



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.

### November Calendar

11/1 HERO Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> Grade  
11/7 First Grade Veteran's Day Program 6:30  
11/8 HERO Wednesday Kindergarten  
11/9 PTO Spirit Night at Chick-Fil-A  
11/14 SAC Meeting 3:30pm Media Center  
11/15 HERO Wednesday 5th Grade  
11/16 Thanksgiving Luncheon  
11/16 Interims Issued  
11/22-11/24 No School/Happy Thanksgiving  
11/29 HERO Wednesday 4th Grade  
11/30 Scholastic Book Fair Opens

## ***Mason 25<sup>th</sup> Year Celebration and AVID/Title 1 Multicultural Night***

Please join us in celebrating 25 years of excellence in education on  
December 7<sup>th</sup> from 6pm to 8pm.

Here's a sneak peak of some of the activities and fun:  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade Multicultural performances,  
Multicultural projects and art from all grade levels,  
Chorus performance, Book Fair,  
Celebration of Mason's first 25 years, and more!  
You will not want to miss this celebration!

## **Thanksgiving Luncheon**

Mason Manatees will be celebrating Thanksgiving with a Luncheon on Nov 16<sup>th</sup> during your child's normal lunch time. Please look for more information on how to pre-purchase parent lunches coming soon!  
We hope you can join us Nov 16<sup>th</sup>!

## **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.

## **Food Drive**

Mason food drive begins Monday Oct 30<sup>th</sup> and ends Nov 11<sup>th</sup>. Please send in canned/non-perishable goods to benefit families in need this Holiday Season. Collection bins are outside the Front Office.

## **CONGRATULATIONS!**

Volunteer of the Year:  
Mrs. Kim McManus

Senior Volunteer of the Year:  
"Coach" Norm Perkins

Junior Volunteer of the Year:  
Miss Jennifer Gonzales

## **2017-2018 Instructional Materials Adoption**

The St. Johns County School District curriculum department representatives and adoption committee members are currently conducting the review process for the 2017-2018 Instructional Materials Adoption for Science. The materials listed in the chart below are available for review by our teachers and the public.

The core resources that have been submitted for evaluation have come from the state adoption consideration lists. AP materials that will be reviewed are from College Board recommended materials. Some print materials may be available for review.

If you would like access to the available printed materials or require assistance reviewing the online resources, please call the Instructional Resources and Media Services office at 904.547.3947.

Materials are available for review from 8:00 AM-4:30 PM when district offices are open.

## **25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative T-Shirt**

**Purchase our "one-of-a-kind throwback" T-shirts for \$10. These T-Shirts are limited edition and showcase the original Manatee Logo from 1992. Order forms are on the website! Sale ends Nov 3rd!**

## **Volunteering Info**

**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. You must be an approved volunteer through the KeepNTrack system. Applications can be filled out online on the Mason website or in the Front Office.**

## COLLECTIONS UPDATE

\*Congratulations to Mrs. Nichols' 1<sup>st</sup> grade class. They were the winners of the 1<sup>st</sup> 9 weeks Collection Contest and were rewarded with an Ice Cream Party!

\*7,622 Box Tops were mailed in last week. **Way to go Manatee families!**



\*Please continue to send in Box Tops, Coca-Cola codes, and Tyson A+ Labels. The 2<sup>nd</sup> 9 weeks Collection Contest has begun!

## AVID News:

### What are the AVID Levels of Questions?

#### Level One

Level One thinking causes students to recall information. This level of question causes students to input the data into short term memory, but if they don't use it in some meaningful way, they may soon forget. Example: Name the planets of the Solar System.

#### Level Two

Level Two thinking enables students to process information. They expect students to make sense of information they have gathered and retrieved from long and short term memory. Example: Compare and contrast the planets of Jupiter and Saturn.

#### Level Three

Level Three thinking requires students to go beyond the concepts or principles they have learned and to use these in novel or hypothetical situations. Example: Use what you know about Earth to analyze why other planets are uninhabitable



### How Can I Support My Student?

- **Speak with your child about how using i-Ready will help him or her grow in school.** i-Ready shows where your child is doing well and where your child needs some more review. It helps teachers understand how to give your child the best support, and it lets your child see the gains they will make throughout the school year.
- **Help your child prepare for the Diagnostic by explaining that some questions on the Diagnostic test will be hard and that it's okay not to know the answer to every question.** Questions on the Diagnostic get a little harder each time a question is answered correctly, and a little easier when answered incorrectly. The goal is to figure out the math or reading level that is "just right" for your child, so your child should expect to see some questions that are too hard—and that's okay! It means the test is working correctly.
- **Encourage your child to take each lesson and test question seriously.** Emphasize "thinking before clicking," because just clicking through answers will not give teachers an accurate picture of what is understood and what requires further instruction.