



School Update

March 4, 2011

Spring break is upon us, and I wanted to get a quick memo out to everyone before the break. Please note the following:

- Progress reports are being sent home with students TODAY, Friday, March 4, 2011. Please be on the lookout for them as students come home today!!
- Florida Writes was completed this past week. Students did a great job; now we wait for the results. Thank you for all the support you have given the school and your children – it shows in all they do here each and every day.
- Mark your calendars for **April 12, 13, and 14** – *The FCATS are coming!!!* Please make sure your child is in attendance these days, they get a good night's sleep before the test, eat a good breakfast and relax. Teachers have been working with the students all year to build the skills that will be assessed by the FCAT, and students are abundantly prepared. It is important that they arrive on time, relax, and do their best!!
- An important note about FCATS this year – 10th grade FCAT and 10th grade FCAT retakes in Math will be taken on the computer. The 9th grade students will not take the FCAT in April. They will be taking the End of Course test in May. More info to come soon!
- Congratulations to the cast and crew of the "25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee!!" Everyone did a spectacular job and put on a GREAT show.
- The Dual Enrollment Dance class students will be performing this Saturday, March 5th at Gibbs High School in St. Petersburg at the Florida Dance Educators Association competition. Please wish them luck as they represent our school for the first time at this prestigious event!!

- There will be an Art Gallery Opening and Student Art Sale on March 17th from 5:00-7:00. Students will present their works, from fine arts to graphics and photography. The sale will be held before the music recital, which begins at 7:00.
- Cheyenne DeBarros will be competing on March 12th at the Florida State Shakespeare Competition. Good Luck!!
- Students from the FSU Advanced Acting Dual Enrollment class will be performing their final exam at the Asolo Theatre on March 28th at 7:00. Don't miss this opportunity to see a great show.
- The National Junior Honor Society is participating in the 25th Annual Southeast Guidedog Walk-a-thon on March 5th at Rossi Park in Bradenton. The event starts at 9:00 in the morning.
- Several of our High School Thespian members will be competing in the State Thespian Competition from March 16th-19th in Tampa. All our performers earned a superior mark at the regional competition, which qualified them to compete at states.
- On April 8th, MSA's Show Choir **PIZZAZZ** will perform at Universal Studios as part of Music USA Festivals. The group will receive an on-stage clinic with suggestions on how to improve their performance. They will also receive an overall rating from the panel of judges. In addition to the performance, students will be admitted to Universal Studios and Islands of Adventure for the entire day. The event will conclude with an awards ceremony for all schools participating in the festival. Good luck to our talented Show Choir – **PIZZAZZ!**
- The original production, The Secret Life of Girls, which was premiered by MSA Students in December, is continuing its tour of Manatee County middle schools. The production, based on cyberbullying and interactions between middle school aged kids, has been well received and our students have done a marvelous job representing the school. Congrats and keep up the good work!!
- Seniors – Don't forget you can still apply for Florida's financial aid programs. You may qualify for the Bright Futures scholarship program, but if you don't apply, you will not be eligible. Here are the steps for the application process:

Go to www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org

- Select **State Grants, Scholarships & Applications** and **Apply Here** to complete and submit an online application.
 - Select **Programs Offered** to view detailed state programs information.
 - Pay attention to program deadlines listed in the application conditions section, the application results screen, and the application acknowledgement communication, sent to the student's e-mail address on the application.
 - Watch for official e-mail acknowledgement communication, which provides each student with instructions for obtaining a USER ID and PIN to access the submitted application, update information on the application and check the status of the application.
 - Check the status of certifications prior to the program deadline(s) and the status of awards following the program deadlines online.
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- For any students (current 11th grade students) who are planning on attending the State College of Florida for their Senior Year – Please note the following:

Early College Information Night at SCF Bradenton

The State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota (SCF) will host an Early College Information Night from 5 – 6 p.m., March 15, at SCF Bradenton, 5840 26th St. West, building 14, room 147/148.

High school students interested in getting an early start on their college education can learn more about SCF's dual enrollment program, early admission, and the college enrichment program for high school students. Information about eligibility requirements, the enrollment process, and program deadlines also will be available. Campus tours are available for interested students following the information session.

For more information, call 941-752-5422. Maps and directions are online at scf.edu/maps.

We hope that everyone has an amazing Spring Break!!

Upcoming Events

March

7-11	Spring Break
14	School Resumes

- 16-19 High School Thespians State Competition
- 17 Art Show/Sale – 5:00-7:00
Music Solo Recital – 7:00
- 26 HEAT Dance Clinic

April

- 8 No School – Records Day
- 12-14 FCAT Reading, Math, Science
- 22 No School – Good Friday
- 29 Senior Grad Night

Please check the website for more dates and times

www.msfta.org