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OMES at-a-Glance

News for Otis A. Mason Families

October 14, 2021



Mrs. Monique Keaton, Principal
Mrs. Anne Marie Raynor, Assistant Principal

Manatee Highlight: Do You Know Deputy Davis?



Have you seen our Youth Resource Officer, Deputy Davis, around campus? Have you seen him in his uniform or in his cruiser? Deputy Davis would like to get to know you better!

Deputy Davis has enjoyed his years in law enforcement which have included working in many positions over the years but says his favorite title he has held is one of Youth Resource Deputy here at Otis A. Mason Elementary School. When not on campus, Deputy Davis enjoys spending time with his family. Deputy Davis enjoys volunteering in his community, coaching youth football and softball, and helping the elderly. His favorite foods are blueberries, pizza, and grilled chicken. Deputy Davis believes it is important to have good health and this is why he tries to start his day off with a 2-3 mile run each morning way before arriving at school. When he does have free time, Deputy Davis enjoys reading, fishing, and building things.

Deputy Davis' advice for students: **Always see the good, even in bad situations. It is always there; all you must do is find it.**

Deputy Davis' advice for parents: **Enjoy every moment of your child's life as every moment that passes is destined to become just a memory. Listen to your children. Every story they tell you, no matter how seemingly insignificant, is important to them precisely because they wanted to tell you about it.**

Deputy Davis is here to help us all stay safe on our school campus. Be sure to wave and say "hello" when you see him around our school campus. **Thank you, Deputy Davis!**

Intake Conferences:

Beginning the week of October 25th, you will have an opportunity to meet one-on-one with your child's teacher to specifically discuss your child. Otis A. Mason Elementary School provides this personalized approach to parent-teacher conferences because our teachers strongly believe your child and you deserve it. Look forward to arranging this conference with your child's teacher in the future!

Character Highlight: THIS Month is ALL About RESPONSIBILITY:

This month we are focusing on the Character Counts Pillar of Responsibility. Our district believes that every child has the potential to be responsible and we need YOUR help! Please help us build character in your child by working on the following at home:

- Emphasize and reward responsible choices but always communicate unconditional love, even when a child makes a poor choice.
- Focus on the process of making good choices and praise and encourage the effort involved in the decision-making process.
- Offer choices with acceptable limits and trust your child to make the decision and learn from mistakes so they can gain confidence in the decision-making process.
- Limit screen time and encourage responsible usage by choosing age-appropriate shows, movies, and video games that teach responsibility and ethical decision-making. Consider using video games and screen time as a reward for positive choices.
- Create predictable structure and routine for your child regarding positive and poor choices and consequences. Does the child know what is expected? Do you allow the child to make the choice? Are the rewards and consequences known and predictable?

Ms. Thigpen will be visiting your classroom soon to discuss the importance of Character at our school, in our home, and in our community. We are so proud of our students and the work they do every day to nurture their character. Thank you for helping to make the world a better place, Manatees!

The Six Pillars of CharacterSM



Happy 30-Year Anniversary!

In order to celebrate our 30-year anniversary this month, faculty and staff are giving "candy kindness" to one another in the month of October. Every month we hope to extend kindness to each other in new and different ways! Feel free to join us in giving candy kindness!

Way to GROW, Manatees!

Congratulations to all our students who continued to GROW over the summer by completing their Passport to Summer Learning! We are so proud of all your hard work. We hope you enjoyed the GROW PARTY to celebrate how hard you worked and how much you learned while away for summer vacation. Keep growing and keep learning, always!



Hello Accelerated Reader!

Every student in grades 1 through 5 at Otis A. Mason Elementary School is setting an AR Goal and will have access to AR Home Connect to achieve that goal. We are expecting and encouraging students to read at school as well as at home to achieve their AR goal! Students have access to this in our very own Media Center with Ms. Bendt before and after school as well as during their resource time. Students can use the program to further engage the reading and take quizzes on their books as well as find books at their reading level. Students can read anytime and anywhere, but AR Home Connect makes it easier than ever to support your child.

Parent, make sure YOU get connected!

<https://www-mes.stjohns.k12.fl.us/media/>



Raise Craze Fundraiser Winners:

Most Acts of Kindness:

Kindergarten: **Mrs. Merwin's** Class with 51

1st Grade: **Mrs. Austin's** Class with 34

2nd Grade: **Mrs. Crupi's** Class with 30

3rd Grade: **Ms. Stewart's** Class with 32

4th Grade: **Ms. Varughese's** Class with 27

5th Grade: **Ms. Allen's** Class with 50

***The student with the MOST acts of kindness completed was Mackenzie Martin with 33!

Top Monetary Donations:

Kindergarten: **Mrs. Merwin's** Class

1st Grade: **Mrs. DiGregorio's** Class

2nd Grade: **Mrs. Sanchez's** Class

3rd Grade: **Ms. Fletcher's** Class

4th Grade: **Ms. Sanchez's** Class

5th Grade: **Ms. Allen's** Class

***The student with the MOST money raised was Micha Baggett with \$1,220!

Thank you, Dads!

Otis A. Mason Elementary School had a great time celebrating our parents who drop-off in the morning! We hope you enjoyed the FREE Dunkin' donuts!



Important Dates:

October 18: Teacher Planning Day; Student Holiday

October 18-22: School Bus Driver Appreciation Week!

October 20: 2nd Grade Fire Prevention Activity

October 21: Picture Retakes and Club Pictures

October 25: Intake Conferences Begin

October 26: Report Cards

November 9: SAC Meeting 3:30pm in the Media Center

November 11: No school; Veteran's Day

November 15: PTO Meeting 3:30pm in the Media Center

November 24-26: Thanksgiving Holiday Break



Volunteers Opportunities: You are always needed and appreciated








OTIS MASON PTO: Please like and follow us on Facebook at **OtisMasonPTO** for news and updates. We love to see what our students are up to in the school and community. It is a great way to show and share! Our next PTO meetings will be: **October 11, November 15, December 6 at 3:30pm in the Media Center.** Email the PTO with questions at otismasonpto@gmail.com

OTIS MASON SAC: You are invited to our monthly SAC meetings **the second Tuesday of the month: October 12, November 9, and December 7 at 3:30pm in the Media Center.** The Student Advisory Committee participates in school improvement planning including the approval and usage of School Recognition Funds and addressing the needs discovered by our Needs Assessment Survey. Come support our school, our community, and our children!

ALL PRO DAD: Fathers, "be a hero to your kid!" The All Pro Dad Organization wants YOU to get involved in the life and education of your child. This organization allows you to participate as much as you want: sign up for emails, join our chapter program 1 hour per month, enjoy the once-a-year interactive experience at an NFL or NCAA stadium! Read more, sign-up, and/or donate at: <https://www.allprodad.com/>




Adopt- a-Family: The SJCSO's Thanksgiving Meal program needs donations to feed families in the St. John's County School District this Thanksgiving holiday. While any donation amount is appreciated, one can sponsor a family of four for \$50 or a family of six for \$100. This program is run through R.J. Murray Middle School. Please make checks payable to R.J. Murray Middle School and send questions to 904-547-8472.

Character Counts Week October 18-22, 2021

Monday 10/18	Tuesday 10/19	Wednesday 10/20	Thursday 10/21	Friday 10/22
No School 	Wear Purple or Green for Citizenship & Responsibility  	Wear Orange for Fairness 	Wear Red or Blue for Caring & Trustworthiness  	Wear Yellow for Respect 

Red Ribbon Week October 25-29, 2021

"Drug free looks like me"

Monday 10/25	<u>Proud to Be Drug Free!</u> Wear red to help kickoff Red Ribbon Week!
Tuesday 10/26	<u>"HATS OFF" to a Healthy Life!</u> Hat Day: Wear your favorite hat 
Wednesday 10/27	 <u>TEAM UP Against Drugs!</u> Sports Day: Wear your favorite team spirit wear
Thursday 10/28	<u>Drugs are WACKY!</u> Wacky Tacky Day: Wear mismatched clothing
Friday 10/29	<u>Say "BOO!" to Drugs!</u> Dress Up Day: Wear a school-appropriate costume 

Fire Prevention Month:

On Wednesday, Oct. 20th, our 2nd grade students will participate in a Fire Safety video during GRIN-Win Wednesday! 😊 This is part of National Fire Prevention Month which is celebrated in October. We encourage all families to discuss how to stay safe! Click on the link below for Home Fire Prevention & Safety Tips from the American Red Cross! 👍 [Home Fire Prevention & Safety Tips](#) | [American Red Cross](#)

