



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.

### October Calendar

10/2 PTO Meeting in Media Center @ 3:30  
10/9 SAC Meeting in Media Center @ 3:30  
10/9 2<sup>nd</sup> grade Gifted Screening  
10/10 Resource Wed: 5<sup>th</sup> grade  
10/10 PreK Parent training in Café @ 9am  
10/14 End of First Quarter  
10/15 Planning Day-No school for students  
10/17 Resource Wed: 4<sup>th</sup> grade  
10/18 Character Counts Assembly in Café @ 8:45  
10/19 All Pro Dad's Breakfast  
10/19 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Honor Roll @ 8:45 in Café  
10/22 Boo Gram Sale starts  
10/24 Resource Wed: 3<sup>rd</sup> grade  
10/24 Report Cards issued  
10/25 Pictures Retakes and Club Pictures  
10/26 5<sup>th</sup> grade Honor Roll @ 8:45 in Café  
10/29 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Honor Roll @ 8:45 in Café  
10/31 Resource Wed: 2<sup>nd</sup> grade

## 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.**



## **Birthday Celebrations at School**

A birthday treat such as store bought cookies or cupcakes for the class can be shared during lunch. Please contact your child's teacher regarding these arrangements. Please do not send or bring balloons or flowers in a vase to school. Birthday invitations to parties outside of school may not be distributed at school (unless every child in the classroom is invited).

## **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 you child is absent please send a note or email within 48 hours of returning to school.

## **CONGRATULATIONS!**

Mason Teacher of the Year:  
Natasha Kohlmann, Music  
Teacher

Mason Rookie Teacher of the  
Year: Melissa Philo, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade  
Teacher

## **School Counseling News**

We have a new addition to the Manatee Family!  
Please welcome Ms. Kathryn Hamill, School Counselor. She comes to us from Pedro Menendez High School where she was a Guidance Counselor. If your family is in need of help or you know of a Mason family that is in need, please contact our School Counselor, Ms. Hamill at 547-8440.

We have an overflowing clothes closet that is open to all in the community that includes clothes and shoes of all sizes, backpacks, lunch boxes, school supplies, hygiene items, brand new books for kids, as well as non-perishable food items.

Don't forget to sign up for blessings in a backpack by returning the letter sent home with your student or contacting Ms. Hamill.

## **Boxtops Collections Update**

\*Great job Manatee families...

We have already collected over 7,500 *Box Tops!*  
Please keep sending them in with your student(s).

Also, we have received our first check from *Coca Cola* for \$62.05. Please continue to turn in Coca Cola codes as they really do add up!

\*Just a reminder that our school also collects *Tyson A+ Labels*. Each label is worth 24¢ for Otis Mason Elementary.

