



Palms Post

May 3, 2026

<https://www-ope.stjohns.k12.fl.us/>

(904) 547-3760

Office Hours: 7:55 am to 3:45 pm



"Our focus is the child."

Principal's Message

Good afternoon families! Can you believe that we have entered May? It feels like the new December with how busy things can get this time of year as we are wrapping up everything. Testing, end of the year celebrations, promotion ceremonies, plays, etc. can be overwhelming to faculty, staff, and parents. I took some time this week to remember why we do what we do. I PLAYED with this sweet second-grade class while they were at PE. A group of students found some caterpillars. We talked about how they can grow into beautiful butterflies after being wrapped up tightly in a cocoon. As we watch all of the children grow and prosper, just think about how they got where they are. The support of teachers, staff members, families, neighbors, and other community members have helped shape the next steps. So, in this very busy month of May, have patience. Step back and watch their wings spread and the smiles on their faces. Enjoy every moment.

Thank you for your continued support.



Upcoming Events

May

4- Staff Appreciation Week (See info from PTO)

5- National Teacher Appreciation Day

3rd grade FAST Reading

Taco Tuesday (see below)

6- School Nurses' Day

7- 3rd grade FAST Math

8- 4th grade FAST Reading

DEN Ice-cream Social

11- PTO Meeting 9-10

K Celebration

12- 4th grade FAST Math

K Spring Performance

1st grade celebrations

13- Pre-K celebrations

14- 5th grade FAST Reading

2nd grade celebrations

15- 5th grade FAST Math

3rd grade celebrations

19- 5th grade science test

21- 4th grade celebrations

5th grade kickball tournament

22- 5th grade Talent Show and Fun Day

25- Memorial Day (No School)

26- 5th grade promotion rehearsal (walking to LMS)

5th grade yearbook signing

27- 5th grade Bingo

28- 5th grade promotion ceremony 9:30 LMS

29- Clap out

Report Cards

Last Day for students- early release 1 hour earlier

*Please watch your child's weekly newsletter from the teacher for more specific information as it becomes available.

Student Spotlight

This week, OPE District Honor Choir visited Bartram Trail High School to sing with other students from the district.



Testing



Without proctors, teachers are unable to administer the FAST Tests to their own classes. Proctoring is a simple and meaningful way to support our students and school community.

- ✓ Proctors will not be assigned classrooms in which they have family members.
- ✓ All Volunteers must be cleared through Raptor.



[Sign up Here](#)



PM 3 FAST Testing Schedule

April/May 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
April 27 Kindergarten STAR Math Johnston/Knee Math	April 28 Kindergarten STAR Early Literacy Johnston/Knee Reading	April 29 Makeup Testing	April 30 1st and 2nd Grades STAR Reading	May 1 1st and 2nd Grades STAR Math
4 Makeup Testing	5 3 rd Grade FAST Reading	6 Makeup Testing	7 3 rd Grade FAST Math	8 4 th Grade FAST Reading
11 VPK STAR Early Literacy Makeup Testing	12 4 th Grade FAST Math	13 Makeup Testing	14 5 th Grade FAST Reading	15 5 th Grade FAST Math
18 Makeup Testing	19 5 th Grade Science	20 Makeup Testing	21 Makeup Testing	22 Makeup Testing
25 Memorial Day No School	26 Makeup Testing	27 Makeup Testing	28 Makeup Testing	29 Last Day of School

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) is a progress monitoring test 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. Your student will participate in the third administration (PM3) of the Grades three through five FAST ELA Reading and Mathematics assessment April 27- May 19th. Your child's teacher will communicate the exact dates your child will be testing. The results from PM3 will show how well your student has mastered the grade level content standards. You will be provided with information about how to see your student's results after testing is completed.

FAST assessments are computer-adaptive tests taken on a computer or tablet. The questions get easier or more difficult depending on how your student responds, and each student will see different questions from a common item bank. Each test (PM1, PM2, and PM3) has 35–40 items that cover the test "blueprint," meaning students will see items that measure the standards within the subject and grade level. For more information about the test design, please visit <https://www.fldoe.org/accountability/assessments/k-12-student-assessment/best/>. You or your student can practice using the online testing platform or review sample items at home at <https://ffast.org/families.html>.

Please review the following policies with your student before testing:

- **Electronic Devices—Students are not allowed to access any electronic devices, including, but not limited to, cell phones, smart glasses, 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. Students may not wear smart glasses during statewide testing, even if they are prescription glasses. Students with prescription smart glasses will need to remove them or test another day with standard glasses. 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 (not scored).**
- **Calculator Policy—For Grades 7–8 FAST Mathematics, approved handheld scientific calculators may be used. For Grade 6 FAST Mathematics, a handheld four-function calculator may be used. Calculators are not allowed for Grades 3–5 Mathematics.**
- **Testing Rules Acknowledgment—All tests include a Testing Rules Acknowledgment that reads: "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 click a box in the test to show that they understand the testing rules.**
- **Discussing Test Content after Testing—The last part of the testing rules read to students states that because the test content is secure, students may not discuss or share details about the test items and passages after testing. This includes texting, emailing, or posting test content to social media sites. While students may not share information about what questions were on their test, this policy is not meant to prevent students from talking about their testing experiences with their parents/families.**
- **Working Independently—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 (not scored).**
- **Leaving Campus—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. Please remember not to schedule appointments on testing days.**
- **Testing Accommodations—If your student has an Individual Educational Plan (IEP), a Section 504 Plan, or is an English Language Learner (ELL) or a recently exited ELL, please contact the school to discuss any testing accommodations that will be provided for your student.**
- **Testing Irregularities—If a testing irregularity occurs in your student's testing room, as part of a school investigation, your student may be asked questions to provide information about the incident. In addition, your student may need to retake the test if a suspected irregularity is reported that may affect the validity of the test results.**
- **Extra Time—Any student still working at the end of the allotted time for the session will be provided extra time, as allowed, to complete the test. However, based on directions from the district, students who are not actively working (e.g., sleeping) at the end of regular time may be dismissed rather than being given extra time.**

If you have any questions related to this test administration, you may contact Faie Pellegrino at Olivia.pellegrino@stjohns.k12.fl.us or 904.547.3772

For more information about the FAST program, please visit the portal at <https://flfast.org/fsa.html>.

Thank you for supporting your student and encouraging him or her to do his or her best on the test.

Sincerely,

Ms. Altick

Principal

Attendance



Attendance, Early Dismissal Forms, and Change of Transportation Forms now go through **Parent Square**.

There are quick links on the OPE website: <https://www-ope.stjohns.k12.fl.us/>

Request for Early Dismissal Form

Please fill out this form by **10AM** on the day of early dismissal to request that your student be dismissed from school early.

Change of Transportation Form

This form must be submitted BEFORE 12 PM - No changes over the phone.

As per SJCSJ regulations, students are NOT permitted to ride an unassigned bus.

Request to Excuse a Student Absence

- Submitting this form does not guarantee an excused absence.
- Please allow 24-48 hours to see changes in Home Access Center (HAC).
- Only a parent or legal guardian may complete the absence form.
- The form must be completed within 48 hours of the student returning to school.

If your student has accumulated 15 total absences (excused and/or unexcused), a doctor's note is required for additional excused absences. Doctor's notes can be uploaded on this form or can be sent to the school.

Clinic

Important Information Regarding Medication

- All medications (prescription and over-the-counter) must have a completed Medication Authorization Form or Medical Management Form for a chronic condition
- All medications (prescription and over the counter) must have a completed Medication Authorization Form or Medical Management Form for a chronic condition.
- All medications must be brought to school by a parent/guardian and received in the original container with current Rx label (if prescribed). All over the counter medications must be unopened and in the original pack.
- No medication will be given if presented at school in a plastic bag.
- Medication brought to school by a student will be kept in the clinic until a parent/guardian comes to the school with the required paperwork. Without the required authorization, the student will not be given the medication during school hours.
- At the end of the school year, parents are responsible for picking up their child's medication.

All forms can be found on the OPE website under "Health Clinic". See the link below.

Health Clinic – Ocean Palms Elementary School

Cafeteria

Voluntary Pre- Kindergarten Lunch Menu

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MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
		April 2nd Chicken Nuggets & Choice of WG Garlic Breadstick	April 3rd Cheese Pizza	April 3rd Student / Teacher Holiday
April 6th Chicken Nuggets & Choice of WG Garlic Breadstick Green Beans Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Dipping sauce dunk up	April 7th Mac & Cheese Sliced Bread Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Dipping sauce dunk up	April 8th Grilled Cheese Sandwich Baked Beans Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Ketchup, mustard, dipping sauce dunk up	April 9th Cheese Pizza Steamed Broccoli Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Dipping sauce dunk up	April 10th Hamburger or Cheeseburger Baked Potato Fries Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Ketchup, mustard, mayo, dipping sauce dunk up
April 13th Chicken Slider Biscuit Tater Tots Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Ketchup, mustard, dipping sauce dunk up	April 14th Pasta with Choice of Marinara Sauce OR Marinara Sauce w/ Meatballs Green Beans Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit WG Garlic Breadstick	April 15th Chicken Nuggets & Choice of WG Garlic Breadstick Sweet Potato Fries Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Dipping sauce dunk up	April 16th Cheese Pizza Steamed Broccoli Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Dipping sauce dunk up	April 17th Rice Cheese Skillet with Choice of Marinara Dipping Sauce Baked Potato Fries Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Ketchup, mustard, dipping sauce dunk up
April 20th Chicken Nuggets & Choice of WG Garlic Breadstick Green Beans Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Dipping sauce dunk up	April 21st Mac & Cheese Sliced Bread Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Dipping sauce dunk up	April 22nd Grilled Cheese Sandwich Baked Beans Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Ketchup, mustard, dipping sauce dunk up	April 23rd Cheese Pizza Steamed Broccoli Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Dipping sauce dunk up	April 24th Hamburger or Cheeseburger Baked Potato Fries Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Ketchup, mustard, mayo, dipping sauce dunk up
April 27th Chicken Slider Biscuit Tater Tots Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Ketchup, mustard, dipping sauce dunk up	April 28th Pasta with Choice of Marinara Sauce OR Marinara Sauce w/ Meatballs Green Beans Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit WG Garlic Breadstick	April 29th Chicken Nuggets & Choice of WG Garlic Breadstick Sweet Potato Fries Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Dipping sauce dunk up	April 30th Cheese Pizza Steamed Broccoli Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Dipping sauce dunk up	

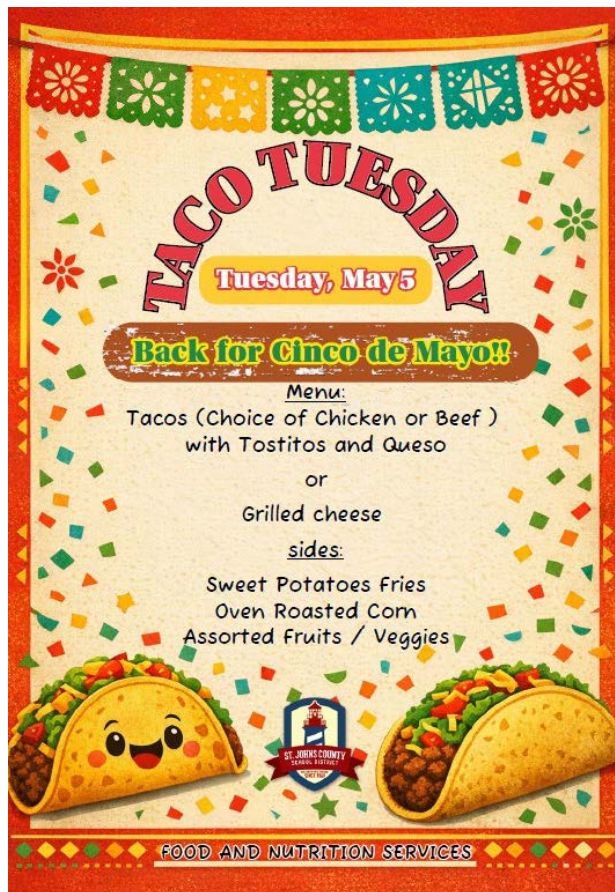
Assorted fruits are based on availability and season! Includes 1/2 banana, fresh fruit, coconut, grapes, apples and kiwi.

WAGS is a registered trademark of the manufacturer.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				May 1st Hamburger or Cheeseburger Blue Cheese Sticks with choice of homemade Eggplant Sauce Baked Potato Fries Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit & Choice of 100% Juice Ketchup, mustard, mayo, eggplant sauce dunk cup
May 8th Chicken Nuggets & Choice of MG Garlic Breadstick Loaded Philly Tort Green Beans Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Eggplant sauce dunk cup, cheese cup	May 9th Beef or Chicken Soft Tacos Grilled Cheese Sandwich Baked Beans Sweet Potato Fries Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Ketchup, mustard, mayo, eggplant sauce dunk cup	May 16th Hot Dog MG Cheese Sandwich Baked Beans Sweet Potato Fries Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Ketchup, mustard, mayo, eggplant sauce dunk cup	May 17th Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza MG Garlic Bread Steamed Broccoli Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Eggplant sauce dunk cup, ketchup, mustard	May 15th Hamburger or Cheeseburger Blue Cheese Sticks with choice of homemade Eggplant Sauce Baked Potato Fries Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit & Choice of 100% Juice Ketchup, mustard, mayo, eggplant sauce dunk cup
May 13th Chicken Slider Sandwich French Toast sticks Tater Tots Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Ketchup, mustard, eggplant sauce dunk cup, ketchup	May 14th Pork with Choice of Homemade Sauce OR Marjoram sauce with Macaroni Chicken Nuggets & MG Breadstick Baked Beans & Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit MG Garlic Breadstick	May 20th Homemade Chicken Sandwich Pepperoni Calzone Sweet Potato Fries & Baked Beans Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Ketchup, mustard, mayo, eggplant sauce dunk cup	May 19th Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza MG Garlic Bread Steamed Broccoli Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Eggplant sauce dunk cup, ketchup, mustard	May 18th Hamburger or Cheeseburger Blue Cheese Sticks with choice of homemade Eggplant Sauce Baked Potato Fries Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit & Choice of 100% Juice Ketchup, mustard, mayo, eggplant sauce dunk cup
May 21st Chicken Nuggets & Choice of MG Garlic Breadstick Loaded Philly Tort Green Beans Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Eggplant sauce dunk cup, cheese cup	May 22nd Hot Dog MG Cheese Sandwich Baked Beans Sweet Potato Fries Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Ketchup, mustard, mayo, eggplant sauce dunk cup	May 23rd Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza MG Garlic Bread Steamed Broccoli Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Eggplant sauce dunk cup, ketchup, mustard	May 22nd Hamburger or Cheeseburger Blue Cheese Sticks with choice of homemade Eggplant Sauce Baked Potato Fries Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit & Choice of 100% Juice Ketchup, mustard, mayo, eggplant sauce dunk cup	May 22nd Hamburger or Cheeseburger Blue Cheese Sticks with choice of homemade Eggplant Sauce Baked Potato Fries Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit & Choice of 100% Juice Ketchup, mustard, mayo, eggplant sauce dunk cup
May 26th Pork with Choice of Homemade Sauce OR Marjoram sauce with Macaroni Chicken Nuggets & MG Breadstick Baked Beans & Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit MG Garlic Breadstick	May 27th Homemade Chicken Sandwich Pepperoni Calzone Sweet Potato Fries & Baked Beans Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Ketchup, mustard, mayo, eggplant sauce dunk cup	May 28th Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza MG Garlic Bread Steamed Broccoli Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit Eggplant sauce dunk cup, ketchup, mustard	May 28th Hamburger or Cheeseburger Blue Cheese Sticks with choice of homemade Eggplant Sauce Baked Potato Fries Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit & Choice of 100% Juice Ketchup, mustard, mayo, eggplant sauce dunk cup	May 28th Hamburger or Cheeseburger Blue Cheese Sticks with choice of homemade Eggplant Sauce Baked Potato Fries Assorted Fresh Vegetables Assorted Fruit & Choice of 100% Juice Ketchup, mustard, mayo, eggplant sauce dunk cup
Memorial Day	Memorial Day	Memorial Day	Memorial Day	Memorial Day

Assorted fruit on hand on availability only. Assorted fresh fruits, frozen, canned, assorted, under 100% Juice
Assorted 100% fruit, berries, oranges, apples, banana, grapes or guava are used

Kindergarten- 5th Grade Lunch Menu



School Advisory Council

There will be no more SAC meetings this school year.

Ocean Palms PTO

To join PTO or get more information, please visit the webpage here.

[Ocean Palms Elementary PTO - Home Page](#)



OCEAN PALMS

PTO MEETING

Join us for our final meeting of the year! Get an update on what's happening at OPE from our PTO and Ms. Altick.

 **DATE**
May 11

 **TIME**
9:00AM

 **OPE KITCHEN RESOURCE ROOM**



Virtual meeting link request @OPEPTO.com

School Supplies

<https://1stdayschoolsupplies.com/gs/24962>

School supplies are delivered in boxes directly to the student's desk for Meet the Teacher. A small portion of each purchase is donated to OPE.

The *BEST* Way To Buy Back-To-School Supplies!

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PLEASE SUPPORT OUR AMAZING 2025-26 PARTNERS IN EDUCATION

OLNEY PALMS ELEMENTARY PARTNER IN EDUCATION

PONTE VEDRA Pediatric Dentistry & ORTHODONTICS
Beaches Orthodontics Dr. Shreena Patel
FISHMAN PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY
Lazzara orthodontics
Sylvan Learning
BRAVOZ FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT CENTER

GOLD PARTNERS
QUALITY FLOORING BY FRANK MILEA
able Concierge Pediatrics
DONOVAN HEAT & AIR

TURNER PLUMBING
SUNRISE VET AT SAWGRASS & MOBILE
Lovelace FAMILY DENTISTRY JOSHUA R. LOVELACE, D.M.D., M.S.

SILVER PARTNERS
BrewSmart The Little Family
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LearningRx One-on-One Brain Training Centers
STATE FARM Edie Williams, Agent Where you're a neighbor not a number!
WATE PARTIES
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unlockt A Whole New Approach to ADHD

BRONZE PARTNERS
Jersey Mike's SUBS
LUMIQUALIS TRAVEL
the Y
KUMON
Momentum Personal Training • Youth Fitness • Small Group Training
INK BARREL PRINTING
TikiZ
VALLEY RIDGE PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY
tropical SMOOTHIE CAFE
NRSG NATIONAL SOCIAL SERVICES GROUP
FISHER TOUSEY ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Announcements from SJCS D



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



Guidelines for Generative Artificial Intelligence

Generative AI is a type of artificial intelligence that generates original content such as essays, images, music, or videos.

- Use of generative AI to complete assignments is prohibited unless there is documented permission from the teacher.
- Never present AI-generated work as your own.

Good to go



- Use generative AI responsibly to support, not replace, your learning
- Use district-approved tools with teacher permission
- Stay curious, learn about how to appropriately use generative AI

Be Cautious

- Check for bias or unfair perspectives
- Be aware that generative AI can make mistakes or provide outdated information
- Ask questions if you're unsure about how to use generative AI appropriately



Never



- Never share personal information
- Don't use generative AI to complete assignments without documented teacher permission
- Never use generative AI in ways that violate school policies or the law



Monday, April 13, 2026

Community Relations attachment

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Hosting 2026 Just Tri It! Kids Triathlon

A new parent/child division will let parents race alongside younger children

ST. JOHNS COUNTY, Florida, April 10, 2026 – On April 26, [the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department](#) is hosting [the 2026 Just Tri It! Kids Triathlon](#) at the Solomon Calhoun Community Center (1300 Duval St., St. Augustine).

Children from 5 to 14 years old will compete in a real, timed triathlon, divided into three age groups: 5–8, 9–11, and 12–14. Each participant will receive an event T-shirt and a finisher medal. Check-in starts at 7:15 a.m., and the triathlon begins at 8 a.m.

Parks and Recreation is excited to welcome a new race director for 2026, along with a new parent/child division designed to give younger or first-time participants the comfort and confidence of racing with a parent by their side.

Registration is \$40 per racer. Starting April 19, the price will increase to \$50.

"Parks and Recreation is thrilled to continue growing the Just Tri It! Kids Triathlon and to introduce our new parent/child division this year," said Tess Simpson, Community Program Manager. "It's a fun, supportive way for kids to build confidence, stay active, and even share the experience with their parents. Thanks to the generous support of the [St. Johns County Parks Foundation](#) and our sponsors, we're able to make this event accessible and memorable for so many local families."

On April 9, Tess Simpson and Marithza Ross, Executive Director of the St. Johns County Parks Foundation, were [special guests on local Facebook show Sunny TV](#) to promote the triathlon and the partnership between Parks and Recreation and the Foundation. Contact tsimpson@sjcfl.us or mross@sjcpcf.org for questions regarding the event.



Ocean Palms Elementary School | 355 Landrum Lane | Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082 US

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