living off the grid is pretty exciting, but her happy life in the wild ends abruptly when her younger brother gets sick, and they move to the city to be closer to the hospital. Juniper Berry knows how to handle bobcats, bears, and mountain lions, but can she survive the toughest predator of all—middle school?

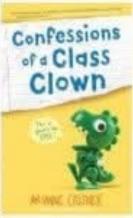
Sunshine State Young Readers Award Books

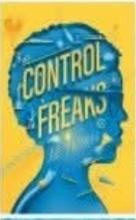


2025 – 2026 Grades 6 – 8

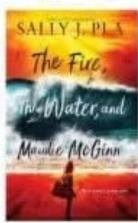








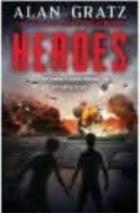


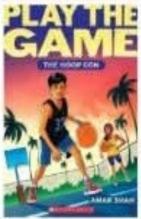


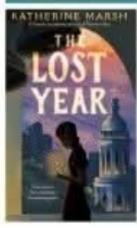




















BEFORESCALIES Child Care

OPE'S EXTENDED DAY!

https://www-ope.stjohns.k12.fl.us/extendedday/



Registration is Open for the 2025-2026 School Year

Registration forms can be picked up and dropped off at the front office.

Coordinator: Mrs. Kim LaMondie Email: kim.lamondie@stjohns.k12.fl.us

Ocean Palms Elementary School's (K-5) Extended Day Pre-Registration Form Coordinator's Contact Information: Mrs. Kim LaMondie, 904.547.4150 or kim.lamondie@stjohns.k12.fl.us

Registration Fee \$100 (non-refundable)					
*Check all the programs you are interested in participating in for the 2025-2026 School Year					
☐ Monthly - Before and After Care \$3	☐ Before School Only (7:00am-8:00am) \$150/month				
□ Wednesday Only \$100/month		☐ After Scho	ool Only (Dismi	ssal-6:00pm) \$300/month	
Child's Name: Last First Name preferred: if different					
MaleFemaleBirthdate	Grade	Teacher	-	Bus#	
Sibling's Name: Last First Name preferred: if different					
Last	First		Name preferred: if different		
MaleFemaleBirthdateGradeTeacherBus#				Bus#	
Child(ren) Resides with: Mother Father Both Other					
Child(ren) Resides with: Mother Father Both Other Relationship					
Parent/Guardian Name: Parent/Guardian email:					
RelationshipAddressEmployer				/er	
Phone HM	Cell		WK		
Parent/Guardian Name: Parent/Guardian email:					
RelationshipAddressEmployer					
Phone HMWK					
CUSTODIAL RIGHTS: Parent permitted to pick up the student from extended day.					
Mother:YesNo			YesNo		
If "No" is answered above on the natural parents, school papers must be on file with the school					
ALTERNATIVE CHILD PICKUP/EMERGENCY CONTACT APPROVED LIST I hereby give Ocean Palms permission to release my child(ren) to the following persons:					
NamePhone					
Name	Relationship		Phone_		
Name	Relationship		Phone_		
SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS AND/OR ME	DICAL CONDIT	TIONS:	W W		
Parent Signature Date:					
arent Signature		Da	ile		

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









STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK

2025



May 13: Kindergarten

May 14: Pre-K & VE

May 19: First Grade

May 20: Third Grade

May 21: Second Grade

May 22: Fourth Grade

May 23: Fifth Grade Fun Day

May 29: Fifth Grade Graduation

9:15-10:45 Conroy & Flowers 11:30-1:00 McVeigh & Nannetti

Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) Schedule Spring 2025

Dates	Assessment
Monday, March 31, 2025	Grade 5 Writes
Thursday, April 3, 2025	Grade 4 Writes
Monday, May 5, 2025	Kindergarten STAR Early Literacy and Grades 1-2 STAR Reading
Tuesday, May 6, 2025	Kindergarten and Gr. 1-2 STAR Math
Thursday, May 8, 2025	Grades 3-4 FAST ELA
Friday, May 9, 2025	Grades 3-4 FAST Math
Tuesday, May 13, 2025	Grade 5 FAST ELA
Thursday, May 15, 2025	Grade 5 FAST Math
Monday, May 19, 2025	VPK STAR Early Literacy
Tuesday, May 20, 2025	Grade 5 FAST Science

Make-up testing will occur as soon as possible upon a student's return to school.

The Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST)

The Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) is a progress monitoring system that is administered three times per year to track your student's progress in learning the Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) Standards throughout this school year in grades PreK - 5. Each time your child takes this assessment they will be presented with items that cover the entire test "blueprint," meaning students will encounter items representative of the standards within the subject or grade level. For more information on the test design, please visit https://www.fldoe.org/accountability/assessments/k-12-student-assessment/best/. If you or your student would like to review FAST Reading and Mathematics sample materials at home, sample test materials are available at https://flfast.org/families.html.

Please review the following policies with your student before testing:

<u>Electronic Devices</u> - Students are not permitted to have any electronic devices, including, but not limited to, cell phones, smartphones, and smartwatches, at any time during testing or during breaks (e.g., restroom), even if the devices are turned off or students do not use them. If your student is found with an electronic device or is found using Bluetooth/wireless headphones/earbuds during testing, his or her test will be invalidated.

<u>Calculator Policy</u> - <u>Calculator use is prohibited for Grades 3–5 FAST Mathematics</u>. For Grades 7–8 FAST Mathematics, approved handheld scientific calculators will be provided. For Grade 6 FAST Mathematics, a handheld four-function calculator will be provided.

Testing Rules Acknowledgment - All tests include a Testing Rules Acknowledgment "I understand the testing rules that were just read to me. If I do not follow these rules, my test score may be invalidated." Prior to testing, test administrators read the rules to students, and students acknowledge indicate on their computer that they understand the testing rules.

Discussing Test Content after Testing - Testing Rules Acknowledgment states that because the content of all statewide assessments is secure, students may not discuss or reveal details about the test content (including test items and passages) after the test. This includes any type of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, or posting to social media sites. Please make sure your student understands this policy prior to testing and remind them that "discussing" test content includes any kind of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, posting to social media, or sharing online. While students may not share information about secure test content after testing, this policy is not intended to prevent students from discussing their testing experiences with their parents/families.

<u>Working Independently</u> - Students are responsible for doing their own work during the test and for protecting their answers from being seen by others. If students are caught cheating during testing, their tests will be invalidated.

<u>Leaving Campus</u> - If your student leaves campus before completing a test (e.g., for lunch, an appointment), he or she will not be allowed to return to that test. If your student does not feel well on the day of testing, it may be best for him or her to wait and be tested on a make-up day. <u>Please remember not to schedule appointments on testing days</u>.

<u>Testing Accommodations</u> - Please contact the school to discuss any other testing accommodations that will be provided for your student.

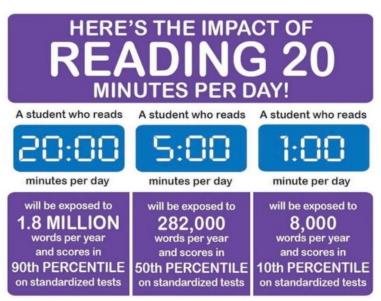
Testing Irregularities - In the event a testing irregularity occurs in your student's testing room, as part of a school investigation, your student may be asked questions to provide clarification of the incident. In addition, your student may be required to retake the assessment if a suspected irregularity is reported that may affect the validity of the test results.

If you have any questions related to this test administration, you may contact Faie Pellegrino at 904-547-3772 or via email at Olivia.Pellegrino@stjohns.k12.fl.us. For more information about the FAST program, please visit the portal at https://flfast.org/fsa.html.

Third Grade Promotion & Retention

At Ocean Palms, we are dedicated to fostering a positive and supportive environment for all of our students. While state guidelines require us to inform

families about third-grade promotion and retention policies, we want to assure you that we do not discuss promotion or retention directly with students. Our goal is to avoid creating any unnecessary stress or anxiety, especially related to testing. Instead, we encourage students to approach each test with a growth mindset, focusing on doing their best and "showing what they know."



We emphasize the importance of taking all assessments seriously and view these moments as opportunities for growth. This mindset helps us maintain a balanced approach that prioritizes student well-being while still meeting important academic milestones. Below, we've outlined the state guidelines and additional support available to ensure all students are prepared for success in fourth grade and beyond.

According to section 1008.25(5), Florida Statutes (F.S.), to be promoted to fourth grade, a third-grade student must score a Level 2 or above on the statewide Florida Assessment of Student Thinking – English Language Arts (FAST-ELA) in their third progress monitoring assessment in the area of Reading. The intent of the third-grade progression statute is to ensure that students have the necessary reading skills to be successful in grade 4 and beyond.

If a student does not score Level 2 or above on the third grade English Language Arts (ELA) assessment on <u>Thursday, May 8</u>, they may attend the district provided Summer Reading Program for additional reading instruction. Some third graders who score Level 1 on the statewide FAST-ELA can be exempted from the retention requirement and be promoted to fourth grade. This is called a "good cause exemption". See page 12 for the different exemptions.

THIRD GRADE PROGRESSION STATUE & GOOD CAUSE EXEMPTIONS

The third grade progression statute is to ensure that students have the necessary reading skills to be successful in grade 4 and beyond, where the rigors of reading in the content areas increase. According to section 1008.25(5), Florida Statutes (F.S.), to be promoted to fourth grade, a third-grade student must score a Level 2 or above on the statewide Florida Assessment of Student Thinking – English Language Arts (FAST-ELA). The following plan describes several ways for students who do not meet this standard initially to be promoted to fourth grade.

If a student does not demonstrate proficiency on the statewide FAST- ELA Assessment during the third progress monitoring (PM3) test in May, they can attend the district provided Summer Reading Program to ensure they receive additional instruction.

There is also statutory language that prohibits the statewide FAST- ELA from being the sole determiner of promotion and states that additional evaluations, portfolio reviews and assessments are available to the child to assist parents and the school district in knowing when a child is reading at or above grade level and ready for grade promotion.

Good Cause Exemptions 1, 4, 5, 6 Students who earn a Level 1 on the FAST for PM3 and meet one of the Good Cause Exemptions outlined below must also attend the Summer Reading Program. A student only needs to meet the criteria for one of the 6 Good Cause Exemptions.

Good Cause Exemption #1: Limited English proficient students who have had less than two (2) years of instruction in an English for Speakers of Other Languages program based on the initial date of entry into a school in the United States.

Good Cause Exemption #2: Students with disabilities whose individual education plan indicates that participation in the statewide assessment program is not appropriate, consistent with requirements of s.1008.21*2, F.S.*

Good Cause Exemption #3: Students who demonstrate an acceptable level of performance on an alternate standardized reading or English Language Arts assessment approved by the State Board of Education. Alternate Assessments: SAT-10 or STAR Reading.

Good Cause Exemption #4: A student who demonstrates through a student portfolio that he or she is performing at least at Level 2 on the statewide, standardized English Language Arts assessment.

Good Cause Exemption #5: Students with disabilities who take the statewide, standardized English Language Arts assessment and who have an individual education plan or a Section 504 Plan that reflects that the student has received intensive remediation in reading or English Language Arts for more than two years but still demonstrates a deficiency and was previously retained in kindergarten, grades 1, 2 or 3.

Good Cause Exemption #6: Students who have received intensive reading intervention for two or more years but still demonstrate a deficiency in reading and who were previously retained in kindergarten, grade 1, grade 2, or grade 3 for a total of two years. A student may not be retained more than once in grade 3.

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://fifast.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.



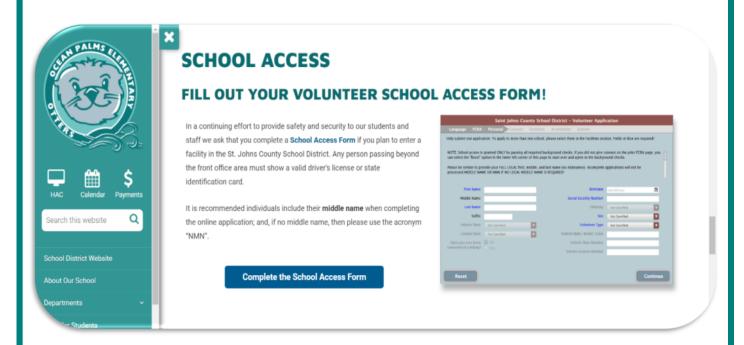


How Do I Get Approved to Access the School Building?

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.



- 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.



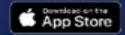
FORTIFYFL

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.



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