



JOSEPH A. WILLIAMS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

PRINCIPAL: Mrs. Anyana Stokes

February and March 2020

#wildcatpride



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

What a great time to be a WILDCAT!!

With the 2nd semester well underway we are pushing students even harder to reach academic targets and holding them to behavior expectations. We have lots to learn and accomplish in the next few months. It will take all of us working together.

We are committed to making the most of each and every instructional minute we have with our students. To that point, we are experiencing an increase in tardies and absences. Our school day begins at 7:45am. On average we have 50 students who arrive to school after 8:00 am. Missing the first 15 minutes each day is over an hour of instruction lost per week. We are also averaging 50 students absent from school each day. We are on a mission to achieve academic success. We need all of our students here at school, on time, and ready to learn. Please let us know if we can assist you.

As always, we appreciate your continued support and involvement. We are looking forward to student performances, parent nights, achievement celebrations, and our Spring Carnival. We hope that you are able to come out and engage with us. We know that our partnership with parents is one of the greatest influences on student success. We look forward to seeing you in the coming months as we continue to push our students toward success.

Your Partner,
Anyana Stokes Principal

#wildcatpride

Feb. 7	Character Celebration
Feb. 13-14	Black Light Party
Feb. 17	No School – Presidents’ Day
Feb. 20, 6pm	Black History Celebration
Feb. 26, 7:30 am	PTA Meeting
March 10	Family Night – “Let’s Taco-bout Standards”
March 12	Spring Picture Day – Class Photos
March 18	End of 3rd Nine Weeks
March 19, 4-7 pm	School Carnival
March 23-27	No School – Spring Break
April 1-2	3rd Grade FSA Reading
April 2	4th and 5th Grade FSA Writing
April 7	3rd Nine Week Report Cards go Home
April 10	Principal and BUG Awards



Be Respectful

Be Responsible

Be Kind

STATE ASSESSMENT CALENDAR

The Florida Department of Education has given the school district our designated state testing dates for third, fourth, and fifth grades.

All tests are [standards-based](#) and in paper format. Student results will be available in Skyward by the end of June (3rd grade reading results will be available at the end of May). Students will receive achievement level scores (1-5, low to high), as well as additional information within each specific reporting category.

GRADE	ASSESSMENT	DATE	SESSIONS	TIME <i>for each session</i>
3	FSA Reading	April 1, 2	1, 2	80 min.
4, 5	FSA Writing	April 2	1	120 min.
3	FSA Math	May 5, 6	1, 2	80 min.
4, 5	FSA Reading	May 5, 6	1, 2	80 min.
4, 5	FSA Math	May 7, 8	1, 2	80 min.
5	SSA Science	May 11, 12	1, 2	80 min.

As a best practice, work closely with your child's teacher, including in regard to your child's grades and academic progress, assessment reports, and specific needs. Parents can also access more information with the following links:

[FSA Parents & Students Website](#) *Reading, Writing, and Mathematics*
[Statewide Science Assessment Website](#)

Title I

We will be having a family night March 10 called "Let's Taco-bout Standards." Parents, families, and students are invited to learn about the standards that guide classroom instruction and student learning in Florida, as well as interactive activities for students.

Additionally, every classroom will soon be receiving new classroom libraries with sets of 150 books that are diverse in interest and perspectives, multicultural, and include an array of themes. This will be another place where our students can access notable literature.

SPELLING BEE

Williams Elementary had 25 fifth grade students participate in the School Spelling Bee on December 13. Shivi Tripathi was the winner and Reagan Deas and Leona Ran were the co-runner-ups.

The School District Spelling Bee was then held on January 22, with participants in grades 5, 6, 7, and 8 from all the public and private schools in the county. Shivi superbly represented our school and placed 2nd overall.

PTA UPDATE

The Spring Carnival is March 19 from 4:00-7:00 pm. The pre-sale for tickets will begin at the end of February (five tickets for \$1 during this time). More information will be going home about setting up grade level Carnival booths and raffle baskets.

Join us at the next PTA meeting on **Wednesday, February 26 at 7:30 am**. Also consider volunteering for the new [Morning Reader](#) program. If you have any questions or want to know more about joining the PTA, email us at ptawilliamselmentary@gmail.com or join our [PTA Facebook Group](#).

National Chess Championship,

December 12-15



Spelling Bee, December 13



Santa Visit, December 16



Tommie Mabry, January 7

