



FREEDOM CROSSING ACADEMY

April Parent Newsletter 2024

Character Counts and Capturing Kids Heart Focus: ALL PILLARS

Dear Falcon Families,

Happy Spring!!! I hope you and your family enjoyed Spring Break and the long Easter and Ramadan Weekend!! 🌸 March flew by and we are now officially in the 4th quarter! It is incredible to see the growth and academic strides our students have made this school year, and I am so proud of all our amazing Falcons. As I am visiting classes, the students are so excited to share their learning with me. I am in awe at the engagement and confidence I see every day. Our Kindergarteners are looking like 1st graders and our 8th graders starting to look like high schoolers. We have a few more exciting events on the horizon, and I encourage our students and staff to finish strong!

THE 6 PILLARS OF CHARACTER



TRUSTWORTHINESS



RESPECT



RESPONSIBILITY



FAIRNESS



CARING



CITIZENSHIP



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APRIL DATES & EVENTS:

April: Month of the Military Child [Honoring Our Youngest Heroes Attachment](#)

4/2-25 Writing, Reading and Math PM3. Please see the link for grade level test.

[STAR-FAST-Schedule-April-2024-website.pdf](#)

4/2 Pre-MPA Concert for Symphonic band @ FCA 6:30PM

4/8-4/23 [2024 Movers for Moms Service-Learning Project Attachment](#)

4/6 Band Solo and Ensemble @ Nease High School

4/18 PTO Sponsored 8th Grade Dance (see flyer in this newsletter)

4/19 Student/ Teacher Holiday

4/19 FCA Jazz Band to Lakeside Jazz Festival

4/23 Progress Reports go live in HAC

4/25-27 **SHREK** the Musical

4/27 PTO Sponsored 5K

Progress Monitoring (PM3)

Students will be taking the computer-based **Grade 4-8 Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) Writing assessment on 4/2-4/12**. Families should have received a parent letter with information about the B.E.S.T. Writing Assessment form their child's classroom teacher.

- 4/2 – 5th grade
- 4/4 – 4th grade
- 4/5 – 8th grade
- 4/8 – 7th grade
- 4/9 – 6th grade



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If you or your student would like to review the computer-based practice test at home, the practice tests and answer keys are available at

<https://fsassessments.org/families.html>.

Please check out our FCA testing webpage for more information. <https://www-fca.stjohns.k12.fl.us/testing/> **FCA Testing Proctor Link on the next page...**

We are looking for **PARENT VOLUNTEERS** to help proctor PM3 testing for April and May. Please see the links below to sign up.

Thank you for the consideration 😊

FCA Testing Proctor Link



2024 PM3
FCA Testing Proctors 2024
MD Melissa Dillard Contact
WE NEED YOU! It's that time of year we need proctors for testing season!

The flyer features a photograph of five diverse young students in a classroom, smiling and raising their hands. The text is in a clean, sans-serif font, with the title in a larger, bold font.

[2024 PM3: FCA Testing Proctors 2024 \(signupgenius.com\)](https://signupgenius.com)



FCA would like to thank our neighboring Dreamette Ice Cream for partnering with us to provide incentives for our morning Lexia Lab time. Dreamette Ice Cream has donated almost \$200 in ice cream gift cards to our school this year to use as an attendance incentive for our Lexia Labs.



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IMPORTANT EXTENDED DAY NEWS

Please see the attached information and registration form.

Freedom Crossing Academy is excited to announce that the FCA Extended Day Program is going to be internalized next year as an extension of our school. We have been very grateful for Village Extended Day, and hope you join us in thanking them for their support of our school and their care for our students over the last six years. Internalizing the program will allow all of the Extended Day Program dollars to go back to FCA for the good of the school as a whole. More information and registration can be found in the **attached** document. We look forward to partnering with our parents and families.





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TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE – APRIL 8TH – PLEASE READ.....



A total solar eclipse—an event that occurs when the moon passes between Earth and the sun—will occur on April 8th. In Northeast Florida, the eclipse will begin at approximately 1:48 PM, and will reach its maximum at 3:05 PM. Due to our geographic location, the sun will be about 70% eclipsed at its maximum, which means the sun may only appear slightly dimmer than usual.

Even during a partial eclipse, there are safety concerns for students and staff; therefore, schools will **not** organize viewing activities of the solar eclipse. Absences will be excused if parents decide to keep their child at home or request early dismissal.

Safety guidelines should be followed if families decide to view the eclipse.

- Do not look directly into the sun during the solar eclipse, as it could be harmful to your vision.
- Do not look into the sun without proper eye protection.
- Do not look at the sun through a telescope or binoculars.
- Do not look at the sun through sunglasses, smoked glasses, or welder's glasses.
- Do not look at the sun through a camera/smart phone.
-

The only safe method for viewing the solar eclipse is by using special-purpose solar filters such as eclipse glasses or hand-held solar viewers. NASA does not approve any particular brand of solar viewer as stated on the NASA website.

Suggested Resources

- 2024 Total Solar Eclipse Safety: <https://science.nasa.gov/eclipses/future-eclipses/eclipse-2024/safety/>
- 2024 Total Solar Eclipse (NASA): <https://science.nasa.gov/eclipses/future-eclipses/eclipse-2024/>
- NASA's 2024 Total Solar Eclipse Broadcast (NASA): <https://svs.gsfc.nasa.gov/14520>
- "What is a solar eclipse?" (NASA lesson): <https://mynasadata.larc.nasa.gov/mini-lessonactivity/what-solar-eclipse>



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Find the live link for kindergarten registration our FCA website at <https://www-fca.stjohns.k12.fl.us/>



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SJCSD - DISTRICT NEWS:

Please share with your ESE staff and families.

2023-2024 Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Parent Survey

The 2023-2024 ESE Parent Survey window is open now through June 30, 2024.

Each year, the FDOE surveys parents of students with an individual educational plan to determine how well districts and schools are partnering with parents and promoting parent involvement in their student's education. All states must collect these data for reporting on their State Performance Plan, as required under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Additionally, survey results will be used to help schools and districts improve services and outcomes for students with disabilities.

The survey is open to all parents of students with an IEP receiving ESE services from preschool age to grade 12. Individual responses are confidential.

To access the survey directly, go to the [2024 ESE Parent Survey](#)

For questions, contact Patricia Bodiford, senior educational program director, Instructional Support Services, at Patricia.Bodiford@fldoe.org or 850-245-0475.



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APRIL 9, 2024

6:00 PM TO 7:30 PM

ST JOHNS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION
ESE PARENT ADVISORY

WELCOMES GUEST SPEAKER FROM UF HEALTH
JACKSONVILLE

DAVID CHILDERS, MD

BOARD CERTIFIED GENERAL PEDIATRICIAN,
BOARD CERTIFIED IN NEURODEVELOPMENTAL
DISABILITIES AND BOARD CERTIFIED IN
DEVELOPMENTAL BEHAVIORAL PEDIATRICS

FOR A PRESENTATION ON:

The Link Between Language Age and Behavior

Join us as Dr. Childers explains: No child is born "bad". Behaviors are generally at the level of language comprehension based on internal conversations for modulation, as influenced by the environment. Understanding the function of language on behavior is key to addressing the expectations and altering the environment.

Join us in-person at Fullerwood Auditorium
OR

on your computer or mobile app via link below

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only) 904-420-0831

Phone Conference ID: 344 084 #

ST JOHNS COUNTY
SCHOOL DISTRICT



**THIS MEETING
IS ACCESSIBLE
VIA IN-PERSON
AT
FULLERWOOD
AUDITORIUM**

10 HILDRETH DRIVE ST
AUGUSTINE, FL 32084

**And
VIA MICROSOFT
TEAMS
PLATFORM**

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM





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Attention 5th & 8th grade parents:

Please save the dates:

PTO Sponsored 8th grade Dance - 4/18/24

5th Grade Universal Celebratory Field Trip- 5/16/24

8th Grade Gradventure Field Trip – 5/17/24

8th Grade Promotion Ceremony – 5/22/24



CLASS OF 2028

SAVE THE DATE

Freedom Crossing Academy

8TH GRADE PROMOTION CEREMONY

MAY 22ND @6:30PM

**1365 SHETLAND DR
SAINT JOHNS, FL**

2 tickets per student
More information to come





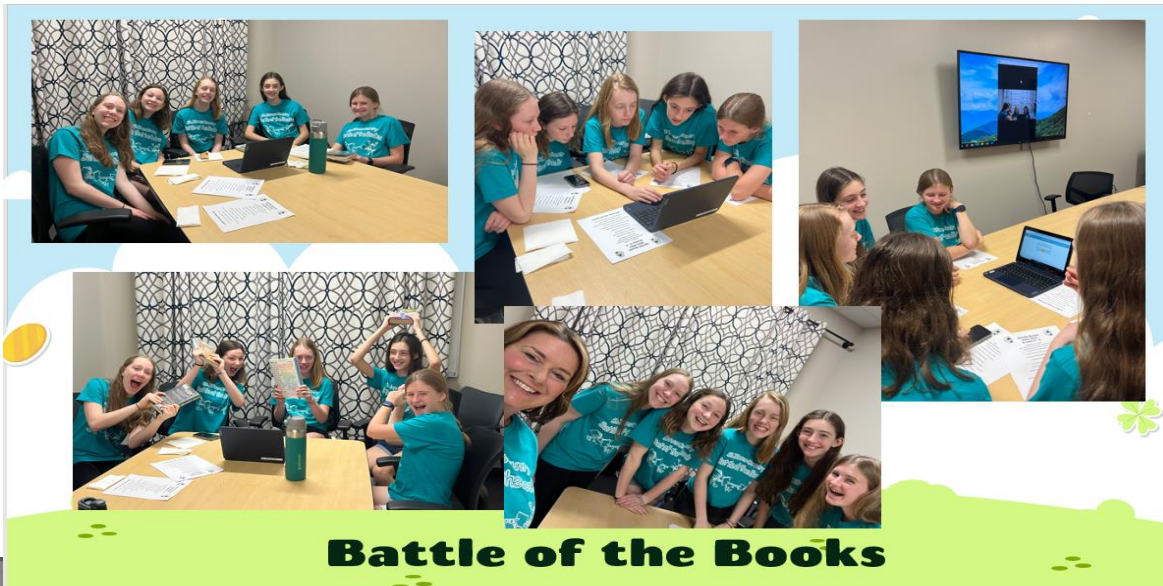
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GOOD NEWS @ FCA

Congratulations to our Middle School and Elementary Battle of the Books Teams, BOTH placing 1st in the district!!



Battle of the Books





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CHARACTER CUP



FCA Girls Basketball- CHAMPS





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Field Day



More fun at Field Day





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Pics around FCA



MORE GOOD NEWS

Congratulations to the St Johns County Middle School Art show selectees in Mrs. Frerick's Art Class.



**Kaylee Kerns 8th, "Pop in the Sky"-
Paige Kinsella 8th "Star Dog" and
Bianca Baratta 8th "Corn"**



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Evelyn Wolf 7th "Emotions" -Paavan Patel 7th "Emerging" - Natalie Moore 7th "Moore's Mushroom Food truck"



Olivia Gross 7th "Burger Time"



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MT. VERNON -8TH GRADE WASHINGTON DC TRIP



Don't forget to order your FCA Yearbook!!

Leonard's **FCA** **YEARBOOK**

GET YOUR COPY!!
PRE SALES END ON
MAY 1ST

**YOUR OWN PERSONAL
TIME CAPSULE**

ENTER
SCHOOL CODE
717818

ORDER ONLINE TODAY
BuyTheYearbook.com

The advertisement for Leonard's FCA Yearbook features a colorful, stylized design. The title "Leonard's FCA YEARBOOK" is prominently displayed in large, bold, white letters with a multi-colored shadow effect. Below the title, the text "YOUR OWN PERSONAL TIME CAPSULE" is written in a smaller, bold font. At the bottom, there is a call to action: "ORDER ONLINE TODAY" and the website "BuyTheYearbook.com". A small speech bubble contains the school code "717818". A yellow speech bubble at the top right indicates that pre-sales end on May 1st.



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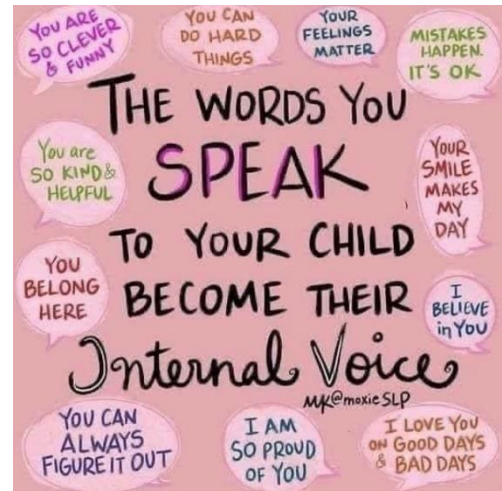
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Attached is information on School Expectations, Policies and Safety Procedures. Thank you for taking the time to read this edition and partnering with us at FCA!

*Gina R. Fonseca,
Principal*

Take Flight and Break Barriers



Courtesy of Vice Principal Lime



Vision

- F- Focus
- L- Leadership
- I-Imagination
- G-Grit
- H-Heart
- T-Team

Mission

- Break Barriers

