



Panther Press

Sawgrass Elementary

November 1, 2019

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Sawgrass Families,

All our boys and girls are working so hard and making great strides in their learning. Our teachers and staff are also raising the bar each day to help our collective school meet our goals. We have opened morning computer labs for additional i-Ready opportunities for students who need extra practice in both math and reading. Every available staff member is in our classrooms to support our students and they are accomplishing great things. All indications tell us we are working in the right direction. Our Panther Clubs are also in full swing and our kiddos are really enjoying focusing on something other than academics. There are many great things beyond what I mention that are happening in our busy school. Please know you are invited to participate and join our PTA, SAF or SAC meeting where we discuss our school's progress in more detail. We are always looking to involve our families in our school in meaningful ways so, please consider joining us. I want to also take this opportunity to wish you the best during the upcoming Thanksgiving season!

Happy Thanksgiving,

Mr. DeCotis

Important Reminders

FLORIDA STATE STATUTE. 316.305

Effective **October 1, 2019**,
wireless communications
devices can only be used in a
hands-free manner when
driving in a designated school
crossing, school zone, or active
work zone area in Florida.

FLHSMV



Visiting Our Campus

All visitors must enter campus through the single point entry located in our front office. Visitors must have a photo ID (Driver's License) in order to be processed through our STAR system. If you do not have a photo ID, you will not be permitted to enter our campus. We ask that you are patient with our staff as the check-in process will take a few minutes to complete.

Guest Parking is extremely limited at our school. We have designated approximately ten spots for visitors in our parking lot. We ask that you utilize these spots for quick visits. If you are going to be visiting for an extended period such as: special events, awards assemblies, or classroom shows/presentations we ask our families to assist us and park at Flamingo Park.



Upcoming Events for the Month of November

Event	Date and Time	Location
<i>Veteran's Day Celebration</i>	Thursday, November 7 th , 8AM-10AM	Campus Wide
<i>Parent Teacher Association (PTA) & School Advisory Council (SAC) & School Advisory Forum (SAF) Joint Meeting</i>	Wednesday, November 13 th from 8:15AM to 9:15AM	TBD
<i>Chili's Night</i>	Thursday, November 21 st , 4 -10 PM	Sunrise
<i>Talent Show</i>	Thursday, November 21 st , 6:15PM to 7:45PM	Cafeteria
<i>Thanksgiving Observance Days</i>	Wed. 11/27, Thurs. 11/28, Fri. 11/29	All Broward Schools
<i>California Pizza Kitchen Day</i>	Friday, November 29 th	Sawgrass Mills location

FUN FRIDAYS:

November 1st – Wild West Day
 November 8th – Military Appreciation Day
 November 15th – Rockstar Day
 November 22nd – Superhero vs. Villain Day

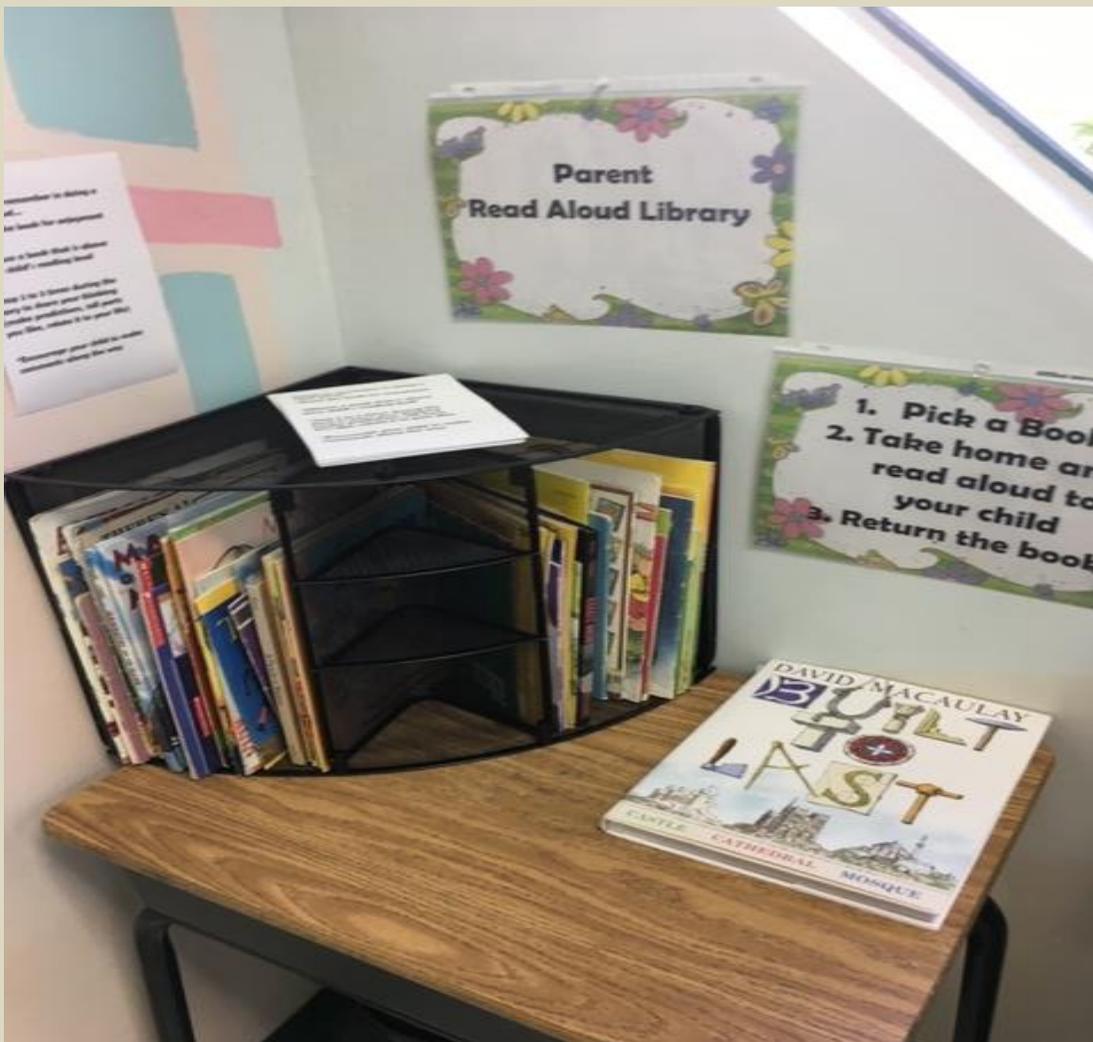
AWARDS ASSEMBLIES (BY INVITATION-CHECK YOUR CHILD'S BACKPACK)
 PreK and Kindergarten Tues., 11/12 at 8:15 AM
 First & Second Grade Thurs., 11/14 at 8:15 AM
 Third Fri., 11/15 at 8:15 AM
 Fourth Grade, Mon. 11/18 at 8:15AM
 Fifth Grade, Tues., 11/19 at 8:15AM

**Remember to bring a picture ID to sign in for the awards assemblies. Parking for the awards at Flamingo Park.*



Home School Connection

Our school is offering our families a Parent Read Aloud Library located in a little corner of our front office. This little library contains books parents may borrow and take home to read to your child. If you would like to borrow books from the Parent Read Aloud Library, follow the steps listed below. It is on an honor system and the books will be rotated monthly. I have even supplied an information sheet with tips on how to read aloud to your child.



1. Pick a book
2. Take home and read aloud to your child
3. Return the book to our Sawgrass Parent Library
4. Repeat steps 1-3 throughout the year!

Comprehension Question Suggestions

When you are reading to your child or your child is independently reading, here are a few suggested questions you may ask. If you want additional guidance or suggestions on utilizing these questions, reach out to your child's teacher. We recommend you use two to three different questions each time you sit to read with your child.

Comprehension Question Suggestions

Questions to ask before reading

- Point to the title. What is the title of the book?
- Point to the author's name. What is the author's job?
- Point to the illustrator's name. What is the illustrator's job?
- What does the cover tell you about the book? What do the pictures tell you?
- What do you think the book is about?
- What are you curious to find out about this book?
- What do you already know about this book?
- What do you want to learn?
- Why are you reading this book?

Questions to ask during reading

- What do you think will happen next?
- What is the problem in the book?
- Why do you think the character did that?
- Where you were reading this part, what were you picturing in your head?

Questions to ask after reading

Children reading at **LEVEL AA** through **LEVEL D** could be asked...

9. Why does the title make sense?
10. How many words (or letters) are on the page?
11. Who is the story mostly about?
12. If you could add a page to the book, what would you write? (Here we want to see if the child recognizes the pattern or the sound that all the words start with.)
13. What did you like about the story?
14. Does it remind you of anything in your life? (Text to Self)
15. Which of the characters did you like best? Why?
16. Point to your favorite picture in the story. Why do you like it?

Children reading at **LEVEL D** through **LEVEL K** could be asked any of the above, plus...

1. What is the main problem in the story?
2. How is the problem solved?
3. What is the setting of the story (where did it take place)?
4. What is one thing that happens to the main character?
5. Does it remind you of any other books you have read? (Text to Text)
6. Is this a non-fiction (real) or fiction book?
7. Name one person you know who would like this story. Why?
8. Who was your favorite character in the story? Why?
9. Who was your least favorite character in the story? Why?

Children reading at **LEVEL K** through **LEVEL O** could be asked any of the above, plus...

1. Does it remind you of anything that has happened in the world? (Text to World)
2. Why do you think the author wrote the book?
3. How does the main character change from the beginning of the story to the end?
4. Name 3 things that you know about the main character.
5. Are there any characters that remind you of yourself or someone that you know?
6. What is the most important thing to remember in the story?
7. What is something you learned from this story? (a lesson, fact, idea)



*Reading Levels (BAS) reference above

Levels AA to D = Kindergarten to Early 1st grade

Levels D to K = 1st and Early 2nd grade

Levels K to Level O = 2nd grade to mid-3rd grade

Tips for Parents: Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher Conference Checklists

Before the conference

- Ask your child how she feels about school.
- Ask your child if there is anything that he wants you to talk about with his teacher.
- Tell your child that you and the teacher are meeting to help her.
- Make a list of topics that you want to talk about with the teacher.
- Prepare a list of questions such as:
 1. What are my child's strongest and weakest subjects?
 2. Does my child hand homework in on time?
 3. Does my child participate in class?
 4. Does my child seem happy at school?
 5. What can I do at home to help?

During the conference

- Be on time (or early) for the meeting.
- End the meeting on time. Other parents will probably have a conference after yours.
- Relax and be yourself.
- Stay calm during the conference.
- Ask the most important questions first.
- If your child receives special services such as English classes, ask about your child's progress in those classes.
- Ask for explanations of anything you don't understand
- Ask your child's teacher for ways that you can help your child at home.
- Thank the teacher.

After the conference

- Talk about the conference with your child.
- Talk about the positive points and be direct about problems.
- Tell your child about any plans you and the teacher created.
- Keep in touch with the teacher during the school year.

<https://www.colorincolorado.org/article/tips-parents-parent-teacher-conferences>

