



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.

### February Calendar

2/4 PTO Meeting at 3:30 in Media  
2/6 Wacky Wed Kindergarten  
2/6 Spring Picture Day  
2/7 Interims Issued  
2/12 SAC Meeting @ 3:30 in Media  
2/13 Wacky Wed 5<sup>th</sup> grade  
2/15 Inservice Day/No school for students  
2/18 President's Day/No school  
2/20 Wacky Wed 4<sup>th</sup> grade  
2/21 STEM Night @ 5pm  
2/21 YOBE Spirit Night 3pm-close  
2/25-2/28 Book Fair  
2/27 Wacky Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> grade  
2/28 BUGS Musical w/ 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade @ 6:30

## Kids Heart Challenge has begun!



It's time for Kids Heart Challenge (formerly Jump Rope For Heart) an American Heart Association program that teach students in 38,000 schools nationwide valuable lessons that will last a lifetime.

Funds raised support the American Heart Association's research and education initiatives that save lives in our community. Additionally, the school earns money for PE equipment so we can keep our kids MOVING!

### 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.**

### 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.

### CHARACTER COUNTS! 6 Pillars 6K/3K Run/Walk

Walkers, runners and fitness enthusiasts are invited to participate in the

**CHARACTER COUNTS! 6 Pillars 6K/3K Run/Walk on Saturday, February 2, 2019 at 9 a.m.**

The run/walk will begin and end at Palencia Elementary School.

Registration forms and more information are available online at [www.racesmith.com/races/CHARACTER COUNTS.html](http://www.racesmith.com/races/CHARACTER COUNTS.html).

## Collections Update

\*The 3<sup>rd</sup> 9 weeks collection contest has begun!

*Please bring all Box Tops and Coca Cola codes labels to your child's teacher.*

Thank you for your continued support!



## FSA Testing Schedule

4/2: FSA Writes 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grades  
 4/4 & 4/5: FSA ELA 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade  
 5/2 & 5/3: FSA ELA 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grade  
 5/6 & 5/7: FSA Math 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grade  
 5/9 & 5/10: FSA Science 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

iREADY Testing all grades: April 10-May 16  
 Resource EOC 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grades: April 15

\*Make ups will take place as needed

### Interpreter Requests

If you are in need of an interpreter for an event at Mason, we ask you to send a request in writing at least two weeks in advance to the date of your event. We will do our very best to secure an interpreter, but need your help in asking to notify us as far in advance as you can to assure we are able to have an interpreter in place.

Please communicate these requests with your child's teacher and they will pass them on to the office for processing. Thank you for your assistance.

### SUMMER MARINE SCIENCE PROGRAM

Applications for the summer Marine Science Program will be passed out by science teachers at all schools during the week of February 11<sup>th</sup>. Applications will be due back to science teachers by March 5<sup>th</sup>. Applications can also be downloaded at any time from the website prior to April 12<sup>th</sup> at <http://www-grms.stjohns.k12.fl.us/> and click on the Marine Science link.

This summer program is available to all students currently in grades five through seven and has been sponsored by the school district since 1982. Three eight day sessions are held at Gamble Rogers Middle School with bus transportation provided. The dates for the three sessions this summer will be May 29<sup>st</sup> through June 7<sup>th</sup>, June 10<sup>th</sup> through June 20<sup>th</sup>, and June 24<sup>th</sup> through July 3<sup>rd</sup>. Small classes of 12-14 students are separated by grade level. All instructors in the program are St. Johns County School District teachers.

The Marine Science Program is a carefully designed experience for responsible students who are interested in learning about our local marine environments. More information about the program can be had by emailing Kristina Bransford at [marinescienceprogram@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:marinescienceprogram@stjohns.k12.fl.us).

## **PTO CORNER**

The PTO has a new Facebook Page!!! You can now Like us at [Facebook.com/OtisMasonPTO](https://www.facebook.com/OtisMasonPTO) to keep up with the latest events and happenings!

February 21st is Otis Mason Spirit Night at Yobe in Cobblestone. Otis Mason PTO stands to make 20% from sales from 3pm-Close just by mentioning Otis Mason or bringing in a flyer. Look for flyers to come home mid-February along with pre-sale flyers for our 1st edition Otis Mason PTO Cookbook!