



Astronaut News

3/1/2021

Duval Early Learning Academy

[Edition 1, Volume 6]



From the Desk of the Principal, Christiana Robbins

Greetings, Duval Families!

As a reminder, after-school tutoring for Kindergarten begins on Tuesday, March 2nd, and will be held twice a week on Tuesday's and Thursday's from 1:45 PM – 2:45 PM. We are currently at capacity, but are generating a waiting list for those parents who are interested in their students receiving tutoring. Please be sure to contact the school for additional information.

Additionally, progress reports will be available in Skyward on March 9th. Please be sure to conference with your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's grades.

Also on March 9th: I will be hosting a Zoom meeting for parents on how to help your child learn sight words (and learn other skills). I will be emailing a link for this Parent Engagement meeting later this week.

Please do not hesitate to contact me via telephone or via email at robbincl@gm.sbac.edu if I can help in any way.

~ Ms. Robbins

Important Dates

...

March 9th

Interim Reports
Available in Skyward

Parent Engagement Activity
Via Zoom

March 22nd – 26th

No School
Spring Break

...

April 22nd

Report Cards
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

Identifying Feelings

Greetings, Families!

This month we are all about feelings and learning to help our students identify what is known as feeling words (happy, sad, excited, mad, etc.). At this age, it can be difficult for students to verbalize how they feel. Even we adults sometimes struggle with finding words to describe our feelings. We can help our students learn to identify feelings by doing the following:

- Reading children's books about feelings and asking questions about how the characters might be feeling.
- Creating feeling word lists and having students identify which word(s) they relate to at any given time.
- Making songs that incorporate different feeling words.
- Being very specific about feelings and the words that go with them.

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

-Ms. James

Email: jameswoodleysa@qm.sbacc.edu | **Phone:** 352-955-6703, ext. 2108

Assistant Principal Corner

Hi, Duval Families!

As we begin the second half of the school year, we are learning (or have learned) the letter names, letter sounds and how to put the sounds together to read words. We continue to administer both formal and informal assessments to monitor each student's progress, and it is exciting to see how well our students are doing. As always, please continue to read to your child each day.

-Robin Bourg

Social Worker Corner

Greetings Parents and Guardians,

'**Gainesville Free Food**' is a Facebook group created by community members to assist families and individuals in need of food sources. Members post various food drive information and they are always willing to help those in need. This is a private group so you will need to request access in order to view resources in the group. These resources are not always community-approved events, but many have found this group to be helpful.

Another Resource:

NAMI BASICS is for parents or caregivers of children or teens with mental illness or with feelings or behaviors such as rage, fears, depression, mood swings, etc. They are offering 6 classes for parents from **6:30-9:00 PM** on the following days: **3/4 - 4/8**, or **4/15 - 5/20**, or **10/14 - 11/18**. Courses will be LIVE on Zoom on Thursdays. To learn more or to register, you can call (352) 335-7770 or email info@namigainesville.org.

-Randi Hutchinson

Title 1 Information

Greetings!

As we enter March, you may notice that your child is beginning to show more interest in books that have text and less interest in picture books. Here are some helpful tips on what to look for in choosing books for your kindergartener:

- Titles that explore kid interests, and offer exposure to different kinds of writing.
- Stories that let them see how characters in different situations behave toward others.
- Engaging informational texts with lots of colorful photographs or illustrations that help kindergartners build knowledge about the world.
- Cumulative tales full of built-in anticipation, like *There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly*.
- Longer stories or chapter books with thematically rich issues that lead to discussion and reflection.

Happy Reading!

-Debbie Nichols