



Otis A. Mason Elementary School  
207 Mason Manatee Way St. Augustine, FL 32086

Dr. Nigel D. Pillay, Principal  
Mrs. Natalie Gitto, Asst. Principal

### OUR VISION:

The "Mason Way" is one that nurtures a passion in every child for personal success, good character, and a desire to learn, explore, and better themselves as they grow to be responsible members of our community.

### OUR MISSION:

At Mason Elementary, we believe student success is fostered by a continuous commitment to improvement, which ensures well-rounded and motivated learners. We do this by maintaining a safe and dynamic learning environment, promoting high expectations for all students, nurturing determination, developing personal relationships, and involving our community.

### September Calendar

- 9/4 No School
- 9/6 HERO Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> grade
- 9/12 Interims Issued
- 9/12 SAC Meeting 3pm Media Center
- 9/13 HERO Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> grade
- 9/18 Yankee Candle Fundraiser Begins
- 9/20 HERO Wednesday Kindergarten
- 9/20 Spirit Night @ Tijuana Flats 5-8pm
- 9/21 Boy Scout Roundup in Café 6:30pm
- 9/27 Dad's Take Your Child to School Day & Donuts with Dads @ 8am
- 9/27 HERO Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> grade

Hello Mason Families!

Welcome to the 2017-2018 School Year! Your children, Teachers and Staff have all worked hard this past year and it paid off. We gained a total of 65 points toward our school grade and as a result, we are a "B" school. This year, we are bringing new and exciting clubs and programs to the school for our students to experience. We also have a new Vision and Mission that will help guide us as we move forward. Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication to the Mason community. We know that the continued efforts of the children, the school and the community will pay dividends this year as well. After all, it is the "Mason Way". I continue to be humbled at the opportunity to serve the Mason community. If I can ever be of service to your family, please feel free to contact me.

Onward,  
Nigel D. Pillay

## **CLINIC NEWS**

From Mrs. Baxa

Greetings Parents!

Just some quick reminders that students are not permitted to carry medication of any kind in their backpacks. This applies to over the counter medication like Tylenol and cough drops as well. This is a district policy established for the safety of students. If you would like your student to have medicine available for headaches, colds, sore throats, etc. please call the clinic and we can make the proper arrangements. Thank you for keeping our students safe!

## **Attendance is IMPORTANT!**

It is important that your child arrives at school between 8:00 am and 8:25 am. Please make sure your child arrives at school by 8:25 am so that they can be in their classroom ready to learn by 8:30 am. If your child is absent please send a note or email within 48 hours of returning to school.

*\*Research shows that attendance is an important factor in student achievement.*

## **Accreditation**

Parents, we need your help! Please fill out the Accreditation survey located on our website and at:  
<http://eprovesurveys.advanced.org/surveys/#/action/28637/9501>

## **Mason Policies to Know!**

- Students should not be exiting their car before 8:00 am. There is no supervision for students before that time.
- Cell Phone usage is never allowed in the student drop off/pick up lines.
- Pull all the way forward during arrival and dismissal so that as many cars as possible can be unloaded/loaded at one time.
- In the afternoon please keep the yellow sign, with your student's name and grade level written in large, black marker, in the window until your student is in the car.
- Transportations changes need to be made in writing. For the safety of our students, transportation changes will not be accepted after 2:15pm.

**Thank you for helping to keep our students safe!**

## **Volunteers Needed**

**A volunteer application must be submitted for anyone entering the building during school hours including eating lunch, volunteering in the classroom, and attending field trips.**

**\*\*It is testing season at Otis Mason Elementary and we need many volunteers as test proctors to make this happen!**

**You must be an approved volunteer through the KeepNTrack system.**

**Please call Cathy Nix at 904-547-8440 with any questions and to sign up for your time to help support our school.**