

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

11/2 BBall/Cheer Game @ 5:30 at Sebastian MS

11/7 Resource Day 1st Grade

11/8 1st Grade Veteran's Day Musical

11/8 BBall/Cheer Game @ 5:30 at Harris Center

11/12 Veteran's Day-No school

11/13 SAC Meeting in Media @ 3:30

11/14 Resource Day Kindergarten

11/14 PreK Parent Training in Café @ 8:30

11/14 BBall/Cheer Game @ 5:30 at Sebastian MS

11/15 CC Awards Ceremony in Café @ 8:45

11/15 Thanksgiving Luncheon

11/16 Interims Issued

11/21-11/23 No School--Happy Thanksgiving

11/28 Resource Wed 5th grade

11/30 BBall/Cheer Game @ 5:30 at Gamble Rogers

# 2018-2019 Instructional Materials Adoption- Mathematics

The St. Johns County School District curriculum department representatives and adoption committee members are currently conducting the review process for the 2018-2019 Instructional Materials Adoption for Mathematics. Resources are available for review at <a href="http://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/media/instructional-resources-media-services/textbooks/adoption/">http://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us/media/instructional-resources-media-services/textbooks/adoption/</a> by our parents and community members. The core resources that have been submitted for evaluation are listed on the state adoption consideration lists. AP materials that will be reviewed are from College Board recommended materials. If you are interested in serving on an adoption review committee, please contact the principal or assistant principal.

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.

Resource lists may be revised throughout the review process. Please check the website frequently for updates.

# **Thanksgiving Luncheon**

Mason Manatees will be celebrating Thanksgiving with a Luncheon on Nov 15th 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 15th!

## <u>Attendance is</u> 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 you child is absent please send a note or email within 48 hours of returning to school.

## Food Drive

We are collecting canned foods and non-perishable boxed items until Nov 9<sup>th</sup>. We are in need of: Canned Veggies, Rice, Stove Top Stuffing, Mac & Cheese, Instant Mashed Potatoes, Soups, & Canned Fruit

With your help, we will work towards giving all of our families a reason to be thankful this Thanksgiving Season!

Collection Bins are outside the Front Office.
Thank you for your help!

## **School Counseling News**

From Mrs. Kathryn Hamill

Hello Mason families!

I am so excited to be joining the Mason team as your new school counselor! I am transferring over from Pedro Menendez High school after three years working in guidance as a school counselor and the student support counselor. I moved to St. Augustine from Gainesville in 2015 after 32 years there. I attended UF to earn my BS in Psychology and Masters and Specialist in School Counseling and Guidance. I worked primarily as an elementary school counselor, but also as a child and adolescent therapist. In my free time I enjoy spending time with my children (brought my youngest with me and she attends Gamble Rogers), the ocean, paddling and fishing from my kayak, hiking, and competing in triathlons.

Becoming part of the Mason family has made my heart very full and I already feel like I have found a new home.

I look forward to supporting you and your children in any way that I can. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me for assistance, in particular as we approach the holidays. We are very blessed to have a giving community and we are here to help you with food, clothing, and gifts!

# **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. Turner's VPK class for winning the 1<sup>st</sup> Nine Weeks collections contest!

They turned in 983 **Box Tops** and **Coca Cola** codes and will be rewarded with an ice cream party!

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Nine Weeks **collections contest** has begun.

Please continue to support our school by sending in **Box Tops, Tyson Labels**, and **Coca Cola** codes to your child's teacher!



# **PTO CORNER**

The PTO Staff would like to send a BIG thank you out to all the Teachers and Parents who volunteered their time, energy and for all those who sent in candy. Even though we had a rather rainy evening and had to move inside –the Trunk or Treat (Table or Treat)

event was received with a great turnout of students and community members! We look forward to more spectacular events to come!!! If you would like to send in pictures of the event to be shared on the PTO bulletin boards please email to <a href="mailto:otismasonpto@gmail.com">otismasonpto@gmail.com</a>