



Astronaut News

2/1/2021

Duval Early Learning Academy

[Edition 1, Volume 5]



From the Desk of the Principal, Christiana Robbins

Greetings, Duval Families!

In celebration of Black History Month our students will be learning about the many contributions of African Americans throughout our history. We are excited to be teaching our students about the countless, significant contributions that African Americans have made in our country.

As a reminder, our kindergarten students are administered math chapter tests, reading tests, and spelling tests. Teachers will be sending these tests home so that you can see how your child is performing. Please be sure to conference with your child's teacher if your child is not making adequate progress.

Finally, we are planning to offer after-school tutoring beginning in March. We will be sending home/emailing invitations this month. Please note that we will not be able to provide transportation for students who ride the bus home. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me via telephone or via email at robbincl@gm.sbac.edu.

~ Ms. Robbins

Congratulations to

Donna Barr,

Duval Early Learning Academy's
School-Related Employee of the Year!

Ms. Barr is the Media Aide, and has served in Alachua County Public Schools for about 15 years. We are happy for her and this honor!

Important Dates

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February 5th

Virtual Awards Ceremony

February 9th

Report Cards
Available in Skyward

February 15th

No School, President's Day

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March 9th

Interim Reports
Available in Skyward

Reminders

Breakfast

7:10 – 7:40 daily

School Hours

M, T, Th, F: 7:40 AM – 1:37 PM
W: 7:40 AM – 12:22 PM

Late Arrivals

Students who are tardy to school (arriving after 7:40 AM) must be signed in at the front office. School staff will walk your child to class.

Sign-In & Check Out

Checking students out prior to dismissal time is highly discouraged. We ask that you check students out no later than 1:10 on M, T, Th & F and no later than 12 noon on Wednesday.

SCHOOL COUNSELOR

Teaching kindness and reducing bullying

In December and January, our students learned about general safety, personal boundaries, and body safety through *Safer, Smarter Kids* curriculum. They were very excited to learn different ways to stay safe and respect others. In line with this idea, February's focus will be anti-bullying and teaching kindness. Oftentimes, instances of bullying can be significantly reduced when children are taught to use kind words, recognize bullying behavior, and report these behaviors to an adult. When we work together, we can all help our students be kinder to each other.

If you have any questions, please remember I'm available via email, phone, or in person.

Email: jameswoodleysa@gm.sbac.edu

Phone: 352-955-6703, ext. 2108

Social Worker Randi Hutchinson

Hi, Families!

We survived 2020- let us talk about GOALS and RESOLUTIONS. As adults, we often set new goals for our personal and professional lives- but goal setting is also helpful for young students. According to one article written by Marilyn Price-Mitchell, Ph.D., "setting goals is linked with self-confidence, motivation, and autonomy" (Locke & Lathan, 2006).

Tips for Goal Setting With Youth:

1. Write the goal down
2. Be specific by including objectives
3. Be a constant reminder
4. Make goals achievable/ realistic
5. Be supportive

For more tips and information on setting goals with youth, I have provided the link to the article below.

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/the-moment-youth/201803/goal-setting-is-linked-higher-achievement>

Save the Date

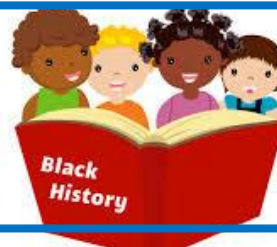
Friday, February 5th
Virtual Awards Ceremony

Assistant Principal Corner

Hello, Duval Families!

As we begin the second half of the school year, I want to say thank you to all of our students and families for all of the work you have been doing. Our students are working so hard, and we are seeing great progress. We continue to take our ISIP District Assessment each month, and are just finishing up on our DIBELS (ELA) and AIMS (math) assessments. These assessments show us the specific needs of each student, and teachers are able to work on those needs. Please continue to read to your child each night and ask them questions about the story. Have a great month!

-Robin Bourg



Title 1 Information

Greetings!

Sometimes, you'll hear educators use a word that has a specific meaning in schools. Understanding those terms will help you speak the same language!

- **Decodable:** Decodable texts are those that are connected to sound and spelling patterns that have already been taught, so most words the students read will be ones they can decode based on what they have been taught. (For example, students who have learned the sounds /a/, /c/, and /t/ can decode "cat.")
- **Inventive spelling:** Spelling a word using spelling attempts based on sounds that the child knows to represent each sound. Accurate spelling is less important than ensuring that your child is using what they have been taught, and building up their ability to sound out words when writing.
- **Phonemic awareness:** The ability to recognize that spoken words are made up of individual sounds (or phonemes), and to identify, produce, and play with those individual sounds.
- **Phonological awareness:** The ability to recognize the sounds of language, including rhyme, syllables, and the sounds in words.
- **Sight words:** Sight words, are commonly used words that young children are encouraged to memorize as a whole by sight.

-Debbie Nichols