

Puppy Tales

Michigan Avenue Elementary

2015 South Michigan Avenue
Saint Cloud, Florida 34769



www.maes.osceolaschools.net

Mrs. Diane Crook-Nichols, Principal
Ms. Erin Williams, Assistant Principal

January 28, 2021

LETTER FROM ADMINISTRATION

Greetings, Bullpup families! February is kindness month and filled with activities that promote kindness and love. February 14th is Valentine's Day and this special day provides a forum whereby we can tell our friends how much we appreciate them.

Valentine's Day is also big business for the aluminum foil industry. The shiny, silvery, substance seals Hershey kisses, supports pink frosted cookies on baking sheets, and shrouds school-made valentine mailboxes created for students to receive valentine messages from their classmates. I love visiting classrooms seeing children prance around the room depositing small white envelopes in decorated boxes or bags. Oh, how Valentine's Day brings out the *loooove* in our classrooms.

I have learned that it does not take Valentine's Day to remind us of the need to communicate kindness. We can recognize and acknowledge the inherent goodness in each other daily. Being inclusive at our school is as meaningless as the message on a candy heart if we do not show it through actions and words. We can, to paraphrase the famous Rogers and Hart lyric, make every day Valentine's day by banishing bullying behavior, showing respect to each other, and being kind to ourselves. We can show our affection for our school by keeping it free of litter,



making safe choices at recess and making a commitment to come to Michigan Avenue each day, on time, ready to learn and contribute.

We encourage everyone to share smiles and kindness. Sharing kind words and a smile can make someone feel better. It will make you feel better too. Sharing random acts of kindness creates a feeling to pass it on. Did you know smiling releases endorphins? Those are the things that make your mood better. Your smile tells your brain you are happy. Smiles are contagious; and free. Smiling just feels good. Share kind words and a smile with someone today and every day. Also, it is important to fill your days with kind words. Read them. Share them. You will not only make a difference in someone's day, but you can make a difference in your life that will change everything.

May our hearts continue to shine like luminous aluminum foil, and may every day be Valentine's Day.

Sincerely,

Diane Crook-Nichols, Principal

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Students are expected to practice social distancing in all classrooms and wear masks throughout the day. **We ask that students come to school with a mask on their face and have a "just in case" mask in their backpack for emergencies.**

We will be calling parents and asking that they bring a mask if a student comes to school without a mask. Five



masks were provided to all our face to face students at the beginning of the year. These masks can be washed and reused. Please partner with us to ensure that all our students and staff remain safe. Thank you for your support!

A REMINDER ABOUT STUDENT ARRIVAL

7:50 a.m.

Students are allowed on campus at 7:50 a.m. Please refrain from dropping students off before that time unless they are involved in Safety Patrol or morning tutoring. Staff members report to work at 7:50 a.m. As a result, supervision for student arrival is not available until this time. Please do not come on campus to drop off students before 7:50. If morning daycare is an issue, please consider the Osceola School District Extended Learning program. You may contact the Extended Learning office at 407-343-8780 to register your child for morning care services. Thank you so much for your understanding and your support in this matter.

TARDY BELL

8:20 a.m.

Please make every effort to have your child in attendance and to school **on time** each day. When a child is late to class, he/she loses valuable instructional time. ***Students arriving after 8:20 a.m., must be signed into the office by a parent/guardian.***

DISMISSAL

We are concerned regarding student pick up in the car rider line. We are asking that all parents show their car tag when picking up students to keep the line moving expeditiously. Please note that parents that do not have a car tag will be asked to get out of the line, park, and come to the front office for ID verification and release. ID verification is a **safety** measure for our students. This will go into effect on Monday, February 1. If you do not have a car tag, please park upon arrival, and come to the front office to get one.



Also, please be aware that our teachers are off duty at 3:45 p.m. therefore, families arriving after 3:45 p.m. (Wednesday 2:45 p.m.) must park and come into the office to sign their child out. The office is open until 4:00 p.m.

Out-of-Field Report – State Requirement

It is mandated by Court order that all teachers add an ESOL endorsement to their existing Elementary Education certification. All MAES teachers are “highly qualified” as it relates to this mandate. The following teachers are “**out-of-field**” as it relates to the ESOL and GIFTED certification, but have made a commitment to work toward this ESOL and/or GIFTED endorsement:

Bonnie Apy (READING)
Violeta Auza (READING)
Zachary Brown (ESOL, READING)
Sharon Busalacchi (READING)
Colby DuSold (ESOL, READING)
Jennifer Fox (READING)
Diana Hauser (READING)
Jeani Johnson (READING)
Kellie Kazmer (READING)
Rachel Keener (ESOL, READING)
Louis Marciniak (READING)
Joseph Miller (READING)
Allison Peters (READING)
Kyle Pogash (READING)
Michele Rivera (ESOL, READING)
Erin Ryan (ESOL, READING)
Mary Smith (READING)
Amandalee Tejada (GIFTED, READING)
Aracelys Tejada (READING)

A note from your Literacy Coach

The new year offers an opportunity to think about the past and set goals for the future. This includes family reading goals! Take time with your child to talk about books or stories you’ve enjoyed in the past year. If the books are nearby, look through them together. Have your child choose his or her three



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favorites. Ask, "What was the best part of this story? Why?" Or, "What is your favorite picture in this book?" Discuss future reading plans. Are there ways you can refresh or improve your reading habits? Could you read more often? Could you read new things together, such as children's magazines? Build daily reading time into your family's schedule. Ask your child what their reading level is and help them find text appropriate for them to read. The following websites offer leveled readers online:

<https://www.wilbooks.com/free-online-books-guided-reading-level> (Levels A-M)

<https://www.getepic.com/> (All Levels, students can access this through class link)

<https://www.readinga-z.com/books/leveled-books/> (Has some sample books, however, to access all you will have to sign up for a free account)

Make 2021 your family's best year ever for reading new and exciting materials!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday Academy begins – February 6
Virtual SAC Meeting- February 11 at 6:00 p.m.
Valentine's Day Candy Gram – February 1 – 12
100th Day of School – February 3
Friday, February 19, 2021- Rodeo Day **NO SCHOOL**
Virtual PTO Meeting – February 23 – 5 p.m.
Jump Rope for Heart – kick off – March 4
Last Day of 3rd quarter – March 12
Spring Break – March 15 – 19

The Focus Parent Portal is a tool designed to enhance communication and involvement in your child's education. The Parent Portal allows parents to better monitor their child's progress in school by providing Internet access to **grades, attendance, discipline, academic history, graduation verification, and standardized test results** in a secure password-protected environment.

If you already have a Focus Parent Portal account:
Go to:

<https://osceola.focusschoolsoftware.com/focus>

Username: Email address used to set up Parent Portal account

Password: (Parent determines)

If you forgot your password, go to <https://www.osceolaschools.net/domain/4873> and click "**click her to view instructions**" on requesting a temporary password.

If you do not have a Parent Portal account, go to <https://osceola.focusschoolsoftware.com/focus/auth> to create your own Parent Portal account online. Instructions can be found at <https://www.osceolaschools.net/domain/4873> when you click on "**Click here to view instructions.**"

If you currently have a Parent Portal account and are having issues accessing it, click on the document: **2020-2021- How to Get Your Parent Portal Issues Resolved**, to view instructions on how to contact your child's school for assistance.

FOCUS PARENT PORTAL

<https://www.osceolaschools.net/domain/4873>

February

Choose
Kindness

Kindness Month

2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 "If you see someone without a smile, give them one of yours."	2 "Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible."	3 "If you want to lift yourself up, lift someone else up."	4 "Always be kinder than necessary."	5 "A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and roots spring up and make new trees."	6 
7 	8 "Every sunrise is an invitation to arise and brighten someone's day."	9 "If you have the power to make someone happy, DO IT. The world needs more of that."	10 "If we all do one random act of kindness daily, we just might set the world in the right direction."	11 "Kindness is like a boomerang, it always returns."	12 "Kind people are the best kind of people."	13 
14 SPIRIT WEEK!! SPIRIT WEEK!! SPIRIT WEEK!! SPIRIT WEEK!! SPIRIT WEEK!! SPIRIT WEEK!!	15 "Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless." SIDEWALK CHALK Write positive quotes on sidewalks around campus!	16 "Never look down on anybody unless you are helping them up." DOOR AMBUSH! Write positive words on sticky notes and place them on classroom doors, bathroom doors, custodial closets, etc.	17 "One person can make a difference, and everyone should try." THANK YOU NOTE Write a kind thank you note to a teacher or staff member!	18 "Real generosity is doing something nice for someone who will never find out." CARDS for NURSING HOME Use kind words and creativity to make cards of encouragement to residents in nursing homes."	19 "RODEO DAY!!"	20 SPIRIT WEEK!! SPIRIT WEEK!! SPIRIT WEEK!! SPIRIT WEEK!! SPIRIT WEEK!! SPIRIT WEEK!! 
21 	22 "A day without laughter is a day wasted."	23 "Think of giving as not a duty, but a privilege."	24 "When we are kind to others, it not only changes you, it changes the world."	25 "The world is changed by your example, not your opinion."	26 "In a world where you can be anything, BE KIND."	27 